



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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Construction Permit

Issued under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

Reference No.:	20190902 – DFCWD
Fee:	Large (C2) - US\$2000 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$2000 - One (1) Year (March, 2021 to February, 2022)
Addressee(s):	Mr Dwayne Ferdinand Managing Director Home Designs & Engineering Associates Lot 21, Princess Elizabeth Road New Amsterdam, Berbice, Guyana.
Activity:	Construction of a Wharf Facility



Home Designs & Engineering Associates, hereinafter referred to as the “Permit Holder”, is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, for the construction of a Wharf, to be located at Lot 42, Mudlot Staneytown, New Amsterdam, Berbice, Region 6, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, in a manner indicated in the Application dated September 03, 2019, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, existing and/or forthcoming Regulations made under the said Act, and/or any applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

The Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractor(s) shall comply with the following Terms and Conditions for Construction:

1.0 INFRASTRUCTURE

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing of any proposed changes in construction of the Wharf at least **fourteen (14) days before** making the change. The notification shall contain a **description of the proposed change in construction**. It is not necessary to make such a notification if an **Application to vary** this permit has been made and the Application contains a description of the proposed change. In this condition ‘**change in construction**’ includes but is not limited to, any change in the nature or functioning, or an extension, of the installation, which may have consequences for the environment.

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Note: For more information please see **Regulation 20** of the **Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations 2000**.

- 1.2 Utilise the land in accordance with the plan submitted to the Agency. All specifications of location, pathways, reserve and boundary lines must be adhered to, unless otherwise authorised; evidence of which must be provided to the Agency.
- 1.3 Avoid construction works between 22:00 hrs and 06:00 hrs on any day.
- 1.4 Take necessary precautions to avoid erosion, siltation and sedimentation of the Berbice River in the vicinity of the project site during the construction phase of the Wharf.
- 1.5 Ensure that all construction **and dredging** works at the project site are conducted in accordance with **MARAD** and the Sea and River Defence and Drainage & Irrigation Laws of Guyana **with the No Objections from the said Agencies**.
- 1.6 Ensure that employees are at all times, equipped with appropriate protective gear during construction such as protective headgear, respirators, safety vests, construction boots, etc.
- 1.7 Identify suitable areas for material stockpile and equipment during construction.
- 1.8 Avoid any road traffic hazards or unnecessary inconveniences to the general public through appropriate planning and management of the construction site.
- 1.9 Remove all construction tools, equipment, machinery, and waste material from site on the completion of construction works.
- 1.10 In the event that materials have to be transported to the construction site, ensure that all trucks/barges used to transport construction materials to the site are covered, as applicable.
- 1.11 Ensure that all construction dredging, maintenance dredging and dredged material for the area under construction are disposed and handled in such a way to not negatively impact habitats or pose a significant hazard to human health and the environment.
- 1.12 Implement all necessary measures to reduce turbidity and the release of contaminants from re-suspension of sediments in the water column and from exposure of sediments to higher oxygen levels.
- 1.13 Disposal of excavated and dredged materials into the Berbice River is strictly prohibited.

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- 1.14 Ensure adequate treatment and proper final disposal of excavated and dredged materials.
- 1.15 Methods for excavation and dredging must be selected to minimise the suspension of sediments and destruction of benthic habitat.
- 1.16 Dredging must only be conducted for this new infrastructure component (Wharf) to create or maintain safe navigation access and for construction activities. Should Dredging be required for a new channel leading to the wharf, an Application for Environmental Authorisation must be made to the EPA.

2.0 WATER AND SOIL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 Protect susceptible sloped surfaces with suitable revetment and appropriate cover to ensure stability of slopes and avoid erosion.
- 2.2 Maintain the integrity of the existing waterways at all times. Discharges into the environment must be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*. The following are the allowable limits for this type of project and should not be exceeded:
 - pH 5.0-9.0;
 - Temperature < 40 °C;
 - Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) < 50 mg/L;
 - Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) < 250 mg/L;
 - Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L;
 - Oil and Grease < 20 mg/L; and
 - Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) < 40 mg/L.

Monitor the parameters above on a biannual basis (once in wet season and once in dry season) and submit the results to the Agency. The Agency also reserves the right to request independent analysis from a certified laboratory approved by the EPA.

- 2.3 Ensure that the riverbank is cleared of debris on a regular basis to reduce the possibility of river pollution.
- 2.4 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products that might be used at the construction site. Ensure to store all oils, fuel, paints and chemicals in a designated area, at least 100 meters away from the Berbice River.
- 2.5 Conduct refueling, maintenance and placement of equipment on an impervious base to prevent any fuel spills/leaks from contaminating the soil and surface/ground

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water. Oil spills should be cleaned-up immediately and by the best practicable means, to prevent any runoff into surrounding drains or the Berbice River.

- 2.6 Adequately store and or cover temporary stockpiles of construction materials and excavated waste in a secured designated area to prevent accidental release into the Berbice River, especially in rainy conditions. The designated area should not be placed within 10 m of the Berbice River or other water bodies.
- 2.7 Ensure the construction of the Wharf and dredging is done to coincide with low flow periods of the Berbice River.
- 2.8 Ensure that portable toilets are well-maintained and emptied regularly by an approved Disposal Service Provider.

3.0 NOISE ABATEMENT AND AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Comply with the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000 and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations 2000.**
- 3.2 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment*. Sound levels from noise-making devices should not exceed the limits below, at a distance of 15 metres (50 ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.
 - **Construction Limits:** 90 dB during the daytime (06:00 h - 18:00 h)
75 dB during the night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h)
- 3.3 Ensure that all construction activities are done in such a manner so as to prevent, minimise, control and or avoid adverse noise nuisance to the surrounding environment.
- 3.4 Ensure that all sound-making devices, such as generators, are housed in enclosures constructed with materials of good insulation properties (e.g. hollow concrete blocks, insulation boards, solid clay bricks, etc.), equipped with silencers/mufflers to reduce the noise level; and placed on foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations. Adequate equipment maintenance must be done and any obsolete tools and equipment replaced.
- 3.5 Ensure that the exhaust stack of each generator is at least 2 metres above the tallest building nearby, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas.
- 3.6 Employ dust suppression methods such as watering, erecting dust screens/fences to control dust emissions from material stockpiles and other components of the



development that would generate dust.

- 3.7 Ensure that appropriate measures are in place to minimise the impacts of air borne emissions from vehicles offloading and or loading building materials.
- 3.8 Comply with the *World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines for Particulate Matter in the Environment*, not exceeding the limits below:

PM_{2.5}: 10 µg/m³ annual mean
25 µg/m³ 24-hour mean

PM₁₀: 20 µg/m³ annual mean
50 µg/m³ 24-hour mean

- 3.9 Comply with the World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines for Air pollutants in the Environment, not exceeding the limits below, and not limited to the following list of pollutants:
- CO – 9 ppm (8 h)
 - H₂S – 10 ppm (8 h)
 - NO₂-0.1 ppm
 - VOC-100 ppm
- 3.10 Conduct Air Quality Monitoring for the parameters listed in conditions 3.8 and 3.9 on a quarterly basis. The proposed sample points should be submitted to the EPA for approval prior to monitoring and a monitoring report should be submitted to the Agency as part of the submission in the required Annual Report.
- 3.11 Ensure that engine idling during on- and off-loading activities is minimum during construction.

4.0 HAZARDOUS WASTE MATERIALS / WASTE MANAGEMENT

Comply with the Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013 and the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.

- 4.1 At all times utilise the best practicable means of handling, storing and disposing of all waste materials.
- 4.2 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices at the facility. In particular, dispose of waste at the nearest designated waste management site or contract a Disposal Service that services the area to dispose of waste at a legal designated site. Place covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations around the operation.

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- 4.3 Domestic waste should be placed in covered receptacles and disposed by a competent disposal company.
- 4.4 Reuse waste material where practical as land-filling material for the revetment of the general compound surroundings. However, this must be done in an aesthetic and controlled manner. The Berbice Foreshore should not be littered with any form of wood, concrete, paper, plastic, glass and metallic waste or any form of waste that will affect humans, flora and fauna and related biodiversity.
- 4.5 Ensure that a portable toilet(s) is provided for employees at all times during the construction of the Wharf.
- 4.6 Dumping of waste (Domestic and Construction) into the Berbice River is **strictly prohibited**. Waste, inclusive of waste oil and or fuel, should not be stored within 100 meters of the river.
- 4.7 Ensure that there is provision of adequate means of receiving and managing effluents and waste to meet the needs of the Wharf and visiting ships that will use the wharf's facilities.
- 4.8 Prepare and submit (within six (6) months of issuance of this Permit) an Emergency Response Plan (ERP), a spill prevention, control and counter measure plan that is adequate for the highest volume of hazardous waste and other waste that maybe stored by the facility.
- 4.9 Ensure regular training is scheduled on simulated spill incident and response exercises for response personnel; spill alert and reporting procedures; deployment of spill control equipment, and the emergency care/treatment of people and animals impacted by the spill.

5.0 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Provide fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers and sand buckets in accordance with Guyana Fire Service approval.
- 5.2 Ensure the Fire Safety Certificate is renewed annually and all firefighting equipment are maintained and serviced regularly. Fire Safety Certificate should be submitted to officers upon request during compliance inspection and in the Annual Report.
- 5.3 Ensure all employees are trained in the use of firefighting equipment, such as, fire extinguishers and understand the firefighting protocol.
- 5.4 Ensure an updated Evacuation Plan is maintained and posted at strategic locations.

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- 5.5 Ensure all employees are aware of the Emergency Response Plan when it is prepared and submitted to the Agency and their duties and responsibilities according to these plans.
- 5.6 Ensure at all times the working environment is monitored for occupational hazards relevant to the specific construction activities of the Wharf.

6.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 6.1 Comply with any lawful directions given by the EPA from time-to-time in furtherance of the implementation of any international or other obligation for the environmental protection of Guyana.
- 6.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Construction Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 6.3 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with this **Construction Permit**:
 - 6.3.1 Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Construction Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance(s), the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.
 - 6.3.2 Within **seventy-two (72) hours**, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance(s), its cause and the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time.
- 6.4 Submit a report to the Agency indicating the reasons and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance has not been corrected.
- 6.5 Submit **Environmental Annual Reports** to the EPA on or before **March 31** every year on your compliance with this Permit.
- 6.6 Notify the EPA within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies such as a sudden onset of disaster, accident, natural, technological or human induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood.
- 6.7 Inform the Agency prior to or within **thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.
- 6.8 Notify the Agency within **twenty-one (21) days** in event of death, bankruptcy, liquidation or receivership of the Permit Holder or if the Company becomes a party to an amalgamation.

7.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 7.1 The Permit Holder shall be strictly liable for any loss or damage to the environment through any act caused intentionally or recklessly, through the adverse effect of any discharge or release, or cause or permit the entry of pollution, contaminant in any amount, concentration or level in excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by this Construction Permit, which are attributed to the Project, pursuant to s. 39 and s. 19 (1) and (2) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.2 The Permit holder shall be guilty of an offence in accordance with s. 39 (1), (2), (3) and (4) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, which attribute liability for causing material or serious environmental harm by polluting the environment intentionally or recklessly and with the knowledge that material and/or serious environmental harm will or might result. If found guilty of an offence the Permit Holder shall be liable to the penalties prescribed under the said Act.
- 7.3 The Permit Holder shall compensate any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the attributed Project (See: s. 19 (3)(e) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.)
- 7.4 The Permit Holder shall not be indemnified by the Agency for any activity that causes or is likely to cause pollution to the environment, resulting from adverse effects through the discharge, any contaminant in any amount, concentration, ultra hazardous substances, chemicals or otherwise, and shall be rendered liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act and Regulations.
- 7.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable of any gross negligence or willful misconduct caused by the Permit Holder, his Servants and/or Agents, to the environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release, discharge, or spill, of contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants.
- 7.6 The EPA shall notify the Permit Holder immediately of any written claim or notice sent by any Complainant seeking loss or damage for negligence as a result of the Permit Holder lack of due care and diligence.
- 7.7 Should the Permit Holder contravene or is likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve on him an enforcement notice in accordance with s. 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.8 Where it appears to the Agency that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose serious threat to natural resources or serious pollution of the Environment or any damage to public health, issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice, which may order him to immediately cease the offending activity, in accordance with s. 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

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- 7.9 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's construction activities as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, and the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 7.10 The Permit Holder, His Servants and/or Agents shall at all times, allow entry to the permitted facility to any Officer designated by the EPA for the purposes of conducting inspections or any other legitimate business of the Agency. Pursuant to s.38 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, it is an offence to **assault, obstruct or hinder** an authorised person in the execution of his/her duty under the said Act or its Regulations and the Permit Holder shall be liable to penalties prescribed under paragraph (c) of the Fifth Schedule for doing so.
- 7.11 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 7.12 **The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that the construction of the Wharf is permitted by other relevant Authorities.**
- 7.13 This Construction Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein, **March, 2021 to February, 2022.**
- 7.14 This **Construction Permit** shall remain valid until **February 28, 2022**, unless otherwise suspended, cancelled, modified or varied, in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 7.15 This Permit must be renewed by submitting '*an application for renewal of environmental authorisation*' to the Agency at least six (6) months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **July 31, 2021.**
- 7.16 Any late submission of renewal application (s) after the specified date as stated above, shall require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to renewal fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was first owed for renewal) at a rate of **two thousand dollars (GY\$2000.00) per day for every business day late**, until such renewal application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.

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7.17 Failure to comply with the requirements of this **Construction Permit** shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to civil penalties and or injunctive reliefs prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, including under any existing and forthcoming regulations made under the said Act or any other applicable Laws of Guyana.


Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ms. Sharifah Razack
Executive Director (A.g)

Date

2021.02.10

I hereby accept the above Terms and Conditions upon which this Construction Permit is granted and agree to abide by the Environmental Protection Act, Cap.20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, and any forthcoming regulations, best practices, guidelines and standards made under this Act.

NAME:	EARLE AARON
SIGNATURE:	
DESIGNATION:	Director
DATE:	16 - 06 - 21

