



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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Environmental 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.:	20210518-AGCBO
Fee:	Large (C2) - US\$ 2,000 for one (1) year
Fees Paid:	US\$ 2,000 for one year – October , 2021 to September 2022

Addressee: Mr. Yogindra Arjune
Managing Director
Assuria General (GY) Inc. .
Lot 78 Church Street
South Cumingsburg
Georgetown.



Activity: Construction of Office Building

Assuria General (GY) Inc. ., herein referred to as the "Permit Holder", is hereby authorized 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, to construct a five storey office building at Lot 133, Church Street, South Cummingsburg, Georgetown, Region 4, hereinafter referred to as "the Project", in the manner indicated in the Application submitted on May 18, 2021, 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 other applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

Terms and Conditions for Construction to be adhered to by the Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractors:

1.0 INFRASTRUCTURE

- 1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Environmental Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:
 - i. change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
 - ii. change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology

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- iii. change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
 - iv. effect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 Submit an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) three (3) months after receiving this Environmental Permit.
- 1.3 The EPA shall have the right to amend conditions of this Permit upon review of the EMP.
- 1.4 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 authorized. Evidence of this must be provided to the Agency.
- 1.5 Ensure that employees are at all times, equipped with appropriate protective gear during construction such as protective headgear, respirators, safety vests, construction boots, etc.
- 1.6 Ensure that all excavated materials are handled in such a way to not negatively impact habitats or pose a significant hazard to human health and the environment.
- 1.7 Minimise any road traffic hazards or unnecessary inconveniences to the general public through appropriate planning and management of the construction site.
- 1.8 Remove all construction tools, equipment, machinery, and waste material from site on the completion of construction works.

2.0 WATER AND SOIL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.**
- 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;

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- Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 50 mg/L;
 - Oil and Grease < 10 mg/L; and
 - Chloride < 0.2 mg/L.
- 2.3 Take all practicable precautions to avoid erosion, siltation and sedimentation of existing water bodies/drains within the vicinity of the project site during the construction phase of the office.
- 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 that all oils, fuel, paints and chemicals are stored in a designated area.
- 2.5 As far as practical, conduct refueling, oil changes and maintenance of vehicles, machinery and other equipment on an impervious base. Spills should be cleaned-up by the best practicable means.
- 2.6 Adequately store and/or cover temporary stockpiles of construction materials and fuel in a secured designated area to prevent accidental release into the surrounding environment, especially in rainy conditions.
- 2.7 Do not discharge or dump solid waste and/or trade effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment.
- 2.8 Prevent excessive or inappropriate use of cleaning chemicals. The use of biodegradable/water-based cleaning products is encouraged.
- 2.9 Construct and maintain internal and external drainage systems capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation storm event.
- 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.

During Construction

- **Construction Limits: 90 dB** during the daytime (06:00 h - 18:00 h)

During Operation

- **Residential Limits: 75 dB** during the daytime (06:00 h - 18:00 h)
60 dB during the night-time (18:00 h - 06:00h)

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- 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 Comply with the *World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines for Particulate Matter in the Environment*, not exceeding the limits below:
- PM_{2.5}**: 25 µg/m³ 24-hour mean
- PM₁₀**: 50 µg/m³ 24-hour mean
- 3.6 Employ dust suppression methods such as watering or erecting dust screens/fences to control dust emissions from material stockpiles and other components of the development that would generate dust.
- 3.7 Ensure stockpiles are stored downwind to avoid being transported by wind to sensitive areas (e.g. church, residences, schools, etc). Loading and offloading activities should, as far as possible, also be confined to this location.
- 3.8 Keep drop heights at a minimum when loading and/or offloading materials e.g. sand, aggregates, etc. to reduce particles from becoming airborne.
- 3.9 Ensure that materials susceptible to wind erosion e.g. sand are covered at all times during storage and transport to and from the construction site, to prevent material loss and reduce emission of particulate matter into the environment.
- 3.10 Record, investigate and address complaints of excessive noise, dust and vibrations from the public promptly upon receipt.

4.0 FUEL AND HAZARDOUS/ WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations 2013** and the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000**.
- 4.2 Maintain good house-keeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of the surroundings at all times.

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- 4.3 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 legally designated site. Place covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations around the construction site.
- 4.4 Domestic waste should be placed in covered receptacles and disposed by a competent disposal company/authority.
- 4.5 Reuse waste material where practical such as land-filling material for the revetment of the general compound surroundings. However, this must be done in an aesthetic and controlled manner. The surrounding environment should not be littered with any form of wood, concrete, plastic, glass and metallic waste or any form of waste that will affect humans, flora and fauna and related biodiversity.
- 4.6 Dumping of waste (Domestic and Construction) into the surrounding environment is strictly **prohibited**.
- 4.7 Ensure that well-maintained sanitary facilities are provided for employees at all times on site. In the event that portable toilets and or septic system are used:
- a) Ensure that portable toilets are installed in accordance with the **Public Health Ordinance 1953**;
 - b) Ensure all portable toilet systems are emptied by the contracted Waste Disposal Services on a regular basis. Waste collected from the portable toilet should be treated before disposal and at no time should the waste be disposed of in the surrounding environment; and or
 - c) Construct and maintain a septic system on site at all times. The septic tank should not be located within 1.5 m of a building or property boundary and should be accessible for cleaning and de-sludging. Any modification to the Septic tanks must be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards' (GNBS) Code of Practice for the Design and Construction of Septic Tanks and Associated Secondary Treatment and Disposal Systems.
- 4.8 Prepare and submit to the Agency at the end of construction, a report relating to the activities for the previous year. The report shall include:
- (a) the name, location and type of facility;
 - (b) types and quantities (in metric units) of hazardous waste generated;
 - (c) manner of storage, use, any applied treatment standards/methods and disposal of these substances;

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- (d) data concerning off-site shipments of waste, i.e. local disposal facility utilised, purpose of shipment and amount of waste shipped;
- (e) a summary of any accidents that may have occurred and any action taken; any waste minimisation efforts undertaken by your facility for hazardous material/waste;
- (f) any waste minimisation efforts undertaken by your facility for hazardous material/waste; and
- (g) any other matter the Agency may require.

The Agency considers all materials listed in **Schedules I and II of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000**, to be hazardous.

- 4.9 In the event that waste oil is stored, it shall be stored in a covered, bunded area to minimise adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage.
- 4.10 All fuel shall be stored away from ignition sources and have 'No Smoking' signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 4.11 All waste oil shall be disposed of in accordance with the Environmental Guidelines, 2011 for the 'Removal, Treatment and Disposal of Oily Sludge' or reuse waste oil as lubricant for chainsaw or other equipment/machinery.
- 4.12 The Permit Holder shall ensure that oil/fuel containment absorbent materials are appropriately stored in a concrete-based structure and away from water ways and disposed by double wrapping in heavy duty garbage bags and disposed of at an approved solid waste disposal site.
- 4.13 Hazardous contaminated absorbent pads can be disposed of at an incineration operation approved by the EPA.
- 4.14 An impervious secondary containment bund shall be maintained and have at least 110% containment capacity around all fuel storage tanks, creating a temporary holding area in the event of spillage.
- 4.15 Limit access to hazardous waste storage areas to employees who are authorised and have received proper training.
- 4.16 Record and include in a summary table the following information:
 - (a) Name and description (e.g. composition of a mixture) of the hazardous materials;
 - (b) Classification (e.g. code, class or division) of the hazardous materials;
 - (c) Quantity of hazardous materials used per month; and
 - (d) Characteristic(s) that make(s) the materials hazardous (e.g. flammability, toxicity).

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4.17 Treat and contain spills (even those minor in nature) with absorbent materials.

4.18 Designate an area for the storage of the following:

- Fuel;
- First Aid Kit(s); and
- Washing detergents; and
- Sanitizers (J's Fluid, Pine Sol, etc.) for the facility.

5.0 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

5.1 Employ or designate an employee to the role of an Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)/Environmental Officer who would be responsible for the implementation and coordination of all safety requirements and terms and conditions stipulated in this Permit, as well as monitoring, compliance and making all required reports to the EPA.

5.2 Upon closure of the construction phase submit approval from the Guyana Fire Service and provide fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers and sand buckets in accordance with this approval.

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.

5.5 Ensure at all times the working environment is monitored for occupational hazards relevant to the specific construction activities of the building.

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 Environmental 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 **Environmental Permit** within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance outlining the anticipated manner in which human health or the environment may be impacted.

6.4 Within **seventy-two (72) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance, its cause, the period of non-

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compliance including exact dates and time and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance(s) has not been corrected.

- 6.5 Submit an **End of Project Report** to the EPA 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 project.
- 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 liable for any material environmental harm caused by polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.2 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any serious environmental harm caused by polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.3 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any activity that causes or is likely to cause pollution of the environment unless all reasonable and practicable measures are taken to prevent or minimize any resulting adverse effect, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.4 The Permit Holder shall be liable for discharging, causing or permitting the entry into the environment, of any contaminant in any amount, concentration or level excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 7.3 and 7.4 of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.6 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

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Regulations.

- 7.7 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.
- 7.8 Should the Permit Holder contravene or be likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve on him an Enforcement Notice in accordance with Section 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.9 Where it appears to the Agency that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose a serious threat to natural resources or the environment, or a risk of serious pollution of the environment or any damage to public health, the EPA may issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice, which may order him to immediately cease the offending activity, in accordance with Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.10 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.
- 7.11 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 Section 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.
- 7.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 7.13 The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that construction of the office building is permitted by **all other relevant authorities.**
- 7.14 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein, **October, 2021 to September, 2022.**
- 7.15 This **Environmental Permit** shall remain valid until **September 30, 2024,** 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


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Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

- 7.16 In the event that it is foreseen that the construction phase will go beyond the permitting period, 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 **March 31, 2022**.
- 7.17 Any submission of the application required by Condition 7.15 beyond the date specified therein, the agency may require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to the application fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was first owed for renewal) at a rate of **two thousand dollars (GY\$2,000.00) per day for every business day late**, until such application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.
- 7.18 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit or with applicable laws and regulations, whether existing or forthcoming, shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties, inclusive of civil penalties, injunctive relief and imprisonment, as prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection Regulations and other applicable laws of Guyana.

Signed by



Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director
Executive Director

on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Date

6.10.2021

I hereby accept the above Terms and Conditions upon which this Environmental 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:	Anthony Bruce TROSA For Yocinda ARTJIVE
SIGNATURE:	
DESIGNATION:	Service General Affairs
DATE:	14 October 2021



HP