



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

Ganges Street, Sophia
Georgetown, GUYANA
Tel. : (592) 225-2062 / 1218 / 0506/ 6917/
5467
Fax: (592) 225-5481
Email: epa@epaguyana.org
Website: www.epaguyana.org

Environmental Permit (Renewed)

(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.:	20200207-MDHEP
Fee:	Medium (C3) - US \$1,100
Fees Paid	US\$1,100 (1 year – December, 2021 to November, 2022)
Addressee:	<p>Mr Horace Williams Hinterland Electrification Company Inc. (HECI) Ministry of Public Works Wight's Lane Kingston Georgetown Guyana</p> <p>ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Database Updated <i>E. John 07/02/22</i></p>
Activity:	Installation of 0.65 MW Solar Photovoltaic Grid-Connected System

Hinterland Electrification Company Inc. (HECI), 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, to undertake the construction/installation of Photovoltaic systems at Primelands, Mahdia, Region 8, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in the manner indicated in the Application Form for Renewal of an Environmental Authorisation submitted on August 12, 2021, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and any forthcoming regulations, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

This is a Renewal of Construction Permit, Reference number 20200207-MDHEP, issued in December, 2020 which will expire on November 30, 2021, pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

The Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractors shall comply with the following Terms and Conditions:

1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Environmental Permit (Renewed) 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 serving the facility;
 - 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 Adhere to and maintain approval from the Guyana Fire Service, and submit a copy of said approval to the EPA.
- 1.2.1 Fire prevention and control equipment shall be maintained in accordance with the Guyana Fire Service approval.
- 1.3 Consult and coordinate with contractors and the relevant/affected utility companies and local government (M&CC, NDC, CH&PA, etc.) to establish schedules and mechanisms for implementation of service interruptions.
- 1.4 Remove all construction equipment/tools and materials from site upon completion of works, and implement rehabilitation measures to restore the disturbed environment.
- 1.5 Access to all properties adjacent to the site shall be provided for the duration of the project construction.
- 1.6 Make all employees, and third parties under your direction, aware of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and provide training on good environmental practices.
- 1.7 Install the photovoltaic system panels in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.
- 1.8 Clearly identify on the site plan the point of interconnection with the utility supplied wiring system and provide details on main breaker and photovoltaic (PV) breaker.
- 2.0 EMPLOYEES & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**
- 2.1 Adhere to the requirements of the **Occupational Health and Safety Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws of Guyana**, to ensure that employees' health and safety are protected.
- 2.2 Provide first aid kits including snake bite kits at the work site and ensure that

communication and transportation systems are in place to respond to emergencies.

2.3 Employ or designate an employee to 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.

- a) The name, designation and contact details of the employee shall be submitted to the EPA within fourteen days of the issuance of this Permit, and continuously maintained thereafter.

2.4 Provide adequate rest room/areas and sanitary facilities at the construction sites for employees.

3.0 NOISE ABATEMENT AND AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

3.1 Adhere to the provisions of 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) Interim Guidelines for Noise Emission into the Environment at a distance of 50 ft (15 m) from the source or at the property boundary, whichever is closer. Noise levels shall not exceed:

Construction Limits – **90 dB** (Day-time (06:00 – 18:00 h)) and
 75 dB (Night-time 18:00 – 06:00 h)).

3.3 Enclose all sound-making devices, such as generators, in structures constructed with materials of good insulation properties (e.g. hollow concrete blocks, insulation boards, solid clay bricks, etc.), equip with silencers/mufflers to reduce noise level, and placed on properly designed foundations to ensure effective damping of vibrations.

3.4 Exhaust stack of generator shall be at an appropriate height to minimize adverse fumes/soot impacts to contiguous areas.

3.5 Implement dust control measures at source point to minimize dust pollution during construction.

3.6 Cover all potential sources of dust nuisance such as material stock piles, loaded transport trucks, etc to minimise impacts to sensitive receptors.

4.0 WATER AND SOIL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

4.1 Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.

- 4.2 Avoid soil compaction, erosion, siltation and sedimentation during construction by limiting the size of the disturbed area, slope length and gradient and the duration of soil exposure.
- 4.3 Store temporary stockpiles of construction materials including excavated waste in a designated area that is protected from wind and water erosion. Materials shall not be placed within 10m of a watercourse or drain.
- 4.4 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products.
 - a) Store all oils, fuel, paints and chemicals in a designated area, at least 10 meters away from water bodies.
- 4.5 Do not discharge or dump solid waste and/or trade effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment.

5.0 HAZARDOUS WASTE MATERIAL/WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013 and the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management Regulations 2000).
- 5.2 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices at the facility.
 - a) Place covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations around the project site.
 - b) Reuse waste material where practical such as land-filling material for the revetment, landscaping, etc, of the general compound surroundings.
 - c) Burning waste materials is **strictly prohibited**. Waste materials that cannot be reused during shall be taken for disposal at an approved disposal facility.
- 5.3 Solid and liquid waste shall not be discharged directly into watercourse without prior treatment.
- 5.4 Establish and maintain a register of hazardous materials or chemicals used or generated as a result of the construction of the Solar Photovoltaic Grid System.
- 5.5 There shall be no release of any pollutants (i.e. fuel, waste oil, chemicals) to ground water or soil from the permitted installation. Accidental release of pollutants to soil and ground water shall be recorded and reported **within twenty (24) hrs** to the Agency for further investigation.

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- 5.6 Hazardous wastes shall be properly stored in segregated, leak proof containers at a designated site until ready for disposal. Disposal of hazardous waste shall be done in a manner approved by the EPA.
- 5.7 Where applicable, prepare and submit to the Agency no later than **forty-five (45) days** after the end of the constructing year, a report relating to the activities for the previous year. The report shall include:
- a) The identification information of the facility.
 - b) Type and quantities of hazardous waste generated.
 - c) Data concerning off-site shipments of waste.
 - d) Any applied treatment standards.
 - e) A summary of any accidents that may have occurred and any action taken.
 - f) Any waste minimization efforts undertaken by the generator.
 - g) Any other matter the Agency may require.
- 5.8 The Agency considers all materials listed in Schedules I and II of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management) Regulations, 2000, to be hazardous.
- 5.9 Store fuel from ignition sources and erect **'No Smoking'** signs in conspicuous areas where fuel is handled and or stored.
- 5.10 Store any contaminated fuel in enclosed leak-proof containers and label slop tanks 'waste gasoline' or 'waste fuel'.
- 5.11 Treat and contain spills of even minor in nature with absorbent materials.
- 5.12 Oil/fuel containment absorbent materials shall be appropriately stored in a concrete-based structure and away from water ways and disposed by double wrapping in heavy duty garbage bags at an approved solid waste disposal site
- 5.13 Spill containment kit shall be strategically located at the project site. The kit shall contain absorbent material, drain seals, disposal containers and other appropriate tools to absorb spilt oil and other spilt liquids.
- 5.14 Construct and maintain an impervious secondary containment bund around all fuel storage tanks which shall have capacity to contain at least 110% of the fuel stored in the tanks.
- 5.15 Store used oil in a covered, bunded area to minimize adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage.

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 (Renewed), insofar as they involve adherence by employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 6.3 Report to the Agency of non-compliance(s) with this Environmental Permit (Renewed):
- i. 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.
 - ii. 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-compliance including exact dates and time and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance(s) has not been corrected.
- 6.4 Submit an **Environmental Annual Report** to the EPA on your compliance with this Environmental Permit (Renewed) on or before **March 31, each year**.
- 6.5 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.
- 6.6 Notify the Agency in writing of any change of name or ownership of the Permit Holder's facility within **thirty (30) days** after the change occurs.
- 6.7 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 (Renewed), 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 (Renewed), 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 Regulations.
- 7.7 The Permit Holder shall be liable of any gross negligence or wilful 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 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 **This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 7.14 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein, **December 2021 to November 2022.**
- 7.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until **November 30, 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.
- 7.16 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed *Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation* to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is no later than **May 31, 2022.**
- 7.17 Any late submission of renewal application(s) after the specified date as stated above, the agency may require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to renewal fees, 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.
- 7.18 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to civil penalties and/or injunctive relief prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana and its Regulations, including any forthcoming regulations made under the said Act or any other applicable Laws of Guyana.

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Signed by Sharifah Lazack on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency

Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director

Date 2021. 12. 06

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

NAME:	HORACE WILLIAMS
DESIGNATION:	C.E.O, HINTERLAND ELECTRIFICATION
SIGNATURE:	
DATE:	JAN. 19, 2022

