



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.:	20220311-LDEBD
Fee:	Small (C1) - US\$100 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$ 500 for five (5) years – April, 2022 to March, 2027

Addressee: Ministry of Health
Lot 1 Brickdam St.,
Georgetown,
Guyana.



Activity: Construction and Operation of Great Diamond Hospital.

The Ministry of Health, herein referred to as the "Permit Holder", is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to construct and operate Great Diamond Hospital at Letter "E", Great Diamond Housing Development, East Bank Demerara, Region 4, hereinafter referred to as "the Project", in the manner indicated in the Application submitted on March 11, 2022, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, existing or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act and/or any other applicable Laws of Guyana, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

Terms and Conditions for construction and operation to be adhered to by the Permit Holder, his servants, agents and sub-contractors:

1.0 GENERAL

- 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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- serving the facility;
- III. Change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
- IV. Affect any other change outlined in **20(3)** of the **Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations**.
- 1.2 Adhere to requirements of the **Occupational Health and Safety Act, Cap 99:10, Laws of Guyana**.
- 1.3 Employ or designate an employee to the role of an **Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)/Environmental Officer** to be responsible for the implementation and coordination of all safety requirements and terms and conditions stipulated in this Permit, as well as compliance monitoring with the preparation of all required reports.
- 1.4 Make all employees, and third parties under your direction, aware of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and provide training on good environmental practices.
- 1.5 Obtain and maintain approval from the Guyana Fire Service and provide fire protection measures in accordance with this approval.
- 1.6 The Project shall be implemented in accordance to the approved Waste Management Plan, all plans, specifications of location, pathways, reserve and boundary lines must be adhered to, unless otherwise authorised; evidence of which must be provided to the Agency.
- 1.7 **The Permit Holder shall submit to the EPA upon receipt, the requisite approvals from the Central Housing and Planning Authority (CH&PA), the relevant Municipality or any other authority with jurisdiction and oversight over the Project.**
- 1.8 Construction works shall not be executed between 18:00 hrs. to 06:00 hrs., on any day, close to communal areas unless, approval is sought from the EPA. This requirement does not apply for large concrete pours or asphalt laying and earth removal where work in the early morning and late evening is required.
- 1.9 All equipment used shall be monitored and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. A maintenance schedule shall be made available to the EPA upon request.
- 1.10 Upon completion of works remove all barriers, equipment/material staging areas, and all support infrastructure, facilities and equipment in accordance with documents and plans submitted to the Agency

2.0 WATER AND SOIL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 Strictly comply with 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 shall 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:
- I. Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 50 mg/L;
 - II. Oil and Grease < 10 mg/L.
- 2.3 Avoid erosion, siltation and sedimentation of existing water bodies within the vicinity of the project site. Do not discharge wastewater from washout and/or cleanout of concrete, paint, and other construction materials into waterways unless appropriately treated.
- 2.4 Construct and maintain drainage systems capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation event.
- 2.5 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products that might be used at the facility.

3.0 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND NOISE ABATEMENT

- 3.1 Strictly comply with the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000** and the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations 2000**.
- 3.2 Noise emissions shall be in accordance with the **Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS)** Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment. Sound levels from noise-making devices shall 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: 80 dB during the daytime (06:00 h - 18:00 h)
65 dB during the night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h)

During Operation

Commercial Limits: 80 dB during the daytime (06:00 h - 18:00 h)
65 dB during the night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h)

- 3.3 Locate generators away from communal areas to minimise noise, fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas/residents.
- 3.4 Exhaust stacks of generators shall be at least 2 metres above the tallest building.
- 3.5 Monitor ambient air quality in accordance with the approved ESMP to determine compliance with the **World Health Organisation (WHO)** Air Quality Guidelines for Particulate Matter in the Environment, not exceeding the limits below:

PM2.5: 25 µg/m³ 24-hour mean

PM10: 50 µg/m³ 24-hour mean

- 3.6 Record, investigate and address complaints of excessive noise, dust and vibrations from the public promptly upon receipt. Maintain a record of all complaints received and the action taken.
- 3.7 Limit the removal of vegetation to the minimum extent necessary for works to proceed. In areas where soils are not to be removed, the vegetation layer shall be maintained to protect the soil from erosion.
- 3.8 Stabilize exposed portions of the soil. Implement and maintain stabilization measures (e.g., seeding protected by erosion controls until vegetation is established, sodding, mulching, erosion control blankets, hydromulch, gravel) that minimize erosion from exposed portions of the site.
- 3.9 Locate piles outside of any natural buffers and away from any stormwater conveyances, drain inlets, and areas where stormwater flow is concentrated.
- 3.10 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products that might be used at the construction site.
- 3.11 Store fuel in a secured designated area to prevent accidental release into the surrounding environment. The designated area shall not be within 100 m of surrounding water bodies.
- 3.12 Store all chemicals in leak-proof containers that are kept under water-resistant cover and surrounded by secondary containment structures (e.g., spill berms, decks, spill containment pallets) to minimize the potential discharge of chemicals in stormwater and external waterways.

4.0 BIO-HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.**

- 4.2 All waste mixed or contaminated with medical waste shall be treated as bio-hazardous waste.
- 4.3 An Occupational Safety, Health and Environmental Management Training Schedule for staff involved in the collection, storage and handling of bio-hazardous waste shall be established. The training report(s) shall be submitted to the EPA upon request.
- 4.4 Bio-hazardous wastes shall be identified and segregated according to category, at the point of generation. Bio-hazardous waste containers must display the following particulars to be considered appropriately labelled:
- I. Name (location);
 - II. Date;
 - III. Type of Waste;
 - IV. List of Content; and
 - V. Quantity.
- 4.5 Bio-hazardous wastes shall be labelled and colour coded. Labelling can include words such as "Infectious Substances", "Bio-hazardous Waste" and "Bio Hazard".
- 4.6 Disposal of sharps shall NOT incorporate cutting, breaking, bending or any other manipulation, and shall be disposed of at a facility authorised by the Agency.
- 4.7 Sharps shall be placed in container that meet the following requirements:
- I. Be rigid;
 - II. Be puncture resistant;
 - III. Be impervious to moisture and shatter proof;
 - IV. Display the universal bio-hazard symbols and a clear label of its contents; and
 - V. Be capable of being sealed, preferably with a self-closing lid/a lid that prevents persons removing sharps from the container.
- 4.8 Use of mercury based medical devices (e.g., thermometers and blood pressure devices) shall be avoided and replaced with digital alternatives. Where mercury waste is generated, the waste shall be segregated for disposal at a facility authorised by EPA.
- 4.9 A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for disposal of expired and recalled drugs shall be established and submitted to the EPA for approval. The disposal of expired and recalled drugs in any other manner other than outlined in the SOP is PROHIBITED, without prior approval from the EPA.
- 4.10 Disposal of expired and recalled drugs shall be recorded on a Waste Manifest Form and shall be submitted as a component of the **Annual Report**.

- 4.11 Storage of Bio-hazardous waste shall **not exceed thirty (30) days**. The thirty-day period commences when the first item is placed into the designated storage container.
- 4.12 All bio-hazardous wastes shall be collected, treated and disposed of by an EPA authorized waste disposal facility. Bio-hazardous waste treatment and disposal shall be documented on a Waste Manifest Form which must be submitted to the EPA as a component of the Annual Report.

5.0 FUEL AND HAZARDOUS/ WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations 2013** and the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000**.
- 5.2 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of the surroundings at all times.
- 5.3 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices at the site, place covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations around the site.
- 5.4 Dumping of waste into the surrounding environment is **strictly prohibited**. Waste, inclusive of waste oil and/or fuel, shall not be stored within 10 meters of any waterways.
- 5.5 Hazardous waste shall be treated and/or disposed by an EPA authorised Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility. All hazardous waste treatment and disposal shall be documented on a Waste Manifest Form which shall be submitted to the EPA as a component of the **Annual Report**.
- 5.6 Conduct refuelling, oil changes and maintenance of equipment on an impervious base.
- 5.7 Spill equipment shall be available and utilised for containing and mitigating spills from fuel, bitumen, waste oils, lubricants, curing compounds, concrete admixtures, paints etc.
- 5.8 Designate an area for the storage of fuel, used oil, washing detergents, sanitisers and other hazardous materials. Hazardous materials/ waste storage areas shall be clearly labelled and secured. The following warning signs shall be clearly posted:
- I. "Hazardous Waste Storage Area"
 - II. Danger - "Authorised Personnel Only"
 - III. No eating, drinking or smoking

- 5.9 Hazardous waste shall be contained in bunded/kerbed storage areas. These areas shall adhere to the following requirements:
- I. Be situated in low traffic areas;
 - II. No interceptor drains shall be constructed; and
 - III. Be bunded to provide 110% containment of the largest volume of hazardous materials stored therein.
- 5.10 Hazardous waste shall be stored in containers appropriate for the waste stream; that is:
- I. Sealed Plastic Containers
 - II. Water-based waste
 - III. Sealed Metal Containers
 - IV. Solvents and petroleum-based products
 - V. Oil and oily absorbents
- 5.11 Hazardous waste/materials storage containers shall be inspected weekly for signs of leakage, deterioration or corrosion. Damaged containers must be replaced immediately. Inspection reports must be maintained and signed by the appropriately qualified inspecting officer and his/her supervisor.
- 5.12 Adequate toilets, waste disposal and sanitary facilities shall be provided at all site(s).
- 5.13 Construct and maintain a septic system on site; the septic tank shall 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 tank shall 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.

6.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 6.1 Strictly comply with any lawful directions given by the Agency 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.

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- 6.3.1 Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of this Environmental Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance, with the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment may be impacted.
- 6.3.2 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 **Annual Report** to the EPA at the end of the construction year (February - March) on your compliance with this Permit.
- 6.5 Notify the EPA within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g., oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes spill, sudden onset disaster, 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.
- 6.8 It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure the permitted activity and premises are secured and that all practicable steps necessary to prevent fires, explosions, leaks or suspected leaks and spills at the permitted premises are taken.
- 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 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 activities as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the **Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, 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.

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- 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 is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 7.14 This **Environmental Permit** is effective for the period stipulated herein, **March April, 2022 to March, 2027..**
- 7.15 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **March 31, 2027**, unless otherwise suspended, cancelled, modified or varied, in accordance with 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 Environmental Permit shall 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 **September 30, 2026.**
- 7.17 Any late submission of renewal application(s) after the specified date as stated above, 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 Environmental Permit shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the **Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000**, including civil penalties and injunctive relief.

Signed by _____ on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.



Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director

Date 14.6.2022

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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:	BRANDON STUART
SIGNATURE:	
DESIGNATION:	ENGINEER
DATE:	07/04/2022



Handwritten initials 'W' and 'P' in blue ink.