



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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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.:	20210621-MPWAT
Fee:	Large (C2) - US\$2000 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$2000: One (1) year (October 2022 to September 2023)

Addressee: Mr Vladim Persaud
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Public Works
Wights Lane
Kingston
Georgetown

Activity: Rehabilitation and Extension of Airstrip

The Ministry of Public Works, 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 rehabilitate and extend the Kaieteur Airstrip in the Kaieteur National Park, hereinafter referred to as "the Project", in the manner indicated in the Application submitted on June 21, 2021, 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, 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 sub-contractors:

1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing of any proposed changes in the construction of the Project 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.

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

- 1.2 Rehabilitation of the Kaieteur Airstrip must be in accordance with the plans 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 Implement all mitigation measures/recommendations as outlined in the Construction Method Statement – Revision C, that was submitted to the Agency.
- 1.4 Consult and coordinate with the relevant local government organs such as, the Protected Areas Commission, Guyana Civil Aviation Authority, Guyana Police Force, Regional Democratic Council and Guyana Tourism Authority etc. to establish schedules and mechanisms for implementation of the Project.
- 1.5 Identify suitable areas for material stockpiles and equipment during construction.
- 1.6 Take all necessary precautions to minimise potential adverse impacts on public health and the environment in the transport, storage and handling of construction materials for the Project. Avoid any unnecessary inconveniences to the general public through appropriate planning and management of the construction site.
- 1.7 Ensure the provision for, maintenance and removal on the completion of works, all barriers, equipment/material staging areas, and all support infrastructure, facilities and equipment associated with the Project. Once works are completed, rehabilitation measures outlined in the Construction Method Statement must be implemented.

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 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;
Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L;
Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) < 40 mg/L.
Oil and Grease < 20 mg/L;

- 2.3 Take all practicable measures to avoid erosion, siltation and sedimentation of existing water bodies/drains within the vicinity of the project site. Ensure that Wastewater from washout and/or cleanout of concrete, and other construction materials or chemicals are not discharged into waterways, unless managed by an appropriate treatment control.
- 2.4 Clearing of vegetation is restricted to areas of the airstrip alignment as required for air safety by the Guyana Civil Aviation Authority and endorsed by the Protected Areas Commission.
- 2.5 Install sediment controls along any perimeter areas of the site that will receive effluent discharges and remove sediment before it has accumulated to one-half of the above-ground height of any perimeter control.
- 2.6 Protect susceptible sloped surfaces with suitable revetment and appropriate cover to ensure the stability of slopes and avoid erosion. Install any down gradient sediment controls system (e.g., buffers, perimeter controls, exit point controls) that manage discharges from the initial site clearing, grading, excavating, and other earth-disturbing activities.
- 2.7 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.
- 2.8 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products that might be used at the construction site.
- 2.9 Store fuel in a secured designated area to prevent accidental release into the surrounding environment, especially in rainy conditions. The designated area should not be placed within 100 m of surrounding water bodies.

Store all treatment 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), OR provide equivalent measures designed and maintained to minimize the potential discharge of treatment chemicals in stormwater and external waterways.

- 2.10 As far as practicable, conduct refuelling, oil changes and maintenance of vehicles machinery and other equipment on an impervious base. Oil spills should be cleaned up by the best practicable means.
- 2.11 Do not discharge or dump liquid or solid wastes and/or trade effluent directly into receiving waters.

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 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.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 Ensure stockpiles are stored downwind to avoid being transported by wind to sensitive areas. Stockpiles should be relatively flat on top, and shall not exceed a height of eight (8) feet. Remove material from the stockpile on the leeward side, avoid the removal of material on the windward side. Loading and offloading activities should, as far as possible, also be confined to this location
- 3.5 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.
- 3.6 Ensure that appropriate measures are in place to minimise the impacts of airborne emissions from vehicles offloading and/or loading activities. Keep drop heights at a minimum when loading and/or offloading materials e.g. sand, aggregates, etc. to reduce particles from becoming airborne.
- 3.7 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.

4.0 FUEL AND HAZARDOUS/ WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Strictly 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 housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of the surroundings at all times.
- 4.3 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices at the project site. Place covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations around the project site.
- 4.4 Reuse waste materials where practical such as land-filling material for the project site. 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.
- 4.5 Dumping of waste (Domestic and Construction) into the surrounding environment is **strictly prohibited**. Waste, inclusive of waste oil and/or fuel, should not be stored within 10 meters of any waterways.
- 4.6 Record and include in a summary table the following information in the **report** (see condition 7.3):
 - a) Name and description (e.g., composition of a mixture) of the hazardous materials (e.g. fuel, waste oils, lubricants, curing compounds, concrete admixtures, paints etc.);
 - 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).
- 4.7 Ensure appropriate spill equipment is available and utilised for containing and mitigating any spills (e.g. fuel, waste oils, lubricants, curing compounds, concrete admixtures, paints etc.).
- 4.8 Hazardous contaminated absorbent pads and materials (e.g. fuel, waste oils, lubricants, curing compounds, concrete admixtures, paints etc.) may be disposed of at an incineration operation approved by the EPA.
- 4.9 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:

Environmental Permit- Ref. No.: 20210621-MPWAT

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- a) "Hazardous Waste Storage Area"
 - b) Danger - "Authorised Personnel Only"
 - c) No eating, drinking or smoking
- 4.10 Hazardous waste (e.g. fuel, waste oils, lubricants, curing compounds, concrete admixtures, paints etc.) shall be contained in bunded /kerbed storage areas. These areas shall adhere to the following requirements:
- a) Be situated in low traffic areas.
 - b) No interceptor drains shall be constructed.
 - c) Be bunded to provide 110% containment of the largest volume of hazardous materials stored therein.
- 4.11 Hazardous waste (e.g. fuel, waste oils, lubricants, curing compounds, concrete admixtures, paints etc.) shall be stored in containers appropriate for the waste stream; that is:
- a) Sealed Plastic Containers
 - i. Water-based waste
 - b) Sealed Metal Containers
 - i. Solvents and petroleum-based products
 - ii. Oil and oily absorbents
- 4.12 Hazardous waste/materials storage containers (e.g. fuel, waste oils, lubricants, curing compounds, concrete admixtures, paints etc.) 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.

5.0 EMPLOYEES HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 5.1 Requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, Cap 99:10, **Laws of Guyana** must be strictly adhered to so as to ensure that employees' safety and health are protected at all times.
- 5.2 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn at all times by workers on the project site(s). Adequate lighting must be provided for the execution of works between the hours of 6pm - 6am.
- 5.3 Adequate toilets, waste disposal and sanitary facilities must be provided at all site(s).
- 5.4 Ensure that portable toilets are installed in accordance with the Public Health Ordinance 1953;

- 5.5 All workers directly or indirectly involved in the Project must be trained on the requirements of the Construction Method Statement.

6.0 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 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 compliance monitoring with the preparation of all required reports to the EPA.
- 6.2 Ensure that the working environment is monitored, at all times, for occupational hazards relevant to the specific activity being conducted.
- 6.3 Prepare and implement an Emergency Response Plan/Evacuation Plan and ensure that it is posted at strategic locations.
- 6.4 Ensure all employees are aware of the Emergency Response Plan, and their respective duties and responsibilities.

7.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 7.1 Strictly comply with any lawful directions given by the Agency from time-to-time in furtherance of the implementation of any obligations of Guyana under any treaty or international law relating to the environmental protection of Guyana.
- 7.2 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with this Environmental Permit.
- 7.2.1 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.
- 7.2.2 Within **seventy-two (72) hours**, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance, its cause(s) and the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time.
- 7.3 Submit a **Report** to the Agency at the end of construction on your compliance with this Permit.

- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 Inform the Agency prior to or within **thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the project.

8.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 8.1 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(s) in any amount, concentration or level in excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by this Environmental 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.**
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 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.**)
- 8.4 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 of, 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.**
- 8.5 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.

- 8.6 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**.
- 8.7 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**.
- 8.8 The Agency 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**.
- 8.9 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.
- 8.10 The Agency shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 8.11 The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that the construction of the airstrip is permitted by **all other relevant authorities**.
- 8.12 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein, **October 2022 to September 2023**.
- 8.13 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **September 30, 2023**, 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.
- 8.14 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, 2023**

Environmental Permit- Ref. No.: 20210621-MPWAT

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- 8.15 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.
- 8.16 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 *Kemraj Parsram* on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Kemraj Parsram

Executive Director

Date

2022-11-11

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, all subsidiary legislations made under the said Act and any forthcoming regulations, best practices, guidelines and standards made under this Act.

NAME:	<i>VLADIM ROMELLO PERAUD</i>
SIGNATURE:	<i>[Signature]</i>
DESIGNATION:	<i>PERMANENT SECRETARY</i>
DATE:	<i>24-11-2022</i>

