



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.:	20220916-ASCAR
Fee:	Medium (C2) – US\$4,000 (5 years), i.e., US \$800 per year
Fees Paid:	USD\$4,000 (September 30, 2023 – August 31, 2028)

Addressee(s): **Mr. Amjad Reasat**
Managing Director, A&S General Contractors Inc.
Plantation Klyzenaar
De Hoop, Mahaica
East Coast Demerara

Activity: **Operation of an Asphalt Plant and Concrete Plant**

A&S General Contractors Inc., 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 operate an Asphalt Plant and Concrete Plant, situated at Sub Lot ‘A’, Plantation Bohemia, Corentyne, Berbice, hereinafter referred to as the “Project” in a manner indicated in the Application for Environmental Authorisation submitted on September 13, 2022, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, existing and/or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act, and/or any applicable laws, best practices, guidelines, and standards relevant to this Project.

Terms and Conditions for the operation to be adhered to by the Permit Holders, his servant(s), agent(s), and/or sub-contractor(s):

1.0 GENERAL:

- 1.1. The Permit Holder shall make an application to the Agency to vary this Environmental Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:

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- 1.1.1. Change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
 - 1.1.2. Change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system, or technology serving the facility;
 - 1.1.3. Change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
 - 1.1.4. Affect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 The Permit Holder shall 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. The Agency shall be notified **within 21 days** of any change in representative.
- 1.3 The Permit Holder shall submit an **Environmental Assessment and Management Plan (EAMP)** to the EPA for the Operation of the Asphalt Plant and Concrete Plant to the EPA for approval by **December 31, 2023**. The Plan shall also include but not be limited to the following:
 - 1.3.1 Environmental Policies and Guidelines
 - 1.3.2 Environmental Training and Awareness Plan
 - 1.3.3 Environmental Compliance Training
 - 1.3.4 Environmental Supplier/Contractor Engagement Plan
 - 1.3.5 Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Plan.
- 1.4. The Permit Holder shall maintain fire prevention and control equipment in accordance with the Guyana Fire Service Approval and shall be submitted a copy of maintenance records as a component of **the Annual Report**. Further,
 - 1.4.1. Maintain adequate fire protection measures such as the placement of fighting equipment e.g. fire extinguishers and sand buckets, at visible locations on site, in accordance with the guidelines established by the Guyana Fire Service.
 - 1.4.2. All firefighting equipment **MUST** be regularly maintained and/or serviced and training, on the use of all equipment, **MUST** be provided to all employees.
- 1.5. The Permit Holder shall maintain as a component of his Grievance Mechanism, a reporting mechanism (Forms, etc.) to allow stakeholders to register their concerns regarding the operation of the Project. A copy of the reporting mechanism shall be submitted to the Agency by **December 31, 2023**.
- 1.6. Maintain a vegetative buffer zone around the perimeter of the Project to mitigate the impacts of noise and dust on the surrounding environment.

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- 1.7. The Permit Holder shall install and maintain post-hazard and warning information in the work area.
- 1.8. The Permit Holder shall submit, for the entire operation in keeping with **Conditions 5.7 and 6.10**, baseline Air Quality and Water Quality assessments to the EPA using the Best Available Technology (BAT), to the EPA by **October 31, 2023**.
- 1.9. The Permit Holder shall submit to the EPA a completed updated and approved standard (dimensions 34 inches x 24 inches) engineer's site plan showing the layout of the entire operation by **October 31, 2023**.

2.0 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY

- 2.1 The Permit Holder shall make all necessary precautions to minimise potential adverse impacts on Public Health and the Environment in the transport, storage, and handling of aggregates (including crusher run, siftings, and sand that will emanate as a result of the Operation of the Asphalt Plant and Concrete Plant.
- 2.2 The Permit Holder shall ensure that Contractors adhere to a site-specific Traffic Management Plan, to ensure that suitable provisions are made to accommodate all vehicular and pedestrian traffic safely with a minimum of inconvenience through and around the construction works.
- 2.3 The Permit Holder shall notify the member of the public or community of the estimated duration of the project, estimated times of works, and expected difficulties that may occur as a result of construction activities (eg. road construction) at least **two (2) weeks** in advance.
- 2.4 The Permit Holder shall ensure that access is provided to all properties adjacent to the work site for the duration of construction-related activities.
- 2.5 The Permit holder shall ensure that the treys of all trucks are covered at all times during the transportation of aggregate stockpiles to the facility to eliminate fugitive dust emissions.
- 2.6 The Permit Holder shall ensure that adequate traffic control devices, signage, guardrails, and warning tape, are installed at work sites. Additionally, ensure that a speed limit is enforced to control traffic speed within construction zones and operation areas of the Asphalt Plant.

3.0 EMPLOYEES' SAFETY AND HEALTH

- 3.1 The Permit Holder shall ensure there are qualified emergency responders on duty during every shift.

3.2 The Permit Holder shall adhere to the requirements of the **Occupational Health and Safety Act, Cap 99:10, Laws of Guyana.**

- 3.2.1 The Permit Holder shall maintain restrooms/areas, waste disposal, and sanitary facilities for workers.
- 3.2.2 Employees shall be equipped with Personal Protective Equipment relevant to occupational tasks. The following Personal Protective Equipment should include but not be limited to:
 - i. Safety helmets;
 - ii. Protective respiratory devices that meet requirements of U.S OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard or local equivalent;
 - iii. Safety boots with ankle support;
 - iv. Gloves with reinforced palms and fingers;
 - v. Non-snag outer clothing appropriate to the prevailing weather conditions and high-visibility clothing; and
 - vi. Eye protection; tightly fitted safety goggles.

4.0 OPERATION OF ASPHALT PLANT AND CONCRETE PLANT

- 4.1. The Permit Holder shall ensure that all equipment used in the Project shall be monitored and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. A monitoring checklist shall be established, maintained, and submitted to the Agency as a component of the Project's **Annual Report**.
- 4.2. The Permit Holder shall ensure that an automated system is maintained to support the manual shut-off switch at the Asphalt Plant.
 - 4.2.1. The dust collection system, i.e., the baghouse filter systems shall be maintained to ensure that dust does not escape the recirculatory process during asphalt production.
 - 4.2.2. The integrity of the Drying Drum shall be maintained to prevent pronounced fume emissions during the process.
 - 4.2.3. All bitumen tanks shall be within sufficient containment, and provide 110% containment of the total volume of bitumen being stored. The integrity of the transfer pipes shall also be maintained.
- 4.3. The Permit Holder shall ensure that an automated system is maintained to support the manual shut-off switch at the batching Concrete Plant.

5.0 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND NOISE ABATEMENT

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

- 5.1 The Permit Holder shall strictly comply with the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000**, and the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations 2000**.
- 5.2 The Permit Holder shall monitor noise emissions to determine compliance 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.

Industrial Limits: 100 dB (Day-time (06:00 h -18:00 h))
80 B (Night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h))

- 5.3 The Permit Holder shall locate generators away from communal areas to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts on the contiguous areas.
- 5.4 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all sound-making devices such as generators, machines, etc., are suitably equipped with silencers or mufflers to reduce noise emission levels and are placed on a foundation properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations. Additionally, ensure adequate equipment maintenance is provided and obsolete tools and equipment are replaced.
- 5.5 The Permit Holder shall ensure that emissions from equipment/ generators are in accordance with the World Health Organization (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
- 5.6 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 list of pollutants:
- CO - 9 ppm (8h)
 - H₂S – 10 ppm (8h)
 - NO₂ - 0.1 ppm
 - VOC - 100 ppm
- 5.7 Conduct Air Quality Monitoring as per **conditions 5.5 and 5.6** quarterly.
- 6.7.1 All results from quarterly assessments shall be submitted to the EPA for review and feedback **within 30 days** following completion of assessments.

6.7.2 Proposed sample points should be submitted to the EPA for approval prior to monitoring, in keeping with **sub-condition 1.3.5 - Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Plan** to be submitted. A monitoring report shall be submitted to the Agency as part of the requirements for the Annual Report cited in **Condition 9.4.**

5.8 The Permit Holder shall ensure that aggregate stockpiles are protected, by tarpaulin and/or permanent cover and windbreaker from wind dispersal throughout the project site and beyond.

5.9 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all vehicles transporting raw materials to the site and finished materials from the site are covered.

5.10 The Permit Holder shall ensure that measures to prevent pollution that shall include but not limited to:

5.10.1 Good housekeeping practices to avoid or minimize the accumulation of dusty materials that have the potential to become airborne, and prompt immediate cleanup of spilled or accumulated materials.

5.10.2 Ensuring that all production machinery and equipment is serviced on a regularly scheduled basis per manufacturer's specifications and upgraded, if necessary, in order to meet minimum particulate emission criteria levels; and,

5.10.3 Ensuring implementation of operational procedures for equipment and maintenance operator training are provided to ensure efficient performance of the equipment.

6.0 SOIL AND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

6.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.**

6.2 Store temporary stockpiles of construction materials including excavated waste in a secured, designated area, and protected from wind and water erosion. Materials should not be placed within 10 m of a watercourse or drain.

6.3 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils, and other petroleum products. Store all oils, fuel, paints, and chemicals in a designated area, 10 m away from watercourses on an impervious base to minimize adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage.

6.4 Maintain all surface drains ensuring that it is clear and free flowing and monitor regularly for blockage of same and immediately clean drain/canal if

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the blockage is discovered.

- 6.5 The Permit Holder shall not discharge effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment.
- 6.6 The Permit Holder shall maintain the sediment pond on site to collect sediments from the operations.
- 6.7 A freeboard of 0.5 metres shall be maintained at the storage reservoir to prevent the direct discharge of grout into the environment.
- 6.8 The Permit Holder shall install and maintain oil-water separators at strategic locations on the storage facility through which all effluents shall pass before the final discharge.
- 6.9 The Permit Holder shall 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) *Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*. The following are the allowable limits for this type of project and shall not exceed:
 - i. Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L;
 - ii. Oil and Grease < 10 mg/L; and
 - iii. Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) < 40 mg/L.
- 6.10 Monitor the parameters above on a bi-annual basis and submit the results to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report. Samples shall be taken from a point after the oil-water separator but before the drainage system. Samples shall be analyzed by a certified laboratory.

7.0 FUEL, WASTE OIL, AND HAZARDOUS WASTE/MATERIAL MANAGEMENT/GENERAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 The Permit Holder shall strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulation 2000**.
- 7.2 The Permit Holder shall submit recent copies of the **Guyana Energy Agency Licence** and **Petroleum Licence** for fuel storage at the location, to the EPA as a component of its Annual Report or upon request.
- 7.3 The Permit Holder shall ensure that waste oils recovered from the oil-water separator or the servicing of generators are stored in a covered bunded area to minimize adverse impacts on the environment in the event of a spillage.
- 7.4 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all chemicals used as part of the process are handled, stored, and disposed of in accordance with the Material Safety

Data Sheet (MSDS)/ Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and that copies of MSDS/SDS sheets are located in central areas accessible to all staff on site and employees are aware of same.

- 7.5 The secondary containment (bund area) shall be maintained to minimise the spread/ release of liquid material spillage occurring within the storage area. The secondary containment wall shall possess the following characteristics:
- i. The capacity of the secondary containment facility shall be equal to 110% of the greatest volume of liquid stored within the largest storage container.
 - ii. The walls of the secondary containment facility shall be constructed of earth, steel, concrete or solid masonry.
 - iii. Cracks and seams shall be sealed to prevent leakage.
- 7.6 Secondary containment, drip trays, or other overflow and drip containment measures shall be installed and maintained at connection points or other possible overflow points.
- 7.7 The Permit Holder shall ensure that oil/fuel-contaminated absorbent materials are appropriately stored by double wrapping them in heavy-duty garbage bags. All contaminated absorbent materials shall be disposed of at an authorized Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility.
- 7.8 The Permit Holder shall store all fuel away from ignition sources and have “**No Smoking**” signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 7.9 The Permit Holder shall ensure that fuel/lubricants including waste oils shall not be drained from the equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 7.10 The Permit Holder shall keep on-site books, documents, records, or things showing, as the case may be:
- The amount of hazardous wastes generated stored, treated, transported, or disposed of.
 - The dates are pertinent to the activities referred to above.
 - Signed copies of manifests.
 - Records of test results and/or waste analyses.
 - And any information the Agency may require from time to time.
- 7.11 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all hazardous waste shall be treated and/ or disposed of by an Agency 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 Agency as a component of the Annual Report.
- 7.12 The Permit Holder shall 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 tank 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*.

- 7.13 The Permit Holder shall promote waste minimization and the reuse and/or recycling of waste materials and other suitable materials where practical. Topsoil/overburden and other inert construction waters/materials should be reused, e.g., for reclamation/landscaping after construction works are completed.

8.0 SPILLS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 The Permit Holder shall notify the Environmental Protection Agency **within one (1) hour** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g., oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes spills, 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).
- 8.2 All near misses, spills, and unwanted/accidental discharges, **amounting to less than imperial five (5) gallons**, must be recorded and reported to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report.
- 8.3 Discharges of contaminants amounting to **five (5) imperial gallons or more** must be reported to the Agency by submitting an "Incident Notification Form for Spills in Onshore Operations" using the most recent template provided by the Agency, **within forty-eight (48) hours** of the incident. A follow-up incident notification form shall be submitted **within seventy-two (72) hours** of the submission of the initial notification form (a total of five days) after the discharge of the contaminants.
- 8.4 The Permit Holder shall establish procedures for analysing accidents and failures to determine the causes of the failure and minimize the possibility of a recurrence. This information shall be made available to the Agency upon request.
- 8.5 An electronic shutdown system shall be maintained as a primary emergency response mechanism, along with one or more suitable leak detection mechanisms.
- 8.6 The Permit Holder shall provide a fully equipped first aid kit at all primary work sites and ensure that functional communication and transportation systems are in place to respond to emergencies.
- 8.7 The Permit Holder shall maintain an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for the entire facility, inclusive of the pipeline system. The ERP shall contain, but may not be restricted to the following:

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- i. Spill detection and mitigation procedures;
- ii. Escape, evacuation, and rescue plan and assessment;
- iii. A list of responsible parties and duties;
- iv. A list of regulatory agencies to be notified;
- v. Names and addresses of response organizations;
- vi. Training procedures;
- vii. A list of equipment to be utilized;
- viii. Testing procedures to ensure that the equipment to be used remain in working condition; and
- ix. Clean up and hazardous waste disposal procedures.

8.8 The Permit Holder shall annually simulate the entire ERP with relevant stakeholders as directed and/or approved by the Agency. The Agency reserves the right to attend any exercise organised in accordance with this Condition.

8.9 The Permit Holder shall produce appropriate documentation, to the EPA, evidencing the conduct of the exercises required by Condition 8.8. The documentation must be submitted no later than thirty (30) calendar days following the emergency response exercise and shall include information detailing the:

- i. Type of exercises;
- ii. Date and time of the exercises;
- iii. Description of the exercises;
- iv. Objectives met; and
- v. Lessons learned.

9.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

9.1 The Permit Holder shall 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.

9.2 The Permit Holder shall 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.

9.3 The Permit Holder shall maintain and submit to the Agency records of the type, composition, and quantity of contaminant released (i.e., any solid, liquid, gas, odour, sound, vibration, radiation, heat, or combination of any of them).

9.4 The Permit Holder shall submit an **Annual Report** to the Agency containing the information required under this Environmental Permit on or before **March 31, of each year**.

9.5 The Permit Holder shall report to the Agency any non-compliance with the Environmental Permit:

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- 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.

10.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 10.1 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's operation as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 10.2 The EPA reserves the right to review/amend the conditions attached to this Permit.
- 10.3 The EPA reserves the right to review/amend the permit fees attached to this Permit. The permit fees will be reviewed and amended in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, in consideration of any changes in fee structure as determined by the Agency for projects of this nature. Amended fees shall be retroactive to the date of issuance of this Permit.
- 10.4 The Permit Holder 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.
- 10.5 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 10.6 **This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant permission should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 10.7 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any affected party for any loss or damage to the environment that arises from the implementation of this project.
- 10.8 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the

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Environmental Protection Act, Cap.20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, including civil penalties and injunctive relief.

- 10.9 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 any Environmental Authorisation which are attributed to the Project. S. 19(1) EP Act, Cap. 20:05.
- 10.10 The Permit Holder shall be guilty of any offence in accordance with s. 39(1), (2),(3),(4) of the EP Act, Cap. 20:05, which states respectively –“every person who causes 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 is guilty of an offence and shall be liable to the penalties prescribed under the Act.”
- 10.11 The Permit Holder shall compensate any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the attributed project. (Part V, s. 19(3)(e)) EP Act Cap. 20:05.
- 10.12 The Permit Holder shall be responsible for the payment of all costs related to the assessment of damage and costs for the independent assessor (s).
- 10.13 The Agency (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.
- 10.14 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 EP Act Cap. 20:05.
- 10.15 Where it appears to the Agency (EPA) that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose a 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 Order to immediately cease the offending activity. S. 27 EP Act, Cap. 20:05
- 10.16 This Environmental Permit is valid for the period stipulated herein **(September 30, 2023 to August 31, 2028).**
- 10.17 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **August 31, 2028**, unless otherwise suspended or revoked in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 10.18 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed *Application Form* for

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Renewal of Environmental Authorisation to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **February 29, 2028**.

Signed by



on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Date

15.9.2023

I hereby accept the 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, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, and any forthcoming regulations, best practices, guidelines, and standards made under this Act.

NAME:	AMSA REASAT
DESIGNATION:	DIRECTOR
DATE:	2023-10-18
SIGNATURE:	Amyl Reasat



