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# **Environmental Permit (Interim)**

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.

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Addressee:

Mr. Vladim Persaud Permanent Secretary Work Service Group Ministry of Public Works Fort Street Kingston,

Georgetown

Activity: Preliminary works related to the upgrading of Palmyra to Moleson Creek Highway

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 ONLY carry out preliminary works related to the upgrading of Palmyra to Moleson Creek Highway, hereinafter referred to as "the Project", in the manner indicated in the Application submitted on October 22, 2024, 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.

The Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractors shall comply with the following Terms and Conditions of this Environmental Permit (Interim):

#### 1.0 GENERAL

1.1 This Environmental Permit (Interim) ONLY authorises the conduct of preliminary works related to the Ministry of Public Works' upgrading of Palmyra to Moleson Creek Highway. For the purpose of this Environmental Permit, preliminary works means all activities performed at and around the project site(s) prior to the start of actual construction and/or operations, and includes but is not limited to demolition,



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site clearance, site survey, transportation, environmental surveys and monitoring, the display of site notices and advertisements, and the erection of structures, required for the organisation and development of the project site and for enabling the application of appropriate construction technology.

- 1.2 The Permit Holder notify the Agency in writing to obtain its approval for **ANY** proposed changes to the Project defined herein at least **fourteen (14) days** prior to making the change. The notification shall contain a description of the proposed change in operation. 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 operation' means a change in the nature or functioning, or an extension, or any additional installation, which may have consequences for the environment. Changes in operation may include but are not limited to the following:
  - a. Change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
  - b. Change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility;
  - c. Change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
  - d. Any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- Any Approval issued in accordance with Condition 1.2 may be issued subject to such further terms and conditions as the Agency deems appropriate, and such further terms and conditions shall be considered as forming part of the present Permit so that any breach or contravention thereof, shall be considered a breach or contravention of the Permit.
- 1.4 The Permit Holder shall ensure that the project is implemented 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.
- 1.5 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all construction works at the project site are conducted in accordance with Maritime, Sea and River Defence and Drainage & Irrigation Laws of Guyana.



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- The Permit Holder shall consult and coordinate with contractors/subcontractors and the relevant/affected utility companies, local government bodies, government organisations, such as, the Guyana Lands & Surveys Commission (GLSC), Neighbourhood Democratic Councils (NDCs), Guyana Water Inc. (GWI), and Guyana Telephone and Telegraph Co Ltd (GTT), etc. to establish schedules and mechanisms for implementation of the Project. Additionally, ensure that utility providers and relevant authorities are consulted on the location of their facilities such as conduits and cables, etc. to ensure that appropriate actions are taken such as relocation of utility poles, markings, temporary shut off of utilities, etc. prior to the commencement of works.
- 1.7 The Permit Holder shall make all employees, and third parties under its direction, aware of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and provide training on good environmental practices.
- 1.8 The Permit Holder shall ensure that construction works shall not be executed between 22:00 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 Construction support sites shall not be located in close proximity to sensitive receptors such as hospitals, geriatric homes, churches, schools, densely urbanized residential areas, recreational areas, etc.
- 1.10 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all excavated materials are managed safely to avoid negative impacts to habitats or any risk to human health and the environment.
- 1.11 The Permit Holder shall ensure that employees are at all times, equipped with appropriate protective gear during construction and operation such as protective headgear, respirators, safety vests, safety boots, etc.
- 1.12 The Permit Holder shall ensure that upon completion of works the removal of 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 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 2.1 The Permit Holder shall adhere to requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, Cap 99:10, Laws of Guyana.
- 2.2 The Permit Holder shall employ or designate an employee to the role of an Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)/Environmental Officer to be



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- responsible for the implementation and coordination of all safety requirements and terms and conditions stipulated in this Environmental Permit, as well as compliance monitoring with the preparation of all required reports to the Agency.
- The Permit Holder shall establish and maintain an Emergency Response Plan in 2.3 keeping with Good International Industry Practice (GIIP). The ERP must include, but not limited to:
  - a. procedures to be followed in the event of a mishap.
  - b. the actions personnel must take to respond to fires, explosions, or any unplanned sudden or non-sudden release of hydrocarbon or hazardous waste to air, soil, or water body;
  - c. systems for notification of national and local emergency response authorities and regulatory bodies;
  - d. the names and contact information of all persons qualified to act as emergency responders;
  - e. a list of all emergency response equipment at the facility (internal and external), including decontamination equipment, and a map showing where various equipment is located; and
  - f. an evacuation plan for facility personnel where there is a possibility that evacuation could be necessary. This plan must describe signal(s) to be used to begin evacuation, evacuation routes, and alternate evacuation routes (in cases where the primary routes could be blocked by releases of hazardous waste or fires), muster point(s), etc.
  - The Permit Holder shall ensure that the working environment is monitored at all 2.4 times for occupational hazards.
  - The Permit Holder shall ensure that only trained and certified workers are to install, 2.5 maintain, or repair electrical equipment.
  - The Permit Holder shall ensure that the necessary Personal Protective 2.6 Equipment (PPE's) are provided for each of the staff and should be worn at all times.
  - The Permit Holder shall ensure that adequate rest areas, waste disposal and sanitary 2.7 facilities are provided at the construction site(s) for workers.



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- 2.8 The Permit Holder shall ensure that employees do not work shifts in excess of eight (8) hours to reduce fatigue and risks of accidents/injuries onsite.
- 2.9 A First Aid Kit equipped according to the Guyana Red Cross standards must be on site(s) at all times. Additionally, communication and transportation systems must be in place to respond to emergencies.

# 3.0 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 The Permit Holder shall take all necessary precautions to minimise potential adverse impacts on public health in the execution of the project activities.
- 3.2 The Permit Holder shall utilise signs, barriers (e.g., fencing and plantings) to deter pedestrian access to the project area except at designated crossing points.
- 3.3 The Permit Holder shall install and maintain all signs, signals, markings, and other devices used to regulate traffic, including posted speed limits, warnings of sharp turns or other special conditions.
- 3.4 The Permit Holder shall make suitable provisions to accommodate vehicular and pedestrian traffic safely with minimum inconvenience through and around the construction site.
- 3.5 The Permit Holder shall ensure that traffic control devices, signage, guardrails and cautioning tape(s) are installed at work site. Speed limits shall be strictly enforced to minimise dust particles from becoming airborne.
- 3.6 The Permit Holder shall notify the public of the estimated duration of the project, estimated times of works, and expected difficulties, e.g., road closures and diversions, etc. that may be encountered as a result project at least **two weeks** in advance.

### 4.0 WATER AND SOIL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- The Permit Holder shall strictly comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations 2000.**
- 4.2 The Permit Holder shall avoid erosion, siltation and sedimentation of existing water bodies/drains within the vicinity of the project site(s).
- 4.3 The Permit Holder shall install sediment controls along site(s) perimeter areas that will receive effluent and remove sediments before it accumulates to half of the above-ground height of the perimeter control.



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- 4.4 The Permit Holder shall protect susceptible sloped surfaces with suitable revetment and appropriate cover to ensure the stability of slopes and avoid erosion. Install down gradient sediment control systems (e.g., buffers, perimeter controls, exit point controls, storm drain inlet protection) that manage discharges from the initial site clearing, grading, excavating, and other earth-disturbing activities.
- 4.5 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 4.6 The Permit Holder shall 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, hydro mulch, gravel) that minimize erosion from exposed portions of the site.
- 4.7 The Permit Holder shall adequately store and/or cover temporary stockpiles of construction materials, excavated waste and fuel in a secured designated area to prevent accidental releases into the surrounding environment. The designated area should not be placed within 10 m of any water body.
- 4.8 The Permit Holder shall locate piles outside of any natural buffers and away from any stormwater conveyances, drain inlets, and areas where stormwater flow is concentrated.
- 4.9 The Permit Holder shall construct and maintain drainage systems capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation event.
- 4.10 The Permit Holder shall avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products that might be used at the project site.
- 4.11 The Permit Holder shall ensure that fuel/lubricants including waste oils are not drained from the equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 4.12 The Permit Holder shall 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 within 100 m of surrounding water bodies.
- 4.13 The Permit Holder shall not discharge or dump solid waste and/or trade effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment.
- 4.14 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all Gray and Black water (sewage) are removed from the project site and is being removed by an EPA permitted waste disposal service.



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### 5.0 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND NOISE ABATEMENT

- The Permit Holder shall strictly comply with the Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000 and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations 2000.
- Noise emissions shall not exceed the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment as stated below.

#### **Residential Limits:**

**75 dB** during Day-time (06:00h – 18:00 h)

**60 B** during Night-time (18:00-06:00 h)

- 5.3 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all sound making devices, such as generators, are located 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 place on properly designed foundations to ensure effective damping of vibrations.
- 5.4 The Permit Holder shall ensure that exhaust stacks of generators shall be at least 2 metres above the tallest building nearby, so as to minimize adverse fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas
- 5.5 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 5.6 The Permit Holder shall ensure that stockpiles are relatively flat on top, and not exceed a height of eight (8) feet. Remove material from the stock pile on the leeward side to avoid the removal of material on the windward side.
- 5.7 The Permit Holder shall cover all potential sources of dust nuisance such as material stock piles, loaded transport trucks, etc to minimise impacts to sensitive receptors.
- The Permit Holder shall monitor Air Quality in accordance with the **World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines for Particulate Matter in the Environment**, not exceeding the limits below:
  - I.  $PM_{2.5}$ : 25 µg/m3 24-hour mean
  - II. **PM**<sub>10</sub>: 50 μg/m3 24-hour mean



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5.9 The Permit Holder shall 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 and submit as a component of the **Environmental Annual Report** to the Agency.

### 6.0 HAZARDOUS AND NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

- The Permit Holder shall strictly adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations 2013 and the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.
- 6.2 The Permit Holder shall maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of the surroundings at all times.
- 6.3 The Permit Holder shall promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices at the project site(s), place covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations around the project site(s).
- 6.4 The Permit Holder shall reuse waste material where practical such as land-filling material for the project site(s).
- 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.
- 6.6 The Permit Holder shall ensure that hazardous waste is 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 **Environmental Annual Report**.
- 6.7 The Permit Holder shall conduct refuelling, oil changes and maintenance of equipment on an impervious base.
- 6.8 The Permit Holder shall ensure that spill equipment is available and utilised for containing and mitigating spills from fuel, waste oils, lubricants, paints, etc.
- 6.9 The Permit Holder shall 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"



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- III. No eating, drinking or smoking
- 6.10 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;
  - No interceptor drains shall be constructed; and
  - III. Be bunded to provide 110% containment of the largest volume of hazardous materials stored therein.
- 6.11 Hazardous waste shall be stored in containers appropriate for the waste stream; that is:
  - a. Sealed Plastic Containers
    - i. Water-based waste
  - b. Sealed Metal Containers
    - ii. Solvents and petroleum-based products
    - iii. Oil and oily absorbents
- 6.12 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.
- 6.13 The Permit Holder shall ensure that adequate toilets, waste disposal and sanitary facilities are provided at all site.
- 6.14 The Permit Holder shall ensure that portable toilets be installed in accordance with the **Public Health Ordinance**, **1953**. All portable toilets shall be emptied by the contracted Waste Disposal Services. Disposing of raw sewage into the surrounding environment is **strictly prohibited**.
- 7.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING
- 7.1 The Permit Holder shall 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.



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- 7.2 The Permit Holder shall monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Environmental Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 7.3 The Permit Holder shall report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with this Environmental Permit.
- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 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.
- 7.6 The Permit Holder shall submit an Environmental Annual Report to the EPA at the end of the year (February March) on your compliance with this Permit. 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;
  - d) data concerning off-site shipments of waste, i.e., local disposal facility utilised, country to which hazardous waste is shipped, 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; and any other matter the Agency may require.
  - 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.



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hazardous substances, chemicals or otherwise, and shall be rendered liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act and Regulations.

- 8.7 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.
- 8.8 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.
- 8.9 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.**
- 8.10 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.
- 8.11 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.
- 8.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 8.13 The Permit Holder agrees that it will comply with the terms and conditions of this Environmental Permit and can pay compensation for any loss or damage which may arise from the project or breach of any term or condition of this Permit.



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- 7.7 The Permit Holder shall 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).
- 7.8 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.
- 7.9 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.

#### 8.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 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.**
- 8.4 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.
- 8.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 6.3 of this Environmental Permit pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.6 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



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- 8.14 This **Environmental Permit (Interim)** is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 8.15 This Environmental Permit (Interim) is effective for the period stipulated herein, October 2024 to September 2025. Upon expiration, the EPA may proceed to grant an Environmental Permit in accordance with Regulation 18(4) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 8.16 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **September**, **2025**, 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.
- 8.17 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

Executive Director

on behalf of the Environmental Protection

Date

23.10.2024

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)



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Regulations, 2000, and any forthcoming regulations, best practices, guidelines and standards made under this Act.

NAME:

SIGNATURE:

DESIGNATION:

DATE:

23.10.2024







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