



**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.:	20190626-SELNR
Fee:	Small (C1) - US\$100 per year
Fees paid:	US\$500 (5 years - April, 2025 to March, 2030)

Addressee: Ms. Jacqueline Allicock
Surama Eco Lodge Inc
Surama Village
North Rupununi
Region 9

Activity: Operation of an Eco-Lodge

Surama Village Council Inc, trading and operating under the name Surama Eco-Lodge, herein after 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 operate an Eco-Lodge located at Surama Village, North Rupununi Region 9, Guyana, hereinafter referred to as "the Project", in the manner indicated in the Renewal Application submitted on March 5, 2025, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and in any existing or forthcoming regulations made under the said Environmental Protection Act and/or any other applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

Terms and Conditions for Operation to be adhered to by the Permit Holder:

1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing and obtain its approval for **ANY** proposed changes in the operation of the facility **at least 14 days before 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 an extension, of the installation, which may have consequences for the environment, including but not limited to the following:

- I. Changes in construction, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings.
- II. Installation of new and/or changes to equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility.
- III. Any technology used or installed at the facility from which effluent may be discharged.

1.2 Ensure that all parties adhere to the requirements and conditions of this Permit.

1.3 Ensure that all pest control applications are conducted by pest control operatives who are trained and registered by the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board (PTCCB).

1.4 Make all employees aware of the conditions of this Permit and provide training on good environment management practices.

1.5 Assign a person to be responsible for all Environmental matters of the facility.

2.0 AIR AND NOISE QUALITY MANAGEMENT

2.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations 2000** and the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations 2000**.

2.2 Comply with Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment*, not exceeding the residential limits listed below, at a distance of 15 metres (50 feet) from the source or property boundary.

Recreational limits: **100 dB** (Day-time (06:00 h-18:00 h))
 100/70 dB (Night – time (18:00 h - 06:00 h))

2.3 Use of sound-making devices and other noisy activities, shall not be permitted between the hours of 23:00 h to 06:00 h, or unless permission is *otherwise* granted by the EPA.

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- 2.4 Ensure all significant noise-producing equipment, e.g., generators, etc. are equipped with appropriate silencers or mufflers and/or are enclosed in suitable acoustic enclosures where necessary to reduce noise levels impacting the surrounding environment to achieve compliance with GNBS requirement.
- 2.5 Ensure that the generator is regularly serviced to ensure efficiency and reduce the level of noise produced.
- 2.6 Ensure that the exhaust stack of the generator and stove are of an appropriate height, preferably at least two (2) metres above the tallest building nearby, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas.
- 2.7 Ensure that the air conditioning units are regularly serviced to ensure efficiency and reduce air and noise emissions into the environment.
- 2.8 Respond to complaints by any citizen or authority to lower the volume of sound systems and other sound-making equipment, if the noise is excessive.
- 2.9 Take necessary precautions to avoid or reduce vibrations on surrounding premises.
- 2.10 Promote the conservation and efficient use of energy. Options for energy efficiency are described but not limited to those identified below:
 - 2.10.1 The use of appropriate electrical fixtures and equipment that will allow for the efficient utilisation of energy, for example, replacing incandescent lamps with compact fluorescent lamps, installation of Energy Star labeled or other equivalent appliances where possible and installation of solar water heaters.
 - 2.10.2 The use of occupancy sensors and/or timers for areas of your hotel that are less frequently used such as hallways, outdoor areas, or public bathrooms.
 - 2.10.3 Ensure all exterior doors on air-conditioned spaces are properly sealed to avoid losing cool air.

3.0 WATER QUALITY

- 3.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations 2000**.
- 3.2 Direct all waste lines and drains carrying grease, fats, or culinary oil, or similar waste products from the Hotel's kitchen area into one or more grease trap interceptors. All required grease trap interceptors shall comply with the following:
 - Construct grease interceptors of durable, corrosion-resistant materials and shall have water-tight covers securely fastened in place.

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- Interceptor shall have a flow rate sufficient to handle the maximum demand of the connected system.
- Installed interceptors at strategic locations to allow accessibility for convenient removal of the lid and internal contents.
- Interceptors shall be designed and installed with proper venting so that they do not become air bound.

3.3 Maintain the Integrity of the existing waterways at all times. Discharges into the environment should be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards *Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*. The following are the allowable limits for the operation and should not be exceeded:

- pH 5.0 - 9.0;
- Temperature <40°C;
- Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) <50 mg/L;
- Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) <250 mg/L;
- Total Suspended Solid (TSS) <50 mg/L;
- Oil & Grease <10 mg/L.

3.4 Conduct water quality monitoring of effluent generated by the facility for the parameters identified above, on an annual basis and submit reports to the EPA. Sample points should include the final discharge point(s) from the facility, as well as an upstream and downstream sample from the receiving body of water.

3.5 Do not discharge trade effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment. An oil/water separator should be installed at strategic location, through which all effluent must pass before final discharge.

3.6 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, at least 10 m away from watercourses on an impervious base to minimise adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage.

3.7 Not discharge nor dump solid waste and/or trade effluent directly into the receiving waters.

3.8 Avoid excessive or inappropriate use of cleaning chemicals. Use of biodegradable/water-based cleaning products is encouraged.

3.9 Promote the conservation of water resources by minimising water consumed in the operation of the hotel, for example; the installation of low-flow showerheads (0.5 to 2 gpm) and sink aerators (0.25 gpm to 0.5 gpm for hand and face washing and 2.2 gpm for dish washing).

3.10 Construct and maintain drainage systems capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation storm event.

4.0 FUEL AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations 2013**.
- 4.2 Comply with **Regulation 6(1)** of the **Environmental Protection (Expanded Polystyrene Ban) Regulations 2015** which states that *"no food service establishment shall sell or provide food for consumption, either on or off the said establishment's premises, in expanded polystyrene food service products."*
- 4.3 Maintain good house-keeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of the surroundings at all times.
- 4.4 Ensure that the drainage is kept free flowing and free of debris. Regular cleaning of the drainage network must be maintained.
- 4.5 Provide covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations, both within and outside the established buildings of the site. At all times, garbage receptacles, both inside and outside of the facility, should be emptied, cleaned and maintained on a regular basis, to prevent the fall or flow of garbage in the surrounding environment and attraction of rodents and other vermin.
- 4.6 Eliminate or substantially reduce the use of plastics, e.g., disposable cups and dishes, etc., for special events where feasible. Adequately dispose, reuse and/or recycle all waste materials.
- 4.7 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 tanks 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*.
- 4.8 Comply with and adhere to the provisions of **the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations 2000**.
- 4.9 Prepare and submit to the Agency no later than forty-five (45) days after the end of the operating year, a report relating to the activities for the previous year (please see attached form). 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;

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- (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.

- 4.10 In the event that waste oil (recovered from oil-water separator or from servicing of generators) is stored, it should be stored in a covered, bunded area to minimise adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage.
- 4.11 Store all fuel away from ignition sources and have 'No Smoking' signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 4.12 Dispose of all waste oil in accordance with the Environmental Guidelines, 2011 for the 'Removal, Treatment and Disposal of Oily Sludge' (attached) or reuse waste oil as lubricant for chainsaw or other equipment/machinery.
- 4.13 Ensure that oil/fuel containment adsorbent materials are appropriately stored in a concrete-based structure and away from water ways and disposed by double wrapping in heavy duty garbage bags and disposed of at an approved solid waste disposal site.
- 4.14 Hazardous contaminated absorbent pads can be disposed of an incineration operation (see list attached).
- 4.15 Maintain an impervious secondary containment bund which should have at least 110% containment capacity around all fuel storage tanks, creating a temporary holding area in the event of spillage.
- 4.16 Store waste oil (recovered from oil-water separator or from servicing of generators) in a covered, bunded area to minimise adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage.
- 4.17 Limit access to hazardous waste storage areas to employees who are authorised and have received proper training.
- 4.18 Record and include in a summary table the following information:
 - (a) Name and description (e.g., composition of a mixture) of the hazardous materials;
 - (b) Classification (e.g., code, class or division) of the hazardous materials;
 - (c) Quantity of hazardous materials used per month; and

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(d) Characteristic(s) that make(s) the materials hazardous (e.g. flammability, toxicity).

4.19 Treat and contain spills of even a minor nature with absorbent materials.

4.20 Designate an area for the storage of the following:

- Fuel;
- First Aid Kit(s); and
- Washing detergents; and Sanitizers (J's Fluid, Pine Sol, etc.) for the facility.

5.0 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

5.1 Maintain approval from Guyana Fire Service and adequate fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers and sand buckets in accordance with this approval.

5.2 Ensure all firefighting equipment are maintained and serviced regularly and provide training on the use of the equipment.

5.3 Submit to the Agency, within **thirty 30 working days** of issuance of this Permit, a written Emergency Evacuation Plan for the constructed building.

5.4 Maintain a regularly updated evacuation plan for the hotel. Ensure that the evacuation plan for each floor is posted in a conspicuous location.

5.5 Install an alarm system and ensure that all employees are aware of the emergency response protocol and their duties and responsibilities according to the evacuation plan.

5.6 Ensure that the fire escape routes are clearly defined and has emergency lighting in accordance with the requirements of the Guyana Fire Service.

6.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

6.1 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees.

6.2 Make all Employees, and Third parties under your direction, aware of the condition of the Permit and provide training on good environmental practices.

6.3 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.

6.4 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.

6.5 Notify the Agency of non-compliance with this permit upon becoming aware of any violation:

(i) Within twenty-four (24) hours of the time the Holder of the environmental authorisation becomes aware of the non-compliance, the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.

(ii) Within seventy-two (72) hours, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance, its cause and the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time.

(iii) Submit a report to the Agency indicating the reasons and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance has not been corrected.

6.6 Comply with any lawful directions given by the EPA from time-to-time in furtherance of the implementation of any international or other obligations for the environmental protection of Guyana.

6.7 Submit **Annual Reports** to the EPA on the progress of the operation and compliance with the conditions under which this Permit was granted on or before **March 31** each year.

7.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

7.1 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 in any amount, concentration or level in excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by any Operation 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.

7.2 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.

7.3 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.)

7.4 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, any contaminant in any amount, concentration, ultra hazardous substances,

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

- 7.5 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 or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants from the fuel storage.
- 7.6 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.
- 7.7 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..
- 7.8 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.
- 7.9 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, and the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 7.10 The EPA reserves the right to review/amend the conditions and fees attached to this Permit, which also includes the review and/or amendment of Permit Fees in consideration of any changes in fee structure as determined by the Agency for projects of this nature.
- 7.11 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. Pursuant to s.38 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, it is an offence to **assault, obstruct or hinder** an authorised person in the execution of his/her duty under the said Act or its Regulations and the Permit Holder shall be liable to penalties prescribed under paragraph (c) of the Fifth Schedule for doing so.
- 7.12 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.

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- 7.13 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to civil penalties and/or injunctive reliefs prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, including under any existing and forthcoming regulations made under the said Act or any other applicable Laws of Guyana.
- 7.14 The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that the operation is permitted by other relevant authorities.
- 7.15 This Operation Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein, **April, 2025 to March, 2030.**
- 7.16 This **Operation Permit** shall remain valid until **March 31, 2030**, unless otherwise suspended, cancelled, modified or varied, in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 7.17 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed *Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation* to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is no later than **September 30, 2029.**
- 7.18 Any late submission of renewal application(s) after the specified date as stated above, shall require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to the renewal fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was first owed for renewal) at a rate of **two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) per day** for every day late, until such renewal application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.

Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director
Environmental Protection Agency.

Executive Director

Date 2025.04.30

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I hereby accept the above terms and conditions upon which this Operation Permit is granted and agree to abide by the Environmental Protection 1996, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, and any existing or forthcoming regulations, best practices, guidelines and standards made under this Act.

NAME:	Waldyke Prince
DESIGNATION:	Wildlife Biologist
SIGNATURE:	Waldyke Prince
DATE:	21/8/2025



Exc rate \$210.45



Environmental Protection Agency
Head Office - Ganges Street, Sophia, Georgetown, Guyana.
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Received From: Suruma Finance Inc.

File Copy

Date: 20250809

No. 31946

The Sum of One Hundred Five Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Five Dollars \$05,225

For Received Environmental Permit - Small - Operation of an Eco - Lodge (April 2025 - March 2030).

PAID ☒ Cash Cheques ☐ Wire Transfer ☐ Balance due Amt. \$ _____

Signature: [Signature]

