



## **Environmental Protection Agency Notice to the Public**

In accordance with **section 11(2) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, Laws of Guyana**, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has screened the applications for the granting of Environmental Authorization for the following proposed projects:

### **Bunkering Operations**

- *Van Oord Guyana Inc. (ELLA F) – to be located within Guyana’s waters inclusive of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).*
- *Van Oord Guyana Inc. (Coastal Challenger) – to be located within Guyana’s waters inclusive of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).*
- *Van Oord Guyana Inc. (Sayan Polaris) – to be located within Guyana’s waters inclusive of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).*
- *Tidewater Marine International Inc. (Breaux Tide) – to be located within Guyana’s waters inclusive of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).*
- *Tidewater Marine International Inc. (Gerard Tide) – to be located within Guyana’s waters inclusive of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).*
- *Tidewater Marine International Inc. (Aldemir Souza Tide) – to be located within Guyana’s waters inclusive of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).*
- *Tidewater Marine International Inc. (Saavedra Tide) – to be located within Guyana’s waters inclusive of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).*

The EPA has determined that these projects will not significantly affect the environment, and is therefore exempt from the requirement to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). **However, each project will be required to submit an Emergency Management Plan (EMP).**



The reasons for this decision as it relates to each of the aforementioned projects include:

1. Risk of fuel spills may potentially impact water quality and biodiversity during bunkering activity and collision. The impacts of any Spills though possible would not be significant as a result of the vessels being equipped with the oil spill and pollution preparedness, prevention, and response mechanisms in conformity with standards established by MARPOL 73\78 and a Hazardous Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) for offshore bunkering activities. Additionally, there are preventative measures such as ensuring that all environmental conditions (weather, tide action, lighting, etc.) are appropriate for bunkering are adhered to and implemented; leak detection mechanism (for example automatic locks on the feeding hose); performing volumetric checks prior to every bunkering activity; and inspecting all transfer hoses, valves and pipeline prior to all bunkering activities.
2. The probability of collision is low as a result of the navigation, monitoring, and communication systems of the vessels being installed. Additionally, the vessels are equipped with double-hull tanks reducing the potential of spills in the unlikely event of a collision. The vessels also ensure that hydrostatic pressure in the tanks remains intact during tidal change.
3. Air emissions such as CO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, and NO<sub>x</sub> will not have a significant impact on the environment. Vessel engines and equipment are outfitted with low emissions technology, including Selective Catalytic Reactors to further reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. Further, the vessels will implement a class-approved Planned Maintenance System which caters to both calendar base and running hours (mileages) and ensures the correct grade is loaded as per engine manufacturers' requirements. Further, the vessels shall obtain International Air Pollution Prevention Certificate in accordance with Regulation 5 of Annex VI of the MARPOL Convention.
4. The vessels have obtained a permit to operate within Guyana's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) from the Maritime Administrative Department (MARAD).

Please be advised that this decision is in no way an indication that these projects are approved.

The summaries of the projects can be viewed on the EPA's website via the link below:

**Project Summaries Tab:**

1. Ella F:  
[https://epaguyana.org/?post\\_type=wpdmpro&p=4494&preview=true](https://epaguyana.org/?post_type=wpdmpro&p=4494&preview=true)
2. Coastal Challenger:  
[https://epaguyana.org/?post\\_type=wpdmpro&p=4493&preview=true](https://epaguyana.org/?post_type=wpdmpro&p=4493&preview=true)
3. Sayan Polaris:  
[https://epaguyana.org/?post\\_type=wpdmpro&p=4495&preview=true](https://epaguyana.org/?post_type=wpdmpro&p=4495&preview=true)



4. Gerard Tide:

[https://epaguyana.org/?post\\_type=wpdmpro&p=4496&preview=true](https://epaguyana.org/?post_type=wpdmpro&p=4496&preview=true)

5. Breaux, Saavedra, Aldemir Souza:

[https://epaguyana.org/?post\\_type=wpdmpro&p=4497&preview=true](https://epaguyana.org/?post_type=wpdmpro&p=4497&preview=true)

Any person who may be affected by the proposed projects may lodge an appeal against the Agency's decision (EIA not required) within thirty (30) days of the publication of this Notice. *Appeals against the EPA's decision should be addressed to:*

The Chairman  
The Environmental Assessment Board  
E-mail: [eabguyana21@gmail.com](mailto:eabguyana21@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.epaguyana.org](http://www.epaguyana.org)