



Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana  
Environmental Protection Agency



Environmental  
Protection  
Agency - Guyana

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) - GUYANA**

**ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION SCREENING REPORT**

Name of Developer: **A&S General Contractors Inc. (Mr. Amjad Reasat)**

Type of Project: Plants for the Manufacturing of Asphaltic Concrete and Rigid Concrete.

Project Location: Sub Lot 'A', Plantation Bohemia, Corentyne, Berbice

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Project Overview and Description**

On **September 15, 2022**, the Agency received an application for Environmental Authorisation to operate an asphaltic concrete plant and a rigid concrete plant. The project is located at Sub Lot 'A', Plantation Bohemia, Corentyne, Berbice. A site verification inspection was conducted at the site on **September 20, 2022**.

The project site consists of 4.413 acres and the land was previously used for rice cultivation. The construction phase is completed and involved site clearing and grubbing, landfilling, and levelling, installation of the drainage system, installation of the asphalt plant, and installation of the auxiliary facilities such as generators, office, washroom, fuel storage, and other ancillary features.

The Asphalt Plant and Concrete Plant for the manufacturing of asphaltic concrete and rigid concrete was established by A&S General Contractors Inc. and is situated at Sub Lot 'A', Plantation Bohemia, Corentyne, Berbice. The asphalt plant installed is a brand new state-of-the-art VINAYAK Asphalt Plant (ABP 160 Series) capable of production rates of up to 160 tons per hour. The cement batching plant installed is a brand new state-of-the-art Vinayak Concrete Plant (CCBP-30 series). The plant is designed for maximum efficiency and reliability in producing all types of high-quality concrete and is capable of producing 30m<sup>3</sup> of concrete per hour.

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*Figure 1. Map showing the location of the facility and its surroundings.*

The Asphalt Plant produces "hot-mix" asphalt through a process that heats the bitumen and aggregate raw materials to remove moisture and obtain adequate fluidity for proper amalgamation and spreading. The first step of asphalt production involves the transfer of bitumen from the storage containers into tanks in which it is heated. Aggregate raw materials (stone, sifting, and sand) are then loaded into the cold feed unit. The quantities of raw materials used during a production cycle depend on the product specifications required by the Client. The heated bitumen and aggregate raw materials are then mixed and dried in the drying drum unit. The finished product is then loaded via a conveyor system into trucks. The operation of the plant is controlled by a based control system housed within a control room.

The Concrete Batching Plant is fixed with a four-compartment chamber aggregate feeder, one 20,000-litre water tank, an air compressor, a manual loading cement hopper, and an automated control cabin. Aggregates are manually loaded into the compartment chamber with a front-end loader while the cement is manually loaded into the hopper. The control cabin computes the specified mix design and materials are loaded into the mixing chamber. The concrete is produced and collected in a cement truck for transport. At the end of each production cycle, the plant is washed and the discharge is channelled to the settling pond for reuse.

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*Photos 1 & 2: Asphaltic Concrete Plant (within and outside of enclosure) and Rigid Concrete Plants.*

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS SCREENING

The EPA's screening concludes that the significance of impacts on the environment will range between low to medium scale. The conclusion was ascertained after evaluating the project activities, following a review of the Project Summary, verification inspections, and mitigation measures proposed by the developer. The principal impacts of this project are likely impacts on air quality, water quality, and the consequences of poor waste management (hazardous and non-hazardous). The following reasons are presented below:

1. **Air Quality / Noise:** *The are impacts on air and noise quality* resulting from this type of project during the operation phase. Areas for concern are air emissions (dust, fumes (VOCs), soot, oxides, and greenhouse gases). Continuous noise can be emitted from diesel power generators and intermittent noise emitted from the use of machinery and other equipment. However, both air and noise impacts from this particular operation will be of minor significance since they are localised and mitigated by the following:
  - The closest human receptor of the project is more than 180 metres upwind and away from the project site.

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- The plant will include a dust collection system, completely shed and partially enclosed - the eastern side is fully enclosed, the northern side partially enclosed, and the southern and western sides are not enclosed to allow for access to the hoppers and the asphalt loading area.
  - All stockpiles will also be covered when not in use. Wet suppression methods will have to be applied when stockpiles are not in use, especially during dry periods. Truck trays will require covering when transporting material to reduce dust emissions.
  - Dust masks, respirators, and other appropriate personal protective equipment will be used by personnel working in dusty areas where cement batching and stockpiles are being managed.
  - The generators are equipped with built-in enclosures and mufflers.
  - The engineering design (free-floating screen design) of the plant is expected to result in limited vibrations.
  - It is undetermined whether the air emissions from the operation will have an impact on the rice fields downwind and the significance of that impact; hence an Environmental Assessment & Management Plan (EAMP) will be requested from the developer.
2. **Water Quality:** *There are negligible impacts on water quality from this project granted that the proposed mitigation measures are implemented. While there are risks of impacts from hydrocarbon-based product spills, sedimentation, and greywater from kitchen and washroom facilities; these will be mitigated by the following:*
- Fuel kept onsite will be stored in tanks situated within an impervious and bunded area which will capture and contain any spilt or leaked materials. A shed will also be installed to keep out the rainfall.
  - Bitumen storage tanks will be placed in an impervious area. All runoff, including those from the materials stockpile areas, will be collected by the installed drains.
  - Drains will be equipped with sediment traps to capture any sediments contained in the runoff.
  - Wash water from the concrete plant will be collected and channelled to a sediment pond for settlement before being reused in the process.
  - Liquid waste from the toilets will be channelled to a septic tank which will be equipped with a filter bed.

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3. **Waste Management:** *Negligible significance of impact during the operation phase*
- Waste materials to be generated are fine sandy dust generated after the asphalt processing.
  - Surplus asphalt material will be spread around the project site or donated to the local NDC for fixing streets and other road works.
  - The material will be used for landfilling purposes.
  - The solid waste expected to be generated from the operation includes domestic waste such as paper, packaging material, food scraps, and beverage bottles.
  - Material recovered from the dust collection system will be reused in the process.
  - Empty cement sacks will be stored at a designated area on site and will be collected for disposal by a waste disposal contractor.
  - Liquid waste from the toilets will be channelled to a septic tank which will be equipped with a filter bed.

### RECOMMENDATION/CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that based on the project, activities, a review of the existing data, observations/field verification inspections, and mitigation measures proposed by the developer, the significance of impacts on the environment will range between negligible to minor. However, impacts arising from the operation are localised, and mitigable. An EIA will not be a requirement for this project. However, the developer will be required to prepare and submit to the Agency an Environmental Assessment & Management Plan (EAMP) inclusive of an Emergency and Preparedness Management Plan for the operation.

It is therefore recommended that this project be published to provide the opportunity to any person who may be affected by the proposed project to appeal against the Agency's decision (EIA not required) within thirty (30) days of the said publication.

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