



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Environmental Permit

EPA/NR/EMP/WR/HQ/CA326.02/0000/04

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ACT, 1994 (ACT 490)
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 1999 (LI 1652)

This is to Certify that

Authorisation has been given to

GHANA RUBBER ESTATES LIMITED

Located at Awodua in the Prestea- Huni Valley District of the Western Region to continue the operation of an existing 4,000 hectares Natural Rubber Plantation Project.

From June 19, 2023 to June 18, 2026

Enanotetteh

Ing. Esi Nana Nerquaye-Tetteh
Ag. Deputy Executive Director /Technical Services
For: Executive Director

13/10/23

Date of Issue



NB: This Permit is only valid with the seal of the Environmental Protection Agency and the schedule to the permit

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Pollution Prevention Pays

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Environmental Protection Agency

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SCHEDULE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT

1.0 ENTITY PROFILE

NAME OF ENTITY	: GHANA RUBBER ESTATES LIMITED
ADDRESS	: P. O. BOX TD 228, TAKORADI
EMAIL ADDRESS	: lionel@grelgh.com
CONTACT NO.	: +233-244734153
CONTACT PERSON	: LIONEL BARRE
DESIGNATION	: THE MANAGING DIRECTOR
TIN	: C0004925246
TYPE OF UNDERTAKING	: NATURAL RUBBER PLANTATION

2.0 PERMIT IDENTIFICATION DETAILS

FILE NO.	: CA: 326/2
PERMIT NO.	: EPA/NR/EMP/WR/HQ/CA326.02/0000/04
DATE OF ISSUE	: OCTOBER 13, 2023
DATE OF EXPIRY	: JUNE 18, 2026
EFFECTIVE DATE	: JUNE 19, 2023
PLACE OF ISSUE	: HEAD OFFICE

3.0 LEGAL BASIS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT

In pursuance of the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1994, (Act 490) {Sections 2(f)(i) and 12 (1)} and the Environmental Assessment Regulations, 1999 (LI 1652) and on the basis of the information provided in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) June 2023, this Environmental Permit is issued authorizing **GHANA RUBBER ESTATES LIMITED** to continue the operation of an existing 4000 hectares Natural Rubber Plantation Project located at Awodua in the Prestea- Huni Valley District of the Western Region.

4.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project involves the cultivation of rubber trees for further extraction of latex from the mature rubber trees.

4.1 ACTIVITY

The project involves the following:

- a. Nursery maintenance
- b. Maintenance of mature and immature rubber plantation
- c. Maintenance of machinery and vehicles
- d. Tapping of latex

4.2 FACILITIES

The Natural Rubber Plantation comprises the following facilities:

- a. Rubber Nursery
- b. 2,421 ha of land under cultivation
- c. 1,319 ha of land take under conservation
- d. 260 ha of land take under fallow
- e. Farm machinery and vehicles
- f. Administrative Block

4.3 LOCATION AND LAND TAKE

- a. The project is located at Awodua in the Prestea -Huni Valley District of the Western Region.
- b. Geographical Coordinates: Latitude: 5°2'00" N and Longitude: 2°20'00" W
- c. Land take: 4000 hectares.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND MANAGEMENT

Comply with all project specifications, prevention, minimization, mitigation and commitments made in the EMP and other conditions prescribed by the EPA.

5.1 SPECIFIC IMPACTS AND MANAGEMENT

Comply also with the following management measures.

No	Impact	Source	Management	Remarks/ Timeline
1.	Air & Water Quality & Land	Chemical & Pesticide use	<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Comply with the requirements of the EPA Act, 1994 (Act 490), Part II on Chemicals/Pesticides Management.ii. Use only pesticides and chemicals that have been registered with the EPA in accordance with the EPA Act, 1994 (Act 490).iii. Ensure that applicators of pesticides and chemicals are trained and licensed in accordance with the EPA Act, 1994 (Act 490).iv. Provide appropriate storage facilities for pesticides and other agrochemicals.	<p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p>

No	Impact	Source	Management	Remarks/ Timeline
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. Ensure adequate measures to contain accidental spillage of pesticides and chemicals to avoid contamination of soil and water resources. vi. Ensure that empty pesticides and chemical containers and packaging materials are managed and disposed in accordance with EPA guidelines for disposal of waste chemical containers. vii. Pesticides should be sprayed during periods when drifts are expected to be minimal. viii. Keep an inventory of quantities of pesticides and agro chemical usage and communicate in the Annual Environmental Report to the Agency. 	<p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p>
2.	Water Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Storm water runoffs b) Application of chemicals at wrong times eg. rainy seasons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Comply with the National Buffer Zone Policy by establishing and maintaining the appropriate buffer zone distances along the water bodies traversing the project area. ii. GPS coordinates of the sampling stations/locations should be determined for all sampling sites and reported. i. Ensure chemicals are applied at the right time. 	<p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p> <p>When required</p>
3.	Land	a) Solid Waste generation from the plantation	i. Classify waste generated in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Hazardous and Electronic and other Wastes (Classification), Control and	At all times

No	Impact	Source	Management	Remarks/ Timeline
			<p>Management Regulations, 2016 (LI 2250).</p> <p>ii. Provide garbage bins for the segregation of solid waste generated to prevent littering.</p> <p>iii. Plastic wastes from the plantation should be reused or appropriately recycled.</p> <p>iv. Explore conversion of solid waste from plant materials into compost for use on the farm.</p> <p>v. Dispose solid waste at Prestea- Huni Valley District Assembly's approved landfill sites.</p> <p>vi. Consult the EPA for advice before disposing off all expired chemicals and pesticides</p>	<p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p> <p>At all times</p>
		b) Liquid waste from operations	i. Discharge of liquid waste must be carried out in line with the Ghana Standard for Environmental Protection-Requirements for Effluent Discharges (GS 1212:2019)	At all times
		c) Oil waste from maintenance works	<p>i. Concrete the exposed surface of the mechanical workshop to prevent oil pollution and soil contamination.</p> <p>ii. Waste oil generated should be collected in appropriate containers, stored under shed in a bunded area and sold to EPA permitted companies with the capacity to manage it.</p>	<p>During the entire project life span</p> <p>At all times</p>

No	Impact	Source	Management	Remarks/ Timeline
		d) Machinery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="850 357 1278 534">i. Undertake land preparation and cultivation in such a way to minimize disruption of soil structure and exposure of soil to erosion. <li data-bbox="850 570 1278 672">ii. Institute appropriate drainage control measures to minimize flooding. 	<p data-bbox="1310 357 1461 389">At all times</p> <p data-bbox="1310 570 1461 602">At all times</p>
4.	Occupational Health and Safety	Housekeeping, pesticides application, planting and harvesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="850 680 1278 783">i. Develop and implement an Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Plan. <li data-bbox="850 819 1278 889">ii. Train all workers on the OHS Plan. <li data-bbox="850 925 1278 1027">iii. Ensure good housekeeping in the office areas and residential camps. <li data-bbox="850 1064 1278 1240">iv. Train Field workers that handle chemical products on the appropriate use of the products and access to material safety data sheets. <li data-bbox="850 1276 1278 1453">v. Provide appropriate personnel protective clothing/gears such as gloves, overall, safety boots, hand gloves, etc. to workers. <li data-bbox="850 1489 1278 1602">vi. Provide a well-stocked first aid kit for minor injuries that might occur. <li data-bbox="850 1638 1278 1772">vii. Keep records and establish an inventory of accidents and disease outbreak and treatment on the farms. <li data-bbox="850 1808 1278 1993">viii. Workers must undergo medical check-up at least twice a year to assess their health status with respect to operations on the farm. 	<p data-bbox="1310 680 1477 712">Immediately</p> <p data-bbox="1310 819 1437 851">Bi-annual</p> <p data-bbox="1310 925 1461 957">At all times</p> <p data-bbox="1310 1064 1437 1095">Bi-annual</p> <p data-bbox="1310 1276 1461 1308">At all times</p> <p data-bbox="1310 1489 1461 1521">At all times</p> <p data-bbox="1310 1638 1461 1670">At all times</p> <p data-bbox="1310 1808 1437 1840">Bi annual</p>

No	Impact	Source	Management	Remarks/ Timeline
5.	Socio-economic	Community and suppliers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="790 382 1284 535">i. Ensure that the livelihoods of adjoining communities are not impacted negatively by the project operations. <li data-bbox="790 556 1284 709">ii. Integrate social and environmental agreements/clauses in suppliers' contracts. <li data-bbox="790 731 1284 993">iii. Undertake corporate social responsibility activities in accordance with the company's policy and agreements with the relevant communities. 	<p data-bbox="1300 382 1516 556">At all times</p> <p data-bbox="1300 556 1516 731">At all times</p> <p data-bbox="1300 731 1516 993">As and when</p>
6.	Fire	Administrative Block, Workshop, Farm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="790 993 1284 1233">i. Provide appropriate fire prevention and fighting equipment and other requirements as recommended by the Ghana National Fire Service. <li data-bbox="790 1233 1284 1408">ii. Install fire alarm systems and smoke detectors at vulnerable areas to give early warning of any fire outbreak. <li data-bbox="790 1408 1284 1583">iii. No smoking signs should be posted at areas where flammable solvents and fuel are stored. <li data-bbox="790 1583 1284 1790">iv. Fire belts or boundary lines should be created to prevent fire from spreading to adjoining areas. 	<p data-bbox="1300 993 1516 1233">At all times</p> <p data-bbox="1300 1233 1516 1408">At all times</p> <p data-bbox="1300 1408 1516 1583">At all times</p> <p data-bbox="1300 1583 1516 1790">At all times</p>

6.0 LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

6.1 EPA LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Comply with the relevant provisions in the following:

a) Laws

- i. Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1994 (Act 490)
- ii. Environmental Assessment Regulations, 1999 (LI 1652)
- iii. Hazardous and Electronic Waste Control and Management Act, 2016 (Act 917)
- iv. Hazardous, Electronic and Other Wastes (Classification), and Management Regulations, 2016 (LI 2250)
- v. Fees and Charges (Miscellaneous Provision) Act, 2022 (Act 1080)

b) Standards

- i. Ghana Standard for Environment and Health Protection – Requirements for Ambient Air Quality and Point Source Control/Stack Emission (GS 1236: 2019).
- ii. Ghana Standard for Health Protection – Requirements for Ambient Noise Control (GS 1222: 2018).
- iii. Ghana Standard for Environmental Protection – Requirements for Effluent Discharges (GS 1212: 2019).

c) Guidelines

- i. Comply with the EPA's Sector Specific Environmental Assessment Guidelines for Agriculture Projects.

6.2 OTHER RELEVANT REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

Notwithstanding this permit, **the Entity** is further subject to other relevant regulations and permits pertaining to the sector and must be observed. These include the following amongst others:

6.2.1 ACTS OF PARLIAMENT

- a. Factories, Offices and Shops Act, 1970 (Act 328)
- b. Public Health Act, 2012 (Act 851)
- c. Persons with Disability Act, 2006 (Act 715)
- d. Water Resources Commission Act, 1996, Act 522

6.2.2 REGULATIONS

- a. Fire Precaution (Premises) Regulations 2003, (LI 1724)

7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Monitor the following indicators and parameters at the frequencies indicated and submit reports to the Agency.

No.	INDICATOR	PARAMETER	FREQUENCY
1.	Water Quality of the Huni and Ankobra Rivers	pH, Turbidity, colour, TSS, TDS, Phosphates, Ammonia-Nitrogen, Nitrite-Nitrogen, Potash, Total Coliforms, E.coli, Faecal coliform	Quarterly
2.	Soil/Land (Monitor the nutrient status of the soil)	Soil organic carbon	Annually
3.	Occupational Health and Safety	Nature and number of incidents/accidents	As and when
4.	Solid Waste	Types of waste generated Quantity generated (kg) Quantity disposed (kg) Quantity reused (kg) Quantity recycled (kg)	Monthly
5.	Fire Outbreaks	No. of incidents	As and when

8.0 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING

8.1 ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

- a. Submit an Annual Environmental Report on your operations in accordance with Section 25 of L.I 1652. The report should include environmental monitoring reports from condition 7.0
- b. The Annual Environmental Report Form (AER- Agriculture Form) can be accessed at <http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/publication/forms>

8.2 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

- a. Submit an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the renewal of your permit by **March 18, 2026**.
- b. The Environmental Management Plan Report Form (EMP- Agriculture Form) can be accessed at <http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/publication/forms>

9.0 RIGHT OF ENTRY

The entity shall allow authorised representatives of the EPA to enter the premises at all times to:

- a) Access and verify records that must be kept under this permit.
- b) Inspect any facilities, equipment, practices and/or operations regulated or required under this permit.
- c) Monitor substances and/or parameters for the purposes of ensuring compliance with this permit, the *EPA Act, 1994 (Act 490)*, and the *Environmental Assessment Regulations, 1999 (LI 1652)*.

10.0 NOTIFICATION

10.1 CHANGES TO PROJECT

- a) Notify EPA in writing prior to any changes in the planned undertaking/activity contrary to the information provided in the EMP.
- b) The Agency may make changes to the project and notify the entity in writing in the event that the continuous operations pose danger to public safety and have or are likely to have adverse impacts on the environment.

11.0 MISCELLANEOUS

11.1 VALIDITY PERIOD

- a. This permit is valid for a period of 36 months effective **June 19, 2023** and shall expire by **June 18, 2026**.
- b. Failure to commence this undertaking within thirty (36) months shall render this permit invalid.

11.2 RENEWAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT

The process for renewal of this Environmental Permit shall commence at least *three (3) months* before the expiry date (**June 18, 2026**) by submitting an EMP to the Agency and this permit *may* be renewed upon the entity's satisfactory performance and compliance with relevant Permit conditions, in accordance with Regulations 22 and 24 of LI 1652.

11.3 PERMIT DISPLAY

A copy of this permit shall be displayed prominently on the premises at all times.

11.4 PERMIT SCHEDULE AWARENESS

- a) All workers at the premises shall be familiar with the conditions of this permit and shall be provided with adequate training to enable them assist with the implementation of the conditions of this permit.
- b) Provide evidence on sensitization and training programmes implemented in the Annual Environmental Report

11.5 PERMIT LIMITATION

- a. This permit is **NOT** transferable.
- b. This permit **CANNOT** be used to operate any other facility not listed in section 4.2 of this permit.

11.6 COMPLAINT MANAGEMENT MECHANISM

- a. Develop and implement an effective grievance redress mechanism (GRM) to handle all grievances and complaints that may arise.
- b. Clearly outline grievance redress procedures and make them available to all stakeholders.
- c. Ensure that **ALL** concerns raised by neighbours and other stakeholders are adequately addressed to ensure sustainability of the project.

