

Responsible Agency

The Guyana Geology and Mines Commission was established in 1979 as successor to the Geological Surveys and Mines Department of the Ministry of Energy and Mines, which had succeeded the original Geological Survey of British Guiana. Four technical Divisions carry out GGMC's core functions. These are: Geological Services, Mines, Environment and Petroleum Divisions. The technical Divisions are supported by the Human Resources and Administrative, Finance, Audit and Special Projects Divisions and Land Management Department in carrying out their respective mandates, with legal support provided by the Legal Services Division.

Functions of the GGMC:

- Promotion of exploration, mining, mineral development and the production, supply and sale of minerals and mineral products;
- Provision of technical assistance and advice in mining, mineral processing, mineral utilization and marketing of mineral resources;
- Conducting mineral exploration using techniques that include geology, geochemistry, geophysics and other remote sensing methods. Conducting research in exploration, mining, and utilization of minerals and mineral products. Conducting surface and underground mining to exploit mineral resources;
- Enforcement of the conditions of Mining Licences, Permits and Concessions, Prospecting Licences, Permission for (reconnaissance) Geological and Geophysical Surveys, Prospecting Permits (for Medium and Small Scale operations), Claim Licences, River Location Licences and Quarry Licences, encompassing large, medium and small scale mining;
- Construction of roads for the transport of minerals and mineral products and assisting in providing access to mining areas;
- Collection of rentals, fees, charges, levies etc. payable under the Mining Act and Petroleum Act; and
- Hallmarking.

PROSPECTING AND MINING AT THE MEDIUM SCALE LEVEL ANSWER TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Question: What is a Medium Scale Permit?

Answer: A Medium scale permits cover areas between 150 and 1200 acres and falls into two categories: Prospecting Permit and Mining Permit.

Question: Am I Eligible to Acquire a Medium Scale Permit?

Answer: Section 57(2) of the Mining Act, 1989 outlines the categories of Persons that can be granted a Prospecting Permit (Medium Scale). Medium Scale Permits are specific to Guyanese citizens and institutions where all beneficial owners are Guyanese.

Question: What are the requirements for application for a Prospecting Permit?

Answer: Completed Form 5A Application; Map and cartographic description Medium Scale (PPMS) of area; Payment of a deposit equivalent to half of the first year's rental (calculated at US\$0.13/acre); Payment of application fee (\$2,000) per application; Evidence / Proof of address; Registration or Incorporation documents, if applicant is a company. Applicants have the option to apply for parcels according to grid numbers and the GGMC provides the cartographic description and map for a fee.

Question: What are the requirements for application for a Mining Permit?

Answer: Applicants must have a valid PPMS. Completed Form 5F Application Medium Scale; Map and cartographic description of area; Payment of a deposit equivalent to the first year's rental (calculated at US\$1.00 per acre); Payment of application fee (\$2,000) per application; Evidence / Proof of address; Registration or Incorporation documents, if applicant is a company. Applicants will be required to post an environmental bond of \$100,000 and sign an Environmental Management Agreement prior to issuance of the Mining Permit.

Question: What are the procedures after a Prospecting Permit application has been filed?

Answer: A verification will be done to ascertain whether the area applied for is available to be granted. If it is, the relevant stock sheet will be updated with the applicant's information and a notice of intention to grant will be published in the Official Gazette. If no objection to the notice has been raised, the applicant will be notified to pay 'difference in rental'. A permit will be issued once payment has been made. However, if the area is not available to be granted, the applicant will be notified and advised to claim his deposit. Application fees are not refundable.

Contact Information

Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment

Guyana Geology and Mines Commission

Guyana Gold Board

Environmental Protection Agency

Guyana Forestry Commission

Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission

National Parks Commission

Wildlife Division

225-5285, 223-5231

225-6691, 225-2862

225-3189

225-2062

226-7271, 226-7272

226-4053, 227-2582

225-8016

223-0940

For more information please contact the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment at Telephone number 225-5285 extension 218 or email: ppersaud@nre.gov.gy, Website: www.nre.gov.gy

MINING OPPORTUNITIES IN GUYANA

QUARTERLY MINING
SUPPLEMENT
March, 2012

The Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment was established by His Excellency President Donald Ramotar to have oversight responsibilities for forestry, mining, wildlife, environmental management, protected areas and land management. The sectors contributed significantly to the country's social and economic development in 2011 and further transformations and expansion are anticipated. At the same time they allow Guyana to fulfill its national and international environmental obligations. The Ministry which, was Officially Gazetted on December 17, 2011, has responsibilities for the following agencies:

- Guyana Geology and Mines Commission
- Guyana Forestry Commission
- Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
- Guyana Gold Board
- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Parks Commission
- Wildlife Division

According to the Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment, Hon. Robert M. Persaud, the development of mineral resources is one of the key drivers of economic growth in Guyana. Mining has the potential to transform economies and societies, including some of the world's poorest nations, but the extent to which it will fulfill that potential is to be determined.

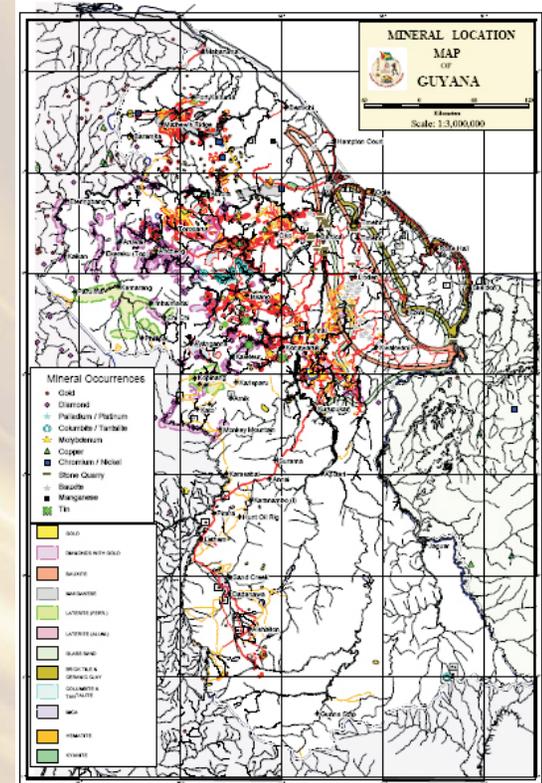
Minister Persaud stressed that his Ministry will examine where stakeholder's discontent and frustration most commonly arise, where improvements can occur, and what can be done to foster more responsible, sustainable mineral development, thus enabling better integration of mining wealth into the national economy. Whilst the first phase of this initiative is focusing on identifying the challenges to responsible mineral development, the second phase will summarize stakeholder's views on how to address these challenges.

He added that the vision of the Ministry is to contribute to sustainable national, social and economic growth, through creating a conducive environment for natural resource development, in all the regions of Guyana. Emphasis will be placed on equal opportunities for all miners to ensure sustainable development and management of natural resources by the public and private sectors in a transparent manner for socio-economic benefit for all of Guyana.

Exploitation of natural resources should be pursued in order to help a country meet its broader social and economic goals, not as an end in itself, the Minister stated. This is being done in the context of following the path of the green economy that has gained currency to a large extent because it provides a response to the multiple crises that the world has been facing in recent years – the climate, food and economic crises – with an alternative paradigm that offers the promise of growth while protecting the earth's ecosystems and, in turn, contributing to poverty alleviation.

Moreover, the Ministry is working with all stakeholders on a natural resources and environmental governance sub-programme which is focusing on strengthening national, regional and local environmental governance to address agreed environmental priorities and a resource efficiency sub-programme that is focusing on reducing the adverse environmental impacts.

Further, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment is also working with several international agencies and departments to encourage greater transparency in the country's rich natural resources to mitigate some of the potential negative impacts of mining. Meanwhile, Minister Persaud stated that the government is committed to greater transparency, strengthening accountability and good governance, as well as promoting greater economic and political stability.



OVERVIEW OF THE MINING SECTOR

In 2011, 363,083 metric ounces of gold were declared which represents a 13.46% increase over 320,000 metric ounces than what was projected for the year. Bauxite production of 1,771,284 metric tonnes was 4.04% above projection of 1,702,436 metric tonnes and stone production of 488,030 metric tonnes was 22.01% above projection of 400,000 metric tonnes.

Diamond production of 52,273 metric carats was 12.88% below the projection of 60,000 metric carats as miners switched to gold mining, and 354,828 tonnes of sand was produced, 40.86% below the projection of 600,000 tonnes. Loam production was 12,133 metric tonnes with a 708.87% above projection of 1,500 tonnes.

GGMC was able to record successes in its approved Work Programme for 2011, and realization of its budgeted financial projections.

Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment: Website: www.nre.gov.gy

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

Following complaints of unfair access to information and mining opportunities, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment has taken the initiative to publicize in the media and elsewhere all relevant notices relating to mining opportunities for small, medium and large scale mining. The objective is to ensure transparency and equal access by miners and investors to our natural resources for exploration and development of Guyana.

WHO CAN APPLY FOR A MEDIUM SCALE PERMIT?

- An individual who is a citizen of Guyana and an adult
- A partnership consisting of two or more citizens of Guyana
- A company whose entire issued share capital is beneficially owned by citizens of Guyana or by a corporation which has been established by or under a written law in operation in Guyana, or partly by such citizens and partly by such a corporation
- A co-operative society registered under the Co-operative Societies Act
- A public corporation, or any other corporate body established by or under any written law in force in Guyana; or
- Any organization established by the Government or by or under any written law in force in Guyana and authorized to carry on mining operations.

Karen Livan
Commissioner

DEADLINE FOR PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN FOR GENERAL INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATION 26:3 THAT THE DEADLINE FOR THE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS IS MARCH 31, 2012.

REGULATION 26:(3) OF THE MINING ACT 20 OF 89 STATES THAT ALL CLAIMS ON WHICH RENT HAS NOT BEEN PAID UP TO AND INCLUDING THE 02 APRIL IN ANY YEAR SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE ABANDONED FOR NON PAYMENT OF RENT, AND THE LANDS UPON WHICH SUCH CLAIMS WERE LOCATED SHALL BE OPEN TO LOCATION FROM APRIL 03 NEXT FOLLOWING:

PROVIDED THAT NOTHING IN THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL PROHIBIT THE COMMISSIONER FROM PUBLISHING ANY SUBSEQUENT LIST OF CLAIMS ABANDONED.

Karen Livan
Commissioner

INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS FOR EXPLORATION FOR RARE EARTH ELEMENTS

Proposals are hereby invited for qualified Companies to submit written project Proposals for Reconnaissance Surveys (Permission for Geological and Geophysical Surveys) for the following areas and minerals:

- The Southern Part of Guyana in the vicinity of Muri Mountain for Rare Earth Elements (REE)
- The North Central Part of Guyana centered around the mouth of the Putareng River for Rare Earth Elements (REE) and Base Metals

All proposals must give a detailed geological justification, of the expected term (i.e. number of months for the programme) detailed work programme and budget and financial proposals (proposed payments for the Permission. Proof of Technical and Financial capability to undertake the proposed exploration programme is required. Closing date for submission of Proposals to the Commissioner, Geology and Mines Commission, is March 31, 2012.

Karen Livan
Commissioner

APPLICATIONS FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR SAND MINING IN RUPUNUNI MINING DISTRICT

Applications are hereby invited for qualified persons to submit written expressions of interest for Sand Mining in the Rupununi Mining District 5.

- Applicants must be Guyanese citizens
- Applicants must indicate the area of interest on a suitable Terra Survey 1:50, 000 sheet.
- Show Proof of Ability (both technical and financial) to engage in Sand Mining.
- Successful applicants will be required to apply for a Specia Mining Permit and to obtain an Environmental Authorisation from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Preference will be given to Residents of the Region. Closing date for submission of Proposals to the Commissioner, Geology and Mines Commission, is March 31, 2012.

Karen Livan
Commissioner

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

LOTTERY FOR SPECIAL MINING PERMIT PARCELS

The General Public is hereby informed that a lottery of sixty (60) Special Mining Permit parcels in each of the six Mining Districts for a total of three hundred and sixty (360) parcels, will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at 10:00hrs at the following locations: Lethem, Mahdia, Bartica, Port Kaituma and Mabura. Interested persons may consult the relevant maps which are on display at the GGMC Head Office and Mining Stations to ascertain their area(s) of interest. Persons can acquire copies of the lottery maps at the cost of \$3,000 per sheet

The closing date for receipt of applications is March 12, 2012.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

Participants in the lottery are required to complete an application form and pay a non-refundable participation fee of \$5,000. Application forms can be obtained from the Land Management Section, GGMC, Brickdam or from any Mining Station.

Participants must be the owner of at least one piece of registered mining equipment, e.g dredge, excavator

Participants shall not be the owners of more than five Claims nor should they be the owner of any medium or large scale mineral property.

Participants shall select the Mining District within which their allotment will derive.

Only one application is allowed from an individual or group.

Allottees are required to file an application for the parcel awarded by April 10, 2012. Applications not filed would result in the award being considered to have lapsed.

Successful participants are required to post an Environmental Bond in the sum of \$100,000 before to the commencement of mining operations.

All allotments are final.

Karen Livan
Commissioner

COMMUNITY MINING

GGMC will be accommodating groups interested in mining near their communities. The closed areas within a five-mile radius outside the buffer zone that are available will be reserved for those groups. The applicants must provide the names and proof of address of all members of the group and a brief description of how the funds generated will be managed to support the community development.

Applicants will be advised to visit the Land Management Department to determine the availability of medium-scale parcels in areas identified. The groups can then apply for the blocks and once the established criteria are satisfied special Mining Permits will be granted.

Each group is entitled to one block every three years and once the mining and environmental regulations and the other requirements are adhered to, the group may apply for another block.

Karen Livan
Commissioner

INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS FOR BAUXITE TENURES

A. Invitation is hereby made for qualified Companies to submit written project Proposals for Reconnaissance Surveys (Permission for Geological and Geophysical Surveys) for the following area:

The South Eastern half of the Bauxite Belt for Bauxite and Laterite.

B. Secondly, proposals are invited for Prospecting Licence tenures of maximum size 12,800 acres in the Kamarang, Pilwa and Maikwak areas.

All proposals must give a detailed geological justification, the expected term (i.e. number of months for the programme) detailed work programme and budget; financial proposals (proposed payments for the Permission and Prospecting Licences). Proof of Technical and Financial capability is required.

Closing date for submission of Proposals to the Commissioner, Geology and Mines Commission, is March 31, 2012.

Karen Livan
Commissioner