



WESTMORELAND COAL COMPANY - *Obed Mountain Mine*

**EPO 2013/ CR-34**  
Obed Mountain Mine  
Monthly Status Report - January 2016

Issued February 7th, 2016

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## 1.0 MONTHLY STATUS REPORT – JANUARY 2016

On November 19, 2013, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development ("ESRD") issued Environmental Protection Order No. EPO-2013/34-CR, as amended (the "EPO"), to Coal Valley Resources Inc. ("CVRI") and Sherritt International Corporation in respect of the Obed Mountain Mine (the "Mine"). Oversight of the EPO transferred from ESRD to the Alberta Energy Regulator ("AER") in March 2014. CVRI became a subsidiary of Westmoreland Coal Company in April 2014.

The following documents are submitted in support of the January,7th 2016 Monthly Status Report:

1. Attachment 1 - January 2016 Data Sonde

## 2.0 EPO ACTIVITIES – January 2016

### 2.1 SUMMARY STATUS OF ASSESSMENTS, PLANS AND REPORTS

Table 1 summarises the current status of EPO required plans, assessments and reports. Clauses highlighted in green have been updated, modified or a status changed has occurred in the last thirty days.

No field activities were conducted in January 2016. Summary updates of the Impact Report, HHRA and raw data collected from the 2015 LTSMP were published in January 2016. A complete update to the Solids Recovery Plan was released and published January 2016. No field work was conducted during this time; planning for the 2016 field season continues.

**TABLE 1 –SUMMARY STATUS**

<b>EPO 2013/CR-34 - Clause</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Clause 1 and 2</b> Immediate Requirements	Complete	Completed in 2013 -2014 Immediate response requirements were executed, the STMP and subsequent LTSMP ensures compliance of requirements on an ongoing basis.
<b>Clause 3</b> Immediate and Short Term Sampling and Monitoring Plan ('STSMP')	Approved / Complete	The STSMP was executed and then replaced by the Long Term Sampling and monitoring Plan April 2014.
<b>Clause 6</b> Solids Recovery Plan	Active / Approved	This plan describes the sediment recovery methods and operation of the sediment traps.

		Request for amendment to be submitted February 2016.
<b>Clause 10</b> Solids Recovery Report	Active	This report provides a volumetric update to regarding sediment removal. This report has been updated and posted to the Obed website
<b>Clause 11</b> Impact Assessment Plan	Approved	The Impact Assessment Plan was approved April 24, 2015. Data collected under this plan has been communicated to the AER via Clause 15 Impact Assessment Report.
<b>Clause 15</b> Impact Assessment Report	Submitted / Under AER Review	The updated Impact Assessment Report was submitted to the AER May 2015. A summary report was issued to the AER January 2016.
<b>Clause 17</b> Long Term Sampling and Monitoring Plan ('LTSMP')	Approved / Active	The LTSMP was approved in April of 2014. An amendment to the LTSMP will be submitted February 2016 The available raw data from the 2015 season has been published.
<b>Clause 22</b> Wildlife Mitigation Plan	Approved / Active	The subject plan was approved April 2014 as part of the LTSMP. Data collection is ongoing and has been reported via Clause 15 Impact Assessment Report, update statement published January 2016
<b>Clause 25(a)</b> Fish Sampling and Monitoring Plan	Approved / Ongoing	Description of requirements outlined in Clauses 22-26. Data from the 2015 season was published January 2016.
<b>Clause 27</b> Remediation Plan	Update Submitted/ under review	The remediation strategy will be updated and submitted as a final plan once the Impact Report is approved. ETA- late Q1 2016
<b>Clause 34</b> Waste Management Plan	Approved / Executed	The subject plan was approved on February 14, 2014.
<b>Clause 37</b> Wastewater Management Plan	Approved / Executed	The subject plan was approved on February 14, 2014.
<b>Clause 39</b> Monthly Status Reports	Active / Ongoing	Monthly status reports are ongoing. December submission completed February 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2016.
<b>Clause 41</b> Final Report	In development	The Final Report is required to be submitted to the AER within 30days of the completion of all work.
<b>Human Health Risk Assessment</b> (‘HHRA’)	Updated / Ongoing	The updated HHRA was submitted to Alberta Health (‘AH’) May 18, 2015. The updated report will be issued May 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2016. Summary statement was published January 2016. A full updated report will be issued May

## 2.2 CLAUSE 15 – IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

The updated version of the Impact Assessment Report was submitted to the AER on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The Impact Assessment Report includes all data collected, interpretations and conclusions regarding the impacts to receptors and habitats from the October 31, 2013 release. CVRI has received SIR’s and will be responding by October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. A summary report

update was published January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. CVRI is currently awaiting the final review and determination for file completeness. Upon receipt of the statement of completeness CVRI will proceed with the updates and re issuance of the Final Remediation Plan.

### **2.3 CLAUSES 17 – LONG TERM SAMPLING AND MONITORING PLAN ('LTSMP')**

CVRI received approval of the Long-Term Sampling and Monitoring Plan retroactive to April 24, 2014. The Long-Term Sampling and Monitoring Plan is fully implemented and replaces the requirements outlined in Clause 3, the Immediate and Short Term Sampling and Monitoring Plan. The LTSMP is considered active and ongoing.

A request to amend the LTSMP will be submitted to the AER February 2016 . The reduction in sampling and monitoring will be based upon the 2014 and 2015 published data.

### **2.4 Clause 22- Wildlife Mitigation Plan**

CVRI received approval of the Wildlife Mitigation Plan retroactive to April 24, 2014. The required data collected as part of the Wildlife Mitigation Plan has been included in the Final Impact Report submitted to the AER May 28th, 2015. A summary update was published as part of the January 15<sup>th</sup> Impact Report update 2016.

### **2.5 FISH SAMPLING AND MONITORING PLAN**

The data interpretation specific to the Fish Sampling and Monitoring was submitted to the AER as part of the Final Impact Report, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Sampling and monitoring as described in both the approved Wildlife Mitigation Plan and LTSMP continues.

Information collected during the 2015 season was submitted to the AER as part of the update January 15th, 2016. Additional technical updates will follow in Q2 of 2016.

## **2.6 CLAUSE 27 – REMEDIATION PLAN**

An update to the Remediation Plan was submitted to the AER on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015. An update to the Remediation plan is tentatively scheduled for late Q1 early Q2 2016; this update and execution of the plan is dependant upon AER acceptance of the Impact Report.

## **2.7 HUMAN HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT (“HHRA”)**

The HHRA, update was submitted to AH for review on May18th, 2015. SIR’s were received and responded to during the month of June. CVRI has now received additional correspondence from AH regarding the HHRA. The HHRA is now under revision. Th updated report will be published May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016.

## **3.0 PLANNED EPO ACTIVITIES FEBRUARY 2016**

1. Plan the 2016 work schedule.
2. Continue to evaluate the 2015 data.
3. Review and update Reports based on 2015 data.

## **4.0 SIR UPDATE**

CVRI continues to work to collect and submit data and information as prescribed by the approved plans. The submission of regularly scheduled progress reports and defined response periods allows CVRI and the AER to continue to communicate in a clear and effective manner until the final Impacts Report and Reclamation Report are submitted. As an enhanced step we will provide a list of registered SIR’s and planned response timelines on a monthly basis.

SIR No.	Source - Topic	Response - Commitment	Status and file No.
OBED-SIR–JAN 7-2016	ACFN/MCFN	LTSMP - Monitoring	Email Response Feb 7/ 8
OBED-SIR-JAN20FCML	FCML	Information request.	Email and mail shipment Feb 8th