



WESTMORELAND COAL COMPANY - *Obed Mountain Mine*

EPO 2013/ CR-34
Obed Mountain Mine
Monthly Status Report – May2017

Issued June 7th, 2017

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1.0 MONTHLY STATUS REPORT – MAY 2017

On December 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.

We submit the following documents in support of the March 2017 Monthly Status Report:

1. Attachment 1 - May 2017 Data Sonde

2.0 EPO ACTIVITIES –MAY 2017

2.1 SUMMARY STATUS OF ASSESSMENTS, PLANS AND REPORTS

Table 1 summarises the 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.

TABLE 1 –SUMMARY STATUS		
EPO 2013/CR-34 - Clause	Status	Comments
Clause 1 and 2 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.
Clause 3 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.
Clause 6 Solids Recovery Plan	Active / Approved	Complete
Clause 10 Solids Recovery Report	Issued - Active	Update in progress – to be Issued on or before May 15 th , 2017
Clause 11 Impact Assessment Plan	Approved / Active	Proposed amendments to be submitted by May 7 th , 2017.
Clause 15 Impact Assessment Report	Active	Submitted May 15th

TABLE 1 –SUMMARY STATUS		
EPO 2013/CR-34 - Clause	Status	Comments
Clause 17 Long Term Sampling and Monitoring Plan ('LTSMP')	Approved / Active	Active and ongoing. Proposed amendments or recommendations to be submitted on March 15 th , 2017
Clause 22 Wildlife Mitigation Plan	Approved / Active	Submitted May 15 th , 2017
Clause 25(a) Fish Sampling and Monitoring Plan	Approved / Active	Submitted May 15 th , 2017
Clause 27 Remediation Plan	Waiting on response / review from GRA	Sir response provided to GRA / DFO.
Clause 34 Waste Management Plan	Approved / Executed	The subject plan was approved on February 14, 2014.
Clause 37 Wastewater Management Plan	Approved / Executed	The subject plan was approved on February 14, 2014.
Clause 39 Monthly Status Reports	Active / Ongoing	Monthly status reports are ongoing.
Clause 41 Final Report	In development	The Final Report is required to be submitted to the AER within 30 days of the completion of all work.
Human Health Risk Assessment ('HHRA')	Active	Update -published May 15 th , 2017

2.2 CLAUSE 15 – IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

The Impact Assessment Report was published May 15, 2017.

The 2016 Impacts Report is focused on the results of the data analysis related to vegetation, aquatics and wildlife. The 2016 data will be compared to the previous two years and trends will be provided related to the recovery of the various environmental elements. Compared to previous Impacts Reports the 2016 version will not include the background information on the release event and the methodology as these items remain unchanged. All data collected from 2016 will be provided to the government for their review.

CLAUSE 6 – SOLIDS RECOVERY PLAN

The 2016 Solids Recovery Plan report provides an update of all stabilization related activities from 2016 (works associated to the sediment traps and terrestrial activities) as well as identify planned activities for 2017.

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.

The Table below describes any actions related to data sonde operation or calibration to the end of March.

Currently, we only have the sondes in at PLC-US and APC as these are the only stations that remain unfrozen during most of the winter, although we may have to remove PLC-US if we get a prolonged cold snap. It looks as though APC either partially froze or became dry for a few days in mid-December but it appears to be operating normally again.

The data sonde information has been provided under separate cover. Due to damage to some of the sondes during high stream flows recovery of the data was delayed. The information will be provided as soon as possible.

2.4 CLAUSE 22- WILDLIFE MITIGATION PLAN

CVRI received approval of the Wildlife Mitigation Plan retroactive to April 24, 2014. Data from the 2016 season was published in conjunction with the Annual Impact Assessment Report Update, May 15th, 2017. Please see section 2.2 for additional details.

2.5 FISH SAMPLING AND MONITORING PLAN

The data interpretation specific to the Fish Sampling and Monitoring Plan was submitted in conjunction with the annual Impact Assessment Report Update May 15th, 2017. Please see Section 2.2 for additional details.

2.6 CLAUSE 27 – REMEDIATION PLAN

The Remediation Plan, Conceptual Design, was submitted to the AER on February 3rd, 2017. CVRI has received SIR's from DFO (GRA) and has responded.

2.7 HUMAN HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT (“HHRA”)

The HHRA was updated and submitted on May 15th, 2017 in conjunction with the submission of the Annual Impact Assessment Update.

The Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) Variance Report will also focus on the 2016 data and compare the results with the August 2015 HHRA. If any major changes or significant trends are identified additional information related to potential mitigation and additional monitoring will be provided. The HHRA Variance Report's objective is to confirm that the current data supports the conclusions of the most recent version of the HHRA.

3.0 PLANNED EPO ACTIVITIES Q2 2017

This section outlines the work plan for the current quarter, April –June 2017. The schedule will be updated and expanded on a monthly basis and then reviewed on the Monthly EPO call.

TOPIC	Description / Comments	Status
Approval Renewals	Renwals, amendments and establishment of required approvals.	A line list of applications, approvals and renewals has been established and submissions to complete have been initiated.

Table 3 Planned EPO Activities		
TOPIC	Description / Comments	Status
Remediation Plan	SIR's are in receipt; CVRI is responding.	First SIR responses were submitted on April 3, 2017. DFO SIR's received last week of April. Response to DFO / GRA May 19 th .
Road / Access	Access plan and storage location for Remediation activities and materials.	Intent to use existing areas and minimize new disturbance.
Wastewater Management / Pumping Plan Clause 37	The pumping plan which supports the conceptual remediation plan is under review.	Amendments, if required will to be submitted after the review of the Conceptual Remediation Plan / Design (Clause 39) has been completed by the regulators.
Gravel	Gravel processing will commence in late January. Storage locations will be communicated and approvals requested when necessary.	Ongoing
Sediment Trap Inspections, Sonde Inspections	As required under the EPO approved plans.	Ongoing. Status / data is reported monthly.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions regarding the information published, require data, information or would like to submit comments or questions please contact:

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The Obed website is being updated the week of May 8th. The website includes copies of all plans, data and reports published to date and can be accessed at www.Obed.ca.