

Garrett, Betty

From: John Schmuck [John_Schmuck@Cameco.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:32 PM
To: Burrows, Ronald
Subject: Crow Butte Pond Inspection Frequency Supplement
Attachments: Pond Inspection Frequency 10-4 Supplement.pdf

Ron- Attached please find supplemental information regarding upgrades to the Crow Butte ponds.

Thanks. .john

This email and any files transmitted with it are personal and confidential, and are solely for the use of the individual or entity addressed. Therefore, if you are not the intended recipient, please delete this email and any files transmitted with it (without making any copies) and advise the author immediately.



CAMECO RESOURCES
U.S. Corporate Office

Memorandum

To: Ronald Burrows, NRC

From: John P. Schmuck, Senior Permitting Manager

Date: October 4, 2012

Subject: Additional Information on Draft License Condition 11.10, Crow Butte License Renewal

In a memo dated August 30, 2012 Cameco provided additional information related to draft license condition 11.10 regarding pond inspection frequency. This memorandum supplements that document.

As noted in the August 30, 2012 memorandum, Cameco goes to great effort to wash the interstitial space (underdrain) after a leak of pond contents through the primary liner so that the rise in liquid level combined with the conductivity reading may again be used to detect actual pond leaks. The washing can take considerable time. It is the washing of the underdrain until conductivity readings are low enough to discriminate clean water from pond water will dictate how long it will take to complete repairs and restore secondary containment.

In an effort to reduce the time required to wash the underdrains, Cameco is installing electrical service to the drains. This will allow installation of permanent, self-priming pumps. Currently, Cameco uses gasoline powered generators to run the non-priming electric pumps which demand constant oversight. In addition, the salts in the ponds cause rapid deterioration of the gasoline generators requiring frequent (1 to 3 month) replacement. The upgrades will increase the efficiency of the overall process, reduce circulation time, and thereby decrease the time required to complete corrective action and restore secondary containment.