Cameco Resources Update to North Trend, Three Crow and Marsland Expansion Area Applications (September 14, 2012)

Environmental Report - Cumulative Impacts

Background

Since the 2007 submission of the North Trend Expansion Area (NTEA) application to amend the Crow Butte Source Materials License, Cameco Resources has submitted two additional applications for expansion. The Three Crow Expansion Area (TCEA) and the Marsland Expansion Area (MEA) license amendment applications were submitted in 2010 and 2012, respectively. Each application addresses the cumulative environmental impacts relevant at the time of submission. Regardless, evolving business decisions have altered the planned sequence of activities.

As stated in each of the applications, Cameco Resources will utilize the additional mineral resource available at the expansion areas to replace the declining resource at the Crow Butte Operation. The applications also emphasize that the expansion areas will be sequenced (brought on line) in a manner that continues production at current levels.

Much of the information is available in the existing administrative record, but it is neither cohesive nor readily identifiable. This submission is intended to update the schedule, highlight relevant information and assess the cumulative impacts of the proposed approach.

<u>Schedule</u>

As noted in the MEA application (ML#1210A513), Cameco Resources is focused on first obtaining a license amendment for the MEA. If licenses and permits are granted, construction of the MEA will begin in 2014, with production starting in 2015 and extending until approximately 2029.

Similarly, as noted in the TCEA application (ML#102220278) if licenses and permits are granted, construction of the TCEA will begin in 2015, with production starting in 2016 and extending until 2030.

Cameco plans to utilize the NTEA to complement the MEA and TCEA operations when their production begins to decline. To accomplish this, the NTEA will be constructed in 2023, with production starting in 2024 and extending until 2032.

Attached Information

Cameco has attached a table from each application that compares the predicted environmental impacts of each satellite area:

- Table 2-2: Comparison of Predicted Environmental Impacts, Environmental Report, North Trend Expansion Area, pages 2-12 and 2-13;
- Table 2.6-1 Comparison of Predicted Environmental Impacts, Environmental Report, Three Crow Expansion Area, pages 2-9, 2-10 and 2-11; and

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• Table 2.6-1 Comparison of Predicted Environmental Impacts, Environmental Report, Marsland Expansion Area, pages 2-11 and 2-12.

Cumulative Impact Assessment

Cameco has taken the information in the applications, especially the tables in the Attachment, and compiled two tables. Table 1 reiterates the individual impacts described in each application with relevant factual notations and then describes the cumulative impacts of the combined project activities.

Table 2 compiles the unavoidable cumulative environmental impacts of the combined project activities and notes any associated mitigation measures.

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Impact of Operation	Individual Impacts	Cumulative Impacts
Land Surface	Minimal temporary impacts in wellfield areas,	The existing Crow Butte Operation will transition to satellite areas to
Impacts	significant surface and subsurface disturbance	allow continued production at current levels. Late in the project life
	confined to a portion of the 12 to 30 acre satellite	e.g. 2025 to 2040) approximately 58 acres of significant disturbance
	facility footprint.	will exist beneath the footprint of the three satellite facilities.
Land Use Impacts	Loss of crop and cattle production on 1,320 acres	Crop production and cattle production would be reduced by a total
	of the NTEA, on 671 acres of the TCEA and on 562	of 2553 acres late in the project (e.g. 2025 to 2040). This represents
	acres of the MEA.	less than a 0.4% reduction of the total for Dawes County.
Transportation	For each satellite area minimal impact on current	The existing Crow Butte Operation will transition to satellite areas to
Impacts	traffic levels. Estimated additional heavy truck	allow continued production at current levels. Late in the project life
	traffic of 500 trips per year; additional 6-8 vehicle	(e.g. 2025 to 2040) when all three satellite facilities and existing
	trips per day.	operation will have varying levels of activity, at maximum the heavy
		truck traffic and additional vehicle traffic will double to 1000 trips
		per year and 12-16 trips per day, respectively.
Geology and Soil	None.	None.
Impacts		
Surface Water	None.	None.
Impacts		
Groundwater	Consumption of Chadron groundwater for control	The existing Crow Butte Operation will transition to satellite areas to
Impacts	of mining solutions and restoration (estimated at	allow continued production at current levels. Late in the project life
	50 gpm average).	(e.g. 2025 to 2040) when all three satellite facilities and existing
		operation will have varying levels of activity, additional widely
		separated consumption of Chadron groundwater will occur.
Ecological Impacts	No substantive impairment of ecological stability	The NTEA and TCEA are predominantly used as cropland. The MEA is
	or diminishing of biological diversity.	primarily open rangeland and is some distance away. As such no
		increased impairment of ecological stability or biological diversity is
		anticipated on a cumulative basis.
Air Quality impacts	Additional dust emissions of 14.5 tons per year	The existing Crow Butte Operation will transition to satellite areas to
	total for the NTEA, 16.9 tons per year total for	allow continued production at current levels. Late in the project life
	the TCEA and 23.7 tons per year total for the	(e.g. 2025 to 2040) when all three satellite facilities and existing
	with one to venicle tranic on gravel roads.	operation will have varying levels of activity, the maximum
		continuative dust emissions will be dispersed and less than 55.1 tons
		per year. The cumulative dust emissions with not jeopardize NAAQS
		attainment status in the region.

Table 1 Cumulative Additional Impacts of North Trend, Three Crow and Marsland Expansion Areas (September 14, 2012)

Noise Impacts	Barely perceptible increase over background noise levels in the area.	On a cumulative basis the sources of noise will be widely dispersed and barely perceptible over the background noise, especially the heavy train traffic in the vicinity of the sites.
Historic and Cultural Impacts	None.	None.
Visual /Scenic Impacts	Moderate impact; noticeable minor industrial component in sensitive viewing areas.	On a cumulative basis the visual/scenic impacts will not increase as the sites are dispersed and the rolling terrain restricts or prevents simultaneous line of site viewing of multiple facilities.
Socioeconomic Impacts	Extension of the current annual direct economic impact of \$10.4M plus the addition of \$5.3M to \$6.1M annual direct economic impact to the local area.	The existing Crow Butte Operation will transition to satellite areas to allow continued production at current levels. Late in the project life (e.g. 2025 to 2040) when all three satellite facilities and existing operation will have varying levels of activity, employment will increase somewhat above the estimates provided for each individual satellite facility. The cumulative level of employment will be satisfied locally with only nominal impact on local services.
Nonradiological Health Impacts	None.	None.
Radiological Health Impacts	The Total Effective Dose Equivalent (TEDE) for the highest exposure near the NTEA is 31.7 mrem per year. The TEDE for the highest exposure near the TCEA is 32.3. The TEDE for the highest exposure near MEA is 79.5. All of these exposures are less than the annual dose limit of 100mrem/year found at 10 CFR §20.1301.	For residents in the vicinity of the current Crow Butte Operation, the NTEA and the TCEA, the cumulative TEDE for all simultaneous operations was presented in Table 4.12-1 of the TCEA application. Table 4.12-1 demonstrates that the annual dose limit of 100mrem/year found at 10 CFR §20.1301 will be attained. Marsland is sufficiently distant that it will contribute only 0.5mrem/year in the vicinity of Crawford.
Waste Management	Generation of additional liquid and solid waste	On a cumulative basis, the local and remote waste disposal capacity will remain adequate
Mineral Resource Impacts	Recover and use of a vital domestic energy resource.	None.

Table 1 Cumulative Additional Impacts of North Trend, Three Crow and Marsland Expansion Areas (September 14, 2012)

Impact	Estimated Cumulative Impact	Mitigation Measures	
Use of Natural Resources			
Temporary Land Surface Impacts (acres)	Significant land surface impacts to approximately 58 acres for the satellite plants; minimal disturbance to remaining wellfield acreage impacted for the duration of the project.	Sediment and topsoil management during construction and operation; Surface reclamation following operational activities to return surface to pre-operational condition.	
Femporary Land Use Impacts	Restriction of agricultural use of proposed sites: restricted access for the duration of the project.	Surface reclamation following operational activities to return surface to pre-operational use.	
Lost cattle production (S/yr.)	Up to \$42,222	Compensation to landowners through surface leases and/or mineral royalties.	
Lost crop_production (\$/yr)	Up to \$51,200	Compensation to landowners through surface leases and/or mineral royalties.	
Groundwater consumption in Basal Chadron Formation (net gpm)	50	None	
Groundwater quality impacts	Temporary impacts to groundwater quality in the basal sandstone of the Chadron Formation mining zone.	Proven groundwater restoration following mining to return Chadron groundwater quality to baseline or pre-operational water uses.	
Visual and scenic impacts	Noticeable minor industrial component in existing agricultural/rural landscape; VRM Class III objectives met.	Use of harmonizing colors; use of existing vegetation and topography; avoidance of straight line site roads to follow topography; removal of construction debris.	
Emissions			
Dust emissions (tons/yr.)	55.1	. Dust control measures implemented where appropriate.	
Radiological Impacts			
Additional maximum predicted dose (mrcm/yr.)	32.3 (TCEA nearby resident) 20.9 (MEA nearby resident)	None	
Highest dose rate at cities and towns within an 80 km radius of the combined Crow Butte. NTEA and TCEA at Crawford, NE (m/rem/yr)	2.6	None	
Highest dose rate at cities and towns within an 80 km radius of the MEA at Marsland and Hemmingford, NE (m/rem/yr)	0.9	None	

 Table 2 Unavoidable Cumulative Environmental Impacts (September 14, 2012)

Impact	Estimated Cumulative Impact	Mitigation Measures
Socioeconomic Impacts		
Employment		
Maximum additional full time employment	15 to 18	None
Additional contractor employment	6 to 10	None
Part time and contractor employment (during satellite construction)	15 to 22	None
Additional CBR payroll (\$/yr.)	\$600,000 to \$720,000	None
Taxes Paid (5 yr.)	\$1,000,000 to \$1,200,000	None
Local purchases	\$3,650,000 to \$4,350,000	None
Waste Management Impacts		
Wastewater (gpm)	150	None
Solid waste produced (yd ³ /yr.)	2100	None
<pre>11(e)2 byproduct waste produced (yd¹/yr.)</pre>	180	None

Table 2 Unavoidable Cumulative Environmental Impacts (September 14, 2012)

Attachments

Environmental Report North Trend Expansion Area



Table 2-2: Comparison of Predicted Environmental Impacts

T			Process Alternatives		
Operation	No-Action Alternative	Preferred Alternative	Alternate Lixiviant	Alternate Waste	
	1		Chemistry	Management	
Air Quality Impacts	None	Additional 14.5 tons per year total dust emissions due to vehicle traffic on gravel roads.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	
Noise Impacts	None	Barely perceptible increase over background noise levels in the area.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	
Historic and					
Cultural	None	None	None	None	
Impacts					
Visual/Scenic Impacts	None	Moderate impact; noticeable minor industrial component in sensitive viewing areas.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative plus possible long term visual and scenic impacts from on-site disposal cell for 11(e)2 byproduct material	
Sociocconomic Impacts	Eventual loss over the next 5 to 10 years of positive economic impact of \$8.95M to the local area as reserves deplete in the current licensed operation	Extension of the current annual direct economic impact of \$8.95M plus the addition of between \$5.05M and \$6.03M annual direct economic impact to local area	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	
Nonradiological Health Impacts	None	None	None	None	
Radiological Health Impacts	None	12 % increase in estimated maximum dose from additional radon gas released at North Trend.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	

Environmental Report North Trend Expansion Area



Table 2-2: Comparison of Predicted Environmental Impacts

Imposts of			Process Alternatives		
Impacts of	No-Action Alternative	Preferred Alternative	Alternate Lixiviant	Alternate Wastc	
Operation			Chemistry	Management	
Waste Management Impacts	None	Generation of additional liquid and solid waste for proper disposal.	Same as Preferred Alternative. Mobilization of additional hazardous elements in lixiviant requiring disposal.	Same as Preferred Alternative. Potential additional long term impact from on-site disposal of 11(e)2 byproduct material.	
Mineral Resource Recovery Impacts	Loss of a valuable domestic energy resource. CBR estimated reserves are under development but the current estimated recoverable resource is \$2.0 million pounds with a current spot market value of \$160 million.	Recovery and use of a domestic energy resource.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	

Environmental Report Three Crow Expansion Area



	No-Action Alternative A		Process Alternatives	
Impacts of Operation		Preferred Alternative	Alternate Lixiviant Chemistry	Alternate Waste Management
Land Surface Impacts	None	Minimal temporary impacts in wellfield areas, significant surface and subsurface disturbance confined to a portion of the 14 acre satellite facility site.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative. Potential additional impacts from land application of treated waste water.
Land Use Impacts	None	Loss of crop and cattle production in 671 acre area for duration of project.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative plus a potential long term land use impact from on- site disposal of 11(e)2 byproduct material.
Transportation Impacts	None	Minimal impact on current traffic levels. Estimated additional heavy truck traffic of 500 trips per year; additional 6 - 8 VTPD light duty trucks.	Same as Preferred Alternative,	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Geology and Soil Impacts	None	None	None	None
Surface Water Impacts	None	None	None	None
Groundwater Impacts	None	Consumption of Chadron groundwater for control of mining solutions and restoration (estimated at 50 gpm average)	Same as Preferred Alternative. Increased difficulty with groundwater restoration and stabilization.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Ecological Impacts	None	No substantive impairment of ecological stability or diminishing of biological diversity	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

Table 2.6-1 Comparison of Predicted Environmental Impacts

Environmental Report Three Crow Expansion Area



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			Process Alternatives	
Impacts of Operation	No-Action Alternative	Preferred Alternative	Alternate Lixiviant Chemistry	Alternate Waste Management
Air Quality Impacts	None	Additional 16.9 tons per year total dust emissions due to vehicle traffic on gravel roads.	Same as Preferred Alternative,	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Noise Impacts	None	Barely perceptible increase over background noise levels in the area.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Historic and Cultural Impacts	None	None	None	None
Visual/Scenic Impacts	None	Moderate impact: noticeable minor industrial component in sensitive viewing areas.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative plus possible long term visual and scenic impacts from on- site disposal cell for 11(e)2 byproduct material
Socioeconomic Impacts	Eventual loss over the next 5 to 10 years of positive economic impact of \$13.9M to the local area as reserves deplete in the current licensed operation	Extension of the current annual direct economic impact of \$13.9M plus the addition of between \$5.3M and \$6.3M annual direct economic impact to local area	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Nonradiological Health Impacts	None	None	None	None
Radiological Health Impacts	None	22% increase in estimated maximum dose from additional radon gas released at Three Crow	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

Table 2.6-1 Comparison of Predicted Environmental Impacts

Environmental Report Three Crow Expansion Area



			Alternatives	
Impacts of Operation	No-Action Alternative	Preferred Alternative	Alternate Lixiviant Chemistry	Alternate Waste Management
Waste Management Impacts	None	Generation of additional liquid and solid waste for proper disposal.	Same as Preferred Alternative. Mobilization of additional hazardous elements in lixiviant requiring disposal.	Same as Preferred Alternative. Potential additional long term impact from on-site disposal of 11(e)2 byproduct material.
Mineral Resource Recovery Impacts	Loss of a valuable domestic energy resource. CBR estimated reserves are under development but the current estimated recoverable resource is 5.0 million pounds with a current spot market value of \$225 million.	Recovery and use of a domestic energy resource.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

Table 2.6-1	Comparison of Predicted Environmental Impacts
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Impacts of	No-Action		Process Alternatives		
Operation	Alternative	Preferred Alternative	Alternate Lixiviant Chemistry	Alternate Waste Management	
Land Surface Impacts	None	Minimal temporary impacts in wellfield areas, significant surface and subsurface disturbance confined to a portion of the +12 acre satellite facility site.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative. Potential additional impacts from land application of treated waste water.	
Land Use Impacts	None	Loss of crop and cattle production in 562 acro area for duration of project.	Same as Preferred Alternative	Same as Preferred Alternative plas a potential long term land use impact from on-site disposal of 11(e)2 byproduct material.	
Lansportation Impacts	None	Minimal impact on current traffic levels. Estimated additional heavy track traffic of 500 trips per year; additional 6 – 8 VTPD light duty tracks.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	
Geology and Soil Impacts	None	None	None	None	
Surface Water Impacts	None	None	None	None	
Groundwater Impacts	None	Consumption of Chadron groundwater for control of mining solutions and restoration (estimated at 50 gpm average)	Same as Preferred Alternative. Increased difficulty with groundwater restoration and stabilization.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	
Ecological Impacts	None	No substantive impairment of ecological stability or diminishing of hiological diversity.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative,	
Air Quality Impacts	None	Additional 23.7 tons per year total dust emissions due to vehicle traffic on gravel roads.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	
Noise Impacts	None	Barely perceptible mcrease over background noise levels in the area.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	
Historie and Cultural Impacts	None	None	None	None	

Table 2.6-1 Comparison of Predicted Environmental Impacts

Note: From Marsland Expansion Area Application

Imposto of	No Astion		Process Alternatives	
Operation	Alternative	Preferred Alternative	Alternate Lixiviant Chemistry	Alternate Waste Management
Visual/Scenic Impacts	None	Moderate impact; noticeable minor industrial component in sensitive viewing areas.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative plus possible long term visual and scenic impacts from on-site disposal cell for 11(c)2 byproduct material
Socioeconomie Impacts	Eventual loss over the next 5 to 10 years of positive economic impact of \$10.4M to the local area as reserves deplete in the current licensed operation	Extension of the current annual direct economic impact of \$10.4M plus the addition of between \$5.3M and \$6.1M annual direct economic impact to local area	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Nonradiological Health Impacts	None	None	None	None
Radiological Health Impacts	None	The estimated additional maximum dose rate within 80 km of MEA was 1.6 person-rem/yr and 0 person-rem/yr beyond 80 km	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Waste Management Impacts	None	Generation of additional liquid and solid waste for proper disposal.	Same as Preferred Alternative. Mobilization of additional hazardous elements in lixiviant requiring disposal.	Same as Preferred Alternative. Potential additional long term impact from on-site disposal of 11(e)2 byproduct material.
Mineral Resource Recovery Impacts	Loss of a valuable domestic energy resource. CBR estimated reserves are under development but the current estimated recoverable resource is 9.5 million pounds with a current spot market value (8/2011) of \$475 million.	Recovery and use of a domestic energy resource.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

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