



**COAL VALLEY RESOURCES INC. – *Obed Mountain Mine***  
A Subsidiary of WESTMORELAND COAL COMPANY

<b>To:</b>	AER	<b>Project No.:</b>	EPO 2013/CR-34
	Alberta Energy Regulator	<b>Transmittal No.:</b>	OBED-COM-0059B
	Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4	<b>Date:</b>	January 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Attention:</b>	Ken Dahl, <a href="mailto:Ken.Dahl@aer.ca">Ken.Dahl@aer.ca</a>	<b>Issued By:</b>	Kari McDonald
<b>Subject:</b>	Request for clarification Fish Sampling and Monitoring Plan	<b>Follow up Req'd</b>	Complete

CVRI is in receipt of a request for explanation and clarity regarding descriptions found in the Fish Sampling and Monitoring Plan, EPO 2013/CR-34. As the plan is a living document CVRI-OMM has registered the request and will provide a written answer to the AER on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 as part of the Monthly / Quarterly Report. This request will be tracked under OBED-COM-0059.

The Questions to be responded to are:

1. Provide clarification on the methodology that Hatfield used to calculate watershed area, specifically for Apetowun Creek .
  - a. This request is being made based upon the following variance:
    - i. In the Introduction of the Fish Monitoring Plan, the document describes the Apetowun watershed area as 208 km<sup>2</sup>, with 15 km of stream from the Obed Mine Plant before entering Plante Creek (Section 2.1.1).
    - ii. However, my (Gov. AB\_P.P) calculations indicate an area of approximately 80 km<sup>2</sup>, with 20 km of stream from the Main Tailings Pond to its confluence with Plante Creek.
  - b. If this is not an error in the Fish Monitoring Plan, an explanation of the methodology used to calculate these parameters would assist in clarifying the discrepancy.

#### **RESPONSE**

Upon review the GIS group suggests that the discrepancy may be due to the use of different elevation data. The 208 km<sup>2</sup> value came from an old Obed report and was likely using outdated lower quality elevation data.

Our GIS group re-ran all the watershed numbers and this time we separated out Upper Plante Creek from the Apetowun/lower Plante Creek watershed.

The new numbers are as follows (km<sup>2</sup>)

Oldman 444.95  
Apetowun 102.61  
Baseline 34.25  
Canyon 36.75  
Plante 59.26

A rough map of the water shed areas is provided in Attachment 2C.



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2. Please provide clarification regarding the following statement:
  - a. Section 2.1.2. (line 5) that provides an overview of Baseline Creek, Hatfield references hydrology of Oldman Creek. Does this describe Baseline (e.g. Oldman was reported in error), or does this sentence belong in the Oldman Creek Description?

**RESPONSE**

Upon review it was identified that this is a typo and the sentence should describe Baseline Creek. CVRI-OMM is reviewing the entire document and an updated version will be provided to the AER and posted to the website January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

Sincerely,

**Kari McDonald, BA.Sc.**  
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