

National Energy Board



Office national de l'énergie

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TO / À	Date: <i>22 Dec 2000</i>	Number of Pages (Incl cover) / Nombre de pages (incluant la couverture): <i>18</i>
	Message To / Destinataire: <i>Joe Azorn / Louise Azzolini</i>	Facsimile Number / Numéro de télécopier: <i>867-920-4761</i>
	Organization / Organisation: <i>MURRB</i>	
F R O M / D E	Message from / Expéditeur: <i>John Kores</i>	Telephone Number / Numéro de téléphone: <i>403-292-6614</i>
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Comments/Commentaires:

*Previous Parliament Canyon Hills Screenings
Joe/Louise
Here are the screenings from 1993/94. As I
indicated earlier to Joe, these screenings pre-date
CEAA. They are also difficult to locate as files
are subject to off-site archiving. Not sure if
~~they~~ these are particularly helpful.
John*

P.S I'm back in the office on 02 Jan 2001.

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86

NOV/Dec 1993

PROJECT REGISTER AND INITIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD****PART A: PROJECT INFORMATION**

1. **Agency:** NEB **Regional Office:** HQ **Branch:** Environment Directorate
2. **Responsible Manager:** J. E. McComiskey **Telephone:** 299-3677
3. **Contact Person:** R.B. Moores **Telephone:** 299-3926
4. **Proponent:** Paramount Resources Ltd.
Calgary, Alberta
5. **Project:** Amendment to the Cameron Hills Oil Development Plan -
Extended Production Testing to Pool Delineation Phase
6. **Location:** Cameron Hills, Northwest Territories
7. **Project/Proposal Description (include costs, timing, fiscal arrangements, and general information)**

The proposed amendment to the development plan, originally submitted on October 18, 1991, involves a change to the Extended Production Testing (EPT) phase of the development plan. Work originally proposed for the latter part of the EPT and some drilling activities scheduled for the "Pilot Project" will be undertaken in a renamed Pool Delineation phase.

Specifically, Paramount Resources Limited proposes to drill, complete and test three vertical wells, and possibly one horizontal well from an existing site, in the Cameron Hills area of the Northwest Territories between December 27 and April 30, 1994. A winter road from Indian Cabins, Alberta to Cameron Hills, NWT will be used to access the site. The project is estimated to cost \$4.2 million.

8. **Support Documentation Available:**

YES	<u> x </u>	Appended	YES	<u> x </u>
NO	_____		NO	_____

PART B: INITIAL SCREENING RESULTS

1.0 AUTOMATIC EXCLUSION YES
 NO x

2.0 CLASS ASSESSMENT YES
 NO x

3.0 POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Component	None	Mitigable or Insignificant	Unknown	Significant	Comment #
Biological:					
Plant		X			
Fish		X			
Bird		X			
Mammal		X			
Physical:					
Terrestrial		X			
Aquatic		X			
Atmospheric		X			
Social		X			

Comment:

The assessment of this proposal is based on information provided in the development plan on the environment components of the project, a comprehensive review conducted by the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) Regional Environmental Review Committee, on which the NEB was represented, and information recently submitted with the request to amend the development plan and the application for approval of the related drilling program.

Paramount proposes to drill up to four wells in the Cameron Hills area just north of the Alberta/NWT border. The area has been officially declared a commercial discovery area and ten wells have been drilled here since 1989. All proposed sites are within the zone defined as Phase I. Access to the proposed well sites is over a winter road which originates in Indian Cabins, Alberta and follows the Cameron Hills north to the discovery area.

Planned activities include accessing the site on the winter road, reactivating the field camp in the discovery area, preparing well sites through the clearing of three 120 m² areas with dozers for drilling and waste disposal, the drilling of three new vertical wells from new sites and possibly one horizontal well from an existing site and land disposal of drilling and other waste. Procedures for the disposal of drilling waste involve the use of sumps, soil and waste mixing, backfilling and seeding. There is a potential for the accidental release of oil and chemicals from wells or stored fuel.

The amendment involves the drilling of wells that were originally planned for the Pilot Phase of the development plan. The application for an amendment resulted from the findings of seismic work conducted in 1993 and an identified need to further delineate the oil reservoir before production testing, all weather road construction, permanent facility construction and other components of the pilot and full scale production stages are initiated. The drilling of additional wells under this amendment does not represent a major change from activities assessed under the original plan and related amendments for the Extended Production Testing phase.

The small scale seismic program noted in the Paramount Resources Ltd letter (93-11-21) is not included in this screening. This program will be screened when Paramount submits an application for authority to conduct a Geophysical Program on Canada Lands.

4.0 EXPERT CONSULTATION

Expert Consultation:	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Discussed with NEB staff.
	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Public Consultation:	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paramount consulted with local communities at time of original submission.
	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Government Consultation:	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GNWT and INAC contacted by the NEB concerning this amendment.
	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>	

5.0 ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE DECISION

1	No adverse environmental effects; automatic exclusion; proposal may proceed.
2	Potentially adverse environmental effects are significant; automatic referral for public review.
3	Potentially adverse environmental effects are insignificant or mitigable with known technology; proposal may proceed with mitigation.
4	Potentially adverse environmental effects are unknown; further study required with subsequent rescreening or reassessment or referral for public review.
5	Potentially adverse environmental effects are significant; refer for public review.
6	Potentially adverse environmental effects are unacceptable; modify proposal with subsequent rescreening or reassessment, or abandon proposal.
7	Public concern is such that a public review is desirable; refer for public review.

COMMENTS:

Previous reviews of the development plan and related amendments by NEB concluded that any potentially adverse environmental effects of Phase I, Extended Production Testing, were insignificant or mitigable with the known technology. This amendment to the development plan involves the drilling of three and possibly four wells similar to others identified and previously approved within the defined Phase I zone of the commercial discovery area.

All activities will be conducted in the winter months. As noted, access to the site will be via a winter road and effects on water courses and vegetation will be minimized by the frozen terrain and route selection that avoids as much as possible wet low lying areas and muskeg. Any ditches that may be required will be contoured and any areas where vegetated cover may be disturbed will be seeded in the spring. Occupation of the site involves the use of existing facilities within the discovery area and site preparation requires the clearing of only small well sites (approximately 120 m²) and several short site access roads. Drilling waste will be disposed of in sumps dug for this purpose, the waste mixed with soil and clay and the sumps backfilled and seeded following completion of the wells. These disposal procedures are common oil field practises approved within INAC land use permits and endorsed by the NEB for such operations. The potential for the accidental release of oil and chemicals from wells or stored fuel has been addressed in an oil spill contingency plan that has been prepared for the operation and been reviewed and approved by the NEB. Other potential concerns from the drilling and testing components of the Pool Delineation Phase that could compromise the safety of the operation and cause environmental effects are addressed through the NEB regulatory approvals process, in particular the Drilling Regulations and the Production and Conservation Regulations.

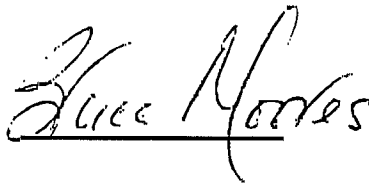
No critical wildlife or fish habitats were identified in the original surveys nor have any concentrations of wildlife been observed by Paramount or NEB staff in the discovery area defined as Phase I since drilling began in 1989.

All project activities, with the exception of well drilling, testing and production from individual wells, including occupation and use of the site for oil and gas exploration and production are conducted under land use permits issued by INAC.

Based on this, a review of the previous assessment documentation and the information provided with the recent development plan and drilling program applications, it is concluded that any potentially adverse environmental effects of the Pool Delineation Phase are insignificant or mitigable with the known technology described by the company and in the NEB regulatory approval process and INAC land use permits.

Given that potential environmental effects are insignificant and we are not aware of any public concern about the proposal, there is no need to refer it for a panel review.

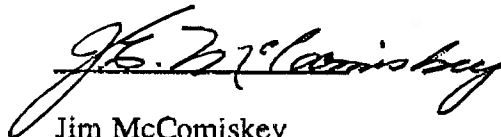
PREPARED BY:



December 21, 1993

Bruce Moores
Environment Officer

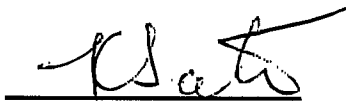
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:



December 21, 1993

Jim McComiskey
Director
Pollution Control

APPROVED BY:



December 21, 1993

Ken Sato
Director General
Environment Directorate

PROJECT REGISTER AND INITIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD****PART A: PROJECT INFORMATION**

1. **Agency:** NEB **Regional Office:** HQ **Branch:** Environment Directorate
2. **Responsible Manager:** J. E. McComiskey **Telephone:** 299-3677
3. **Contact Person:** R.B. Moores **Telephone:** 299-3926
4. **Proponent:** Paramount Resources Ltd.
Calgary, Alberta
5. **Project:** Application For Renewal of Drilling Program Approval, Cameron Hills Oil Development Project - Extended Production Testing to Pool Delineation Phase
6. **Location:** Cameron Hills, Northwest Territories
7. **Project/Proposal Description (include costs, timing, fiscal arrangements, and general information)**

Paramount Resources Limited proposes to drill, complete and test three vertical wells, and possibly one horizontal well from an existing site, in the Cameron Hills area of the Northwest Territories between December 27 and April 30, 1994.

8. **Support Documentation Available:** YES Appended YES
NO NO

Paramount Resources Ltd applied to amend the Cameron Hills Development Plan to drill additional wells in a Pool Delineation phase (formerly the Extended Production Testing phase) of the project. The application and related information for this amendment, which included the proposed drilling activity, were screened at that time. The screening document and Application for Renewal of the Drilling Plan Approval (DPA) are attached.

PART B: INITIAL SCREENING RESULTS

1.0 AUTOMATIC EXCLUSION YES
 NO x

2.0 CLASS ASSESSMENT YES
 NO x

3.0 POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Component	None	Mitigable or Insignificant	Unknown	Significant	Comment #
Biological:					
Plant		X			
Fish		X			
Bird		X			
Mammal		X			
Physical:					
Terrestrial		X			
Aquatic		X			
Atmospheric		X			
Social		X			

Comment # :

The drilling activity described in the DPA do not differ from that proposed in the November 03,1993 amendment to the Cameron Hills Development Plan and no additional environmental effects are anticipated.

4.0 EXPERT CONSULTATION

Expert Consultation: YES Internal NEB staff

NO

Public Consultation: YES Paramount consulted with local communities at time of original submission.

NO

Government Consultation: YES GNWT and INAC were contacted by the NEB concerning this amendment.

NO

5.0 ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE DECISION

1	No adverse environmental effects; automatic exclusion; proposal may proceed.
2	Potentially adverse environmental effects are significant; automatic referral for public review.
3	Potentially adverse environmental effects are insignificant or mitigable with known technology; proposal may proceed or may proceed with mitigation.
4	Potentially adverse environmental effects are unknown; further study required with subsequent rescreening or reassessment or referral for public review.
5	Potentially adverse environmental effects are significant; refer for public review.
6	Potentially adverse environmental effects are unacceptable; modify proposal with subsequent rescreening or reassessment, or abandon proposal.
7	Public concern is such that a public review is desirable; refer for public review.

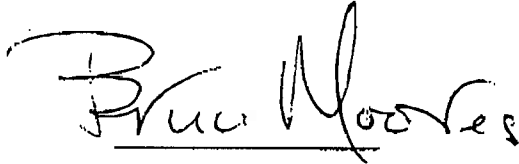
COMMENTS:

Following a review by NEB of the proposed development plan amendment it was determined that any potentially adverse environmental effects of the Pool Delineation Phase were mitigable with the known technology. This DPA involves the drilling of wells identified in

that amendment for the Phase I zone of the commercial discovery area. Based on this, and the information provided in the DPA application, it is concluded that any potentially adverse environmental effects are also insignificant or mitigable with the known technology.

Given that potential environmental effects are insignificant and we are not aware of any public concern about the proposal, there is no need to refer it for a panel review.

PREPARED BY:



December 23, 1993

Bruce Moores
Environment Officer

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:



December 23, 1993

Jim McComiskey
Director
Pollution Control

APPROVED BY:



December 23, 1993

Ken Sato
Director General
Environment Directorate

Feb 94

PROJECT REGISTER AND INITIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD****PART A: PROJECT INFORMATION**

1. **Agency:** NEB **Regional Office:** HQ **Branch:** Environment Directorate
2. **Responsible Manager:** J. E. McComiskey **Telephone:** 299-3677
3. **Contact Person:** R.B. Moores **Telephone:** 299-3926
4. **Proponent:** Paramount Resources Ltd.
Calgary, Alberta
5. **Project:** Application to Drill a Well, Cameron Hills Oil Development Project
6. **Location:** Cameron Hills, Northwest Territories
7. **Project/Proposal Description (include costs, timing, fiscal arrangements, and general information)**

Paramount Resources Limited proposes to drill, complete and test a horizontal well in the Cameron Hills area of the Northwest Territories between February and April 30, 1994. The well is the Paramount et al Cameron HZN 2 I-74

8. **Support Documentation Available:** YES x Appended YES x
NO NO

Paramount Resources Ltd applied to amend the Cameron Hills Development Plan to drill additional wells in a Pool Delineation phase (formerly the Extended Production Testing phase) of the project. The application and related information for the amendment, which included reference to a horizontal well, were screened at that time. The Application for Renewal of the Drilling Plan Approval (DPA) which included three vertical wells and the possibility of a horizontal well was subsequently made to the NEB and screened. This Application to Drill A Well (ADW) is considered to be a component of the DPA and is part of the third stage of the regulatory process. Details of the proposed drilling activity are attached. Other related documentation is attached to the screenings of the development plan amendment and DPA.

PART B: INITIAL SCREENING RESULTS

1.0 AUTOMATIC EXCLUSION YES
 NO x

2.0 CLASS ASSESSMENT YES
 NO x

3.0 POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Component	None	Mitigable or Insignificant	Unknown	Significant	Comment #
Biological:					
Plant		X			
Fish		X			
Bird		X			
Mammal		X			
Physical:					
Terrestrial		X			
Aquatic		X			
Atmospheric		X			
Social		X			

Comment:

The proposed activity involves the drilling of one horizontal well from an existing well site. The well is within the area defined as Phase I of the Cameron Hills Oil Development Project and involves the use of drilling technology and waste treatment approved by the NEB and INAC. Also, the drilling sequence and procedures described in the ADW do not differ from those proposed in the November 03, 1993 amendment to the development plan or the DPA both of which were screened. No additional environmental effects are anticipated.

4.0 EXPERT CONSULTATION

Expert Consultation: YES Internal NEB staff
 NO

Public Consultation: YES Paramount consulted with local communities at time of original submission.
 NO

Government Consultation: YES GNWT and INAC contacted by the NEB concerning the amendment to the development plan which included the horizontal well.
 NO

5.0 ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE DECISION

1	No adverse environmental effects; automatic exclusion; proposal may proceed.
2	Potentially adverse environmental effects are significant; automatic referral for public review.
3	Potentially adverse environmental effects are insignificant or mitigable with known technology; proposal may proceed or may proceed with mitigation.
4	Potentially adverse environmental effects are unknown; further study required with subsequent rescreening or reassessment or referral for public review.
5	Potentially adverse environmental effects are significant; refer for public review.
6	Potentially adverse environmental effects are unacceptable; modify proposal with subsequent rescreening or reassessment, or abandon proposal.
7	Public concern is such that a public review is desirable; refer for public review.

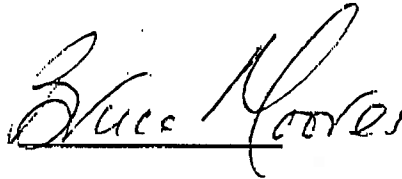
COMMENTS:

The review of the proposed development plan amendment and the DPA by NEB concluded that any potentially adverse environmental effects of the activities proposed for the Pool Delineation Phase were insignificant or mitigable with the known technology. The ADW involves the drilling of a well identified in the amendment for the Phase I zone of the commercial discovery area. Based on this, and the information provided in the request for an

amendment, it is concluded that any potentially adverse environmental effects are also insignificant or mitigable with the known technology.

Given that potential environmental effects are insignificant and we are not aware of any public concern about the proposal, there is no need to refer it for a panel review.

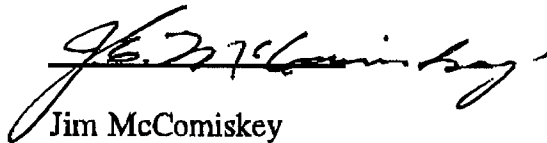
PREPARED BY:



09 February 1994

Bruce Moores
Senior Environmental Specialist

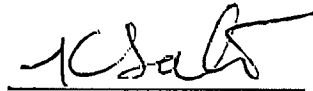
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:



09 February 1994

Jim McComiskey
Director
Biological Sciences Division

APPROVED BY:



09 February 1994

Ken Sato
Director General
Environment Directorate

PROJECT REGISTER AND INITIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD

PART A: PROJECT INFORMATION

1. **Agency:** NEB **Regional Office:** HQ **Branch:** Environment Directorate
2. **Responsible Manager:** J. E. McCormiskey **Telephone:** 299-3677
3. **Contact Person:** R.B. Moores **Telephone:** 299-3926
4. **Proponent:** Paramount Resources Ltd.
Calgary, Alberta
5. **Project:** Application to Alter the Condition of a Well
6. **Location:** Cameron Hills, Northwest Territories
7. **Project/Proposal Description (include costs, timing, fiscal arrangements, and general information)**

Paramount Resources Limited proposes to undertake a completion program on the Paramount et al Cameron I-74 well in the Cameron Hills area of the Northwest Territories.

8. **Support Documentation Available:**

YES	<u> x </u>	Appended	YES	<u> x </u>
NO	_____		NO	_____

Paramount Resources Ltd applied to amend the Cameron Hills Development Plan to drill additional wells in a Pool Delineation phase (formerly the Extended Production Testing phase) of the project. The application and related information for the amendment were screened at that time. The Application for Renewal of the Drilling Plan Approval (DPA) which included the Paramount et al Cameron I-74 well, was subsequently made to the NEB and screened. This Application to Alter the Condition of A Well is considered to be a component of the DPA and is part of the third stage of the regulatory process.

Details of the proposed drilling activity are attached. Other related documentation is attached to the screenings of the development plan amendment and DPA.

PART B: INITIAL SCREENING RESULTS

1.0 AUTOMATIC EXCLUSION YES
 NO x

2.0 CLASS ASSESSMENT YES
 NO x

3.0 POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Component	None	Mitigable or Insignificant	Unknown	Significant	Comment #
Biological:					
Plant		X			
Fish		X			
Bird		X			
Mammal		X			
Physical:					
Terrestrial		X			
Aquatic		X			
Atmospheric		X			
Social		X			

Comment:

The proposed activity, known as well completion, involves the perforation of the well casing and swabbing and acidification of the well at approximately 1400 meters to test the oil and

gas flow rates. The completion program, as described in the ACW, is a component of the I-74 well drilling program which was previously screened. No additional environmental effects are anticipated.

4.0 EXPERT CONSULTATION

Expert Consultation: YES Internal NEB staff
 NO

Public Consultation: YES Paramount consulted with local communities at time of original submission.
 NO

Government Consultation: YES GNWT and INAC contacted by the NEB concerning the amendment to the development plan which included the horizontal well.
 NO

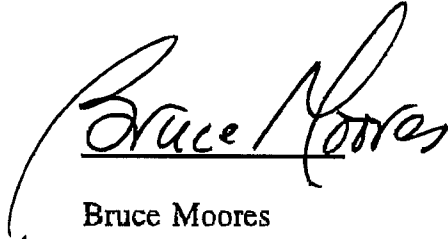
5.0 ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE DECISION

1	No adverse environmental effects; automatic exclusion; proposal may proceed.
2	Potentially adverse environmental effects are significant; automatic referral for public review.
3	Potentially adverse environmental effects are insignificant or mitigable with known technology; proposal may proceed or may proceed with mitigation.
4	Potentially adverse environmental effects are unknown; further study required with subsequent rescreening or reassessment or referral for public review.
5	Potentially adverse environmental effects are significant; refer for public review.
6	Potentially adverse environmental effects are unacceptable; modify proposal with subsequent rescreening or reassessment, or abandon proposal.
7	Public concern is such that a public review is desirable; refer for public review.

COMMENTS:

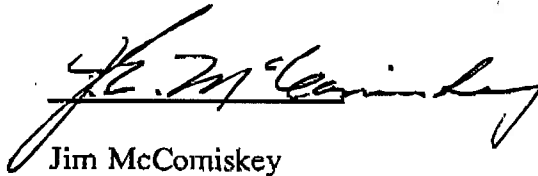
The review of the proposed development plan amendment, the DPA and ADW for the I-74 well by NEB concluded that any potentially adverse environmental effects of the activities proposed for the Pool Delineation Phase were insignificant or mitigable with the known technology. The ACW involves the completion of a well that is considered to be a component of the Delineation Phase and the original I-74 well drilling program. The completion program will also be reviewed and approved by the NEB to ensure that risk to site personnel and the environment is minimized. Based on this, and the information provided in the completion program description, it is concluded that any potentially adverse environmental effects are also insignificant or mitigable with the known technology.

Given that potential environmental effects are insignificant and we are not aware of any public concern about the proposal, there is no need to refer it for a panel review.

PREPARED BY:

23 February 1994

Bruce Moores
Senior Environmental Specialist

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:

23 February 1994

Jim McComiskey
Director
Biological Sciences Division

APPROVED BY:

23 February 1994

Ken Sato
Director General
Environment Directorate