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The 1978/79 Development Work carried out on the Elk River Coal Project K-ELK RIVER 79(1)A.



ELCO MINING LIMITED

K-EIK RIVER 79(1)A.



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The 1978/79 Development Work carried out on the Elk River Coal Project K-ELK RIVER 79(1)A.

Coal Licence Numbers 64, 65 421-434 incl., 481-489 incl., 515, 771-779 incl., 951-957 incl.

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Submitted to the

Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources

December 5, 1979

G. F. LäwrenGEOLOGICAL BRANCH Chief Geologist SSESSMENT REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

This report is a summary of project development work carried out by Elco Mining Limited during the 1979 Term of Licence on the Elk River Coal Project. The report is based on work expenditures made between November 1, 1978 and October 31, 1979 rather than between the actual anniversary dates of December 5 each year. This procedure is followed because Elco's November month-end statement would not be completed in time for a December 5 report.

Field work such as geological mapping, aerial photography, ground control surveying, and environmental studies was carried out during this term. Because this work was usually a segment of a larger task, it has not been broken out of the main cost accounts and separately itemized on the "Application to Extend Term of Licence" forms as "On-Property" work. These work costs are included with the "Off-Property" costs.

EXPLORATION SUPPORT WORK

Mapping and Surveying

Establishment of Project Mapping System and Mine_Grid System

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The Elk River Project has seen many different surveys, map grids, exploration grids and mine grids established during the last ten years or so. Elco was at the stage where, for project development purposes, one overall mapping system and one adequate local mine reference grid system was required. A historical review of past systems in the form of a report has been established and is appended (see Appendix 1.0).

A UTM based Elco Mining Grid System for overall mapping purposes was adopted. Since previous exploration and mine grid systems proved inadequate for Elco's future mining operation, a new metric mine grid system, which would be tied into the existing survey system, was devised.

Phase Ib-3 Survey Planning

A Phase Ib-3 (1980 engineering phase) surveying work scope was planned and produced during the 1979 term. In general, this was a detailed outline of possible ground surveys which would be required to support the Phase Ib-3 geotechnical investigations and the follow-up preliminary design work.

The following surveys were planned for:

- A high order control network to be established between Elkford and the mine site.
- A mine operations control network.
- Ground surveys for all on-site and infrastructure development items.

Aerial Mapping of Access Road and Railway Routes

It was estimated that the amount of ground surveying, originally thought necessary for preliminary design work on the access road and railway routes, could be possibly reduced by updated and well controlled aerial mapping. 2.

In order to verify this possibility, aerial photography was carried out along the routes in May 1979. From this, it was found that preliminary design work could be carried out for most of the access road and railway routes on the new aerial mapping. Elco then commissioned Underhill Engineering Ltd. to establish the necessary ground control. This work was completed during October 1979. The network established between the Elco mine site and Elkford is a high order control system and will be strong enough to control the future engineering work. The control diagram for this survey was appended to this report as Appendix 2. Strip mapping of the railway and access road routes, however, will not be undertaken until after March 1980 at the earliest.

Geological Assessment and Field Work

Mine Planning Support

With the establishment of a new metric mine grid system (as reported earlier), a mine bench plan system referenced to this grid was established. Elco geologists are now in the process of transferring the geological data onto these plans for subsequent mine engineering purposes.

In preparation for the transfer of geological data to the bench plans, considerable time has been spent conducting detailed studies of the geophysical borehole logs. In addition to checking seam correlations, other such mine related information as detailed lithology, aquiferous zones, and rock porosity which is related to rock fabric and in turn to rock mineability, are being obtained.

Investigations into Contemporary Sample Analysis and Geological Data Processing Techniques

Investigations have been carried out on a new technique known as "neutron activation analysis" for coal and mineral samples of unknown composition. This technique is particularily useful for trace element analysis. Elco is interested in whether this analysis could be useful for seam correlation purposes on its multi-seam deposit. Furthermore Elco has investigated the capabilities of a geological and mine planning data control system known as the "Multi-Seam Coal Deposit Evaluation System" (MSCDES). This system was originally designed for thermal coal deposits, but additional programs are being developed to handle coking coal quality and washability data.

Geological Mapping

Past geological mapping for the Elk River Coal Project was restricted to the central coal licence area. Recent developments required Elco to investigate the general geology in the southwest of its licence area. Elco geologists began further investigations with an air photo study of the southern portion of the Elk River coal licences which, to date, have not been mapped. This photo study was extended south to the Forsyth Creek and Greenhills areas. Success at identifying the main boundaries of the Kootenay Formation in these areas, however, was mainly restricted to the east side of the Elk River.

In preparation for a possible exploration program in the Bleasdell Creek area on the west flank of the Elk River valley, Elco geologists extended their photo mapping to this part of the licence area.

The photo mapping was followed up by a field mapping program late in October 1979. The objectives of this program were:

- To obtain more detailed information on the structures of the west flank area, and in particular, a "thrust" zone, where a large tectonically thickened outcrop of coal has been observed.
- To trace the main boundaries and structures of the Kootenay Formation in the southern licence area to tie in with geological information produced by the Fording Coal Co. Ltd.

Results of the field work are being prepared on 1:10,000 scale maps and was appended to this report as Appendix 3.0.

Geotechnical Planning

Preliminary geotechnical planning, which was started at the close of the 1978 report period, was expanded into detailed planning in 1979. Geotechnical investigations have been broken into two separate areas. These are:

<u>Mine Related Rock Slope Investigations</u> - four to five months of work have been planned. This work would include pump tests and piezometric monitoring of the Kootenay Basal Sandstone which forms the footwall of the planned open pit. Should previous cores provide insufficient data, then additional diamond core drilling will be carried out. Core studies will provide rock strength and bedding plane joint fracture information. Also, detailed structural field mapping will be carried out throughout the entire mine area. The data collected during this work phase will provide the information necessary for final pit design.

<u>Other Geotechnical Investigations</u> - nearly five months field work is involved here. This work includes detailed foundation and ground water regime investigations on the following:

- railway,
- access road/Forest Service bypass road,
- river diversion channel and dams,
- waste dumps,
- settling poinds,
- tailings ponds,
- plant site.

The results of these investigations will provide the information necessary for final engineering design.

Exploration Reclamation

The previous exploration reclamation work was evaluated in the field during this term. The reclamation maintenance work carried out on two trenches last fall has taken care of the erosion problems. Agronomic species cover is good and there is significant colonization by native species.

Reclamation Permit C-49 was renewed by the Department of Mines and Petroleum Resources this year.

Work on the Stage III Reclamation Programme is described later.

Exploration Permits and Government Work

Time was spent in 1979 on exploration permit acquisition and government report preparation. The following is a list of these activities:

- renewal of Free Miner's Certificate (MEMPR)
- extending term of coal licences (MEMPR)
- annual exploration and development work report (MEMPR)
- annual summary of exploration work (MEMPR)
- annual reserve estimate report (EMR)
- status report on exploration adits and drill holes (MEMPR)
- annual reclamation report (MEMPR)

In addition to the above annual reporting activities, time was spent on the following:

<u>Proposed Amendments to the B.C. Coal Act Regulations</u> - the proposed amendments were reviewed and a brief was prepared for the Coal Association which, in turn, conveyed to the Ministry of Mines opinions of the B.C. coal industry in general.

<u>Coal Lease - Section 26, Coal Act</u> - preliminary investigations into the requirements and procedures for the application of a coal lease were begun, however this has not been pursued any further since it was determined that the Section 7 (CMRA) Mine Work Permit should be obtained first.

<u>Mine Work Permit - Section 7, Coal Mines Regulations Act</u> - an investigation was carried out in order to prove that the proposed surface installations would not sterilize coal reserves.

<u>Notice of Work</u> - was filed with the B.C. Department of Mines and other appropriate ministries for the purpose of conducting a small drilling and trenching program in the Bleasdell Creek area. This work will be carried out after approval by Elco's shareholders.

PROJECT APPROVAL AND DEVELOPMENT WORK

Project Approval Work

Stage II Report Processing and Follow-up

Having submitted the Stage II report on the Elk River Coal Project on August 28, 1978, Elco carried out a significant amount of additional work at the request of reviewing government agencies during the last two months of 1978 and during the 1979 term. Additional information was presented to the sub-committees of the Coal Guidelines Steering Committee.

Major presentations were:

- A technical presentation relative to Section 7 of the Coal Mines Regulations Act to the Mines Inspection and Mines Reclamation Branches of the Department of Mines and Petroleum Resources on January 17, 1979. The presentation covered the following topics:
 - technical necessities for river/creek diversions,
 - rationale for rejecting underground mining,
 - possible sterilization of coal reserves by overlying facilities,
 - feasibility of the proposed pit boundaries with regard to the slope stability,
 - justification to place coarse plant rejects in mine waste disposals,
 - maximization of coal recovery by the proposed mining procedure.
- 2. At the request of the Coal Guidelines Steering Committee, community consultation programs were conducted for the purpose of obtaining public opinion on the Elk River Project from the Elk Valley communities of Elkford, Sparwood, Fernie and Cranbrook.

A public information brochure describing the Elk River Coal Project in some detail was distributed to all interested parties in the above communities. After Elco received its Stage II approval-in-principle, the draft report was amended as required for the approval and the report printed and placed in the public domain.

Stage III Permit Work

On February 22, 1979 the Environment and Land Use Committee of the B.C. Cabinet gave approval-in-principle to the Elk River Coal Project. Subject to the approval-in-principle, an additional programme of Stage III work was agreed to by Elco Mining Limited and B.C. Government agencies. To date progress was made as follows:

- Elco retained Kerr, Wood and Leidal Associates of Vancouver to produce a conceptual river diversion design for the Elk River. The design was concentrated on fish migration, fish spawning, fish rearing and siltation suppression. The design was reviewed and approved by the Mine Site Design Advisory Committee subject to concurrence by the Fish and Wildlife Branch.
- 2. A literature review of fish habitat preferences was completed.
- 3. An in-stream "swim survey" of fish habitats was made in the Elk River during the fall by T.E.C. Ltd. of Richmond, B.C.
- 4. To resolve the town site selection problem, a cost/benefit analysis assessment on the expansion of Elkford versus new town construction was jointly carried out by Elco and two government subcommittees.

Various Stage III permits were prepared and filed with the B.C. Government during this term of licence. These were as follows:

 Pollution Control Branch Discharge Permits - discussions with PCB staff in December 1978 established the consensus relative to the format for Elco's applications, the preproduction and production monitoring for discharges to air and water, and the discharge limits that could be applied for. Several technical questions were

investigated by Elco relative to preparation plant effluent, tailings pond seepage, whether or not non-potable water could be obtained from the mine water settling pond, the discharge of plant site sewage to the tailings pond, and tailings disposal should the tailings thickener malfunction during winter operations.

Having resolved these questions, Elco completed the applications and filed them with the Director, Pollution Control Branch on May 25, 1979. The required postings were made in the field on the same date.

- Section 8, Coal Mines Regulation Act Reclamation Programme the application was filed with the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources in April 1979. Approval-in-principle was subsequently received.
- 3. Section 7, Coal Mines Regulation Act Work System Permit as a follow-up to the January 17, 1979 Elco presentation to the Mines Inspection and Reclamation Branches, a formal application for approval of a Working System was made in April 1979. Following the application, the Chief Inspector of Mines requested more information on the following:
 - planning of geotechnical investigations to assess the stability of the footwall,
 - full details on method of support of the footwall,
 - method of protection from avalanches, falling rocks and drainage of the footwall,
 - full details of the proposals for the Elk River diversion including provisions to ensure that there can be no danger to persons working in the mine resulting from the diversion,
 - construction and stability of the waste disposals and tailings ponds.

Answers to these questions, based on present knowledge and on planned geotechnical investigations, were forwarded to the Chief Inspector of Mines in July 1979.

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Response from the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources has indicated that the approval of the "Work System" would only be given after Elco's planned geotechnical investigations had been carried out and incorporated into the proposed "Work System".

4. <u>Water Sector Permits</u> - preparations of the applications for these permits began in May 1979, but had to be suspended due to the extra work load created by the townsite selection question. These activities will be renewed at the end of 1979.

Engineering Development Work

Mine

The majority of the work carried out in this area involved the Section 7 Coal Mines Regulations Act permit application and, budgeting and scheduling, which is described later in this report.

There was, however, other work performed in this area. This included:

- The updating of cost and performance data used during the Feasibility Study. The main manufacturers for heavy equipment were contacted for this data.
- An alternative solution to the proposed Weary Creek diversion was investigated. The matter will be discussed further with the Mines Inspection Branch.
- A scope of work, including costs and schedules for the investigation of a coal operation on the West Flank of the Elk River Valley was prepared.

Coal Preparation

The majority of the work in this area involved investigations for PCB permit applications and for 1980 budgets and schedules.

Other work, however, did include the completion of flotation tests, and an investigation for the recovery of coal from middlings by crushing, on Fording Coal Ltd. coal samples at Rohstofftechnologie, Overseas Engineering GmbH in Berlin, West Germany.

Railway

Discussions were held with CP Rail's Department of Special Projects in order to obtain reliable information on:

- time and work requirements for the railway permit and application procedures,
- time requirements for construction work.

The location of the Elco spur line was discussed with neighbouring mine operators.

Port

Investigations were carried out on alternative terminal options open to Elco for its future coal shipments.

Off-site Power Supply

The increasing demand for power in the East Kootenay region relative to the delayed development of the tie between Calgary Power and B.C. Hydro is a subject of great concern and required substantial attention.

Town Site

A significant programme of analytical studies was completed relative to the town site selection problem, including helicopter commuting, financial feasibility, economic effects and turnover rates.

Stream Gauging

Elco continued stream gauging for the Elk River Project at five locations. An intensive monitoring programme was carried out from May 29 through June 11, 1979 for the spring high flow period. A summary report covering April 1977 to December 1978 was forwarded to interested government agencies.

Climatic Monitoring

Elco contracted the MEP Co. to install two climatic monitoring stations during May 1979 at locations agreed to with the Pollution Control Branch. MEP will also operate, maintain and undertake data abstraction for Elco.

Dustfall Monitoring

As requested by the Pollution Control Branch, monthly monitoring of eight dustfall stations commenced in June 1979.

Project Planning and Development

The main objectives of Elco Mining Limited during the past year were:

- Acquire Stage II approval and secure Stage III permits,
- Negotiate and secure contract arrangements with shippers and the general contractors,
- Discuss with government, various tax and assistance benefits,
- Plan and budget the next engineering work phase (Phase Ib-3, 1980),
- Plan and evaluate various development and production schedules,
- Carry out project promotion with potential new customers and partners.

Negotiations and Government Liaison Work

Elco, with help from consultants, continued amendment work on the Service Agreements and the fixation of the construction fee in preparation for the forthcoming contract negotiations with Morrison-Knudsen. Intense negotiations were carried out between Elco and consultants and CP Rail in order to establish a final freight rate and future escalation formulas for the transport of Elk River coal to port.

Discussions continued with the Federal Government to seek potential government financial support in the form of infrastructure cost sharing, grants and tax concessions.

In compliance with FIRA regulations, a project update was completed.

Studies were made to determine the net effect that the November 16, 1978 - federal budget would have on the Elk River Coal Project.

Scheduling and Progress Control

<u>Phase Ib-3</u> - detailed planning of this work phase began in March 1979. A list of all foreseeable work activities up to the beginning of construction were identified. Detailed work proposals, time requirements and cost estimates were obtained from representative contractors and consulting firms. A network plan and bar charts showing work interfaces and milestones were established. This network plan was the basis for the establishment of Elco's next budget.

Project Presentations and Marketing Promotions

Elco made four presentations of the Elk River Coal Project to visiting potential coal customers and/or potential Joint Venture Partners during this term of licence. Coking coal quality and thermal coal potential were emphasized.

<u>Other</u>

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Elco participated in the East Kootenay Community College Advisory Committee, whose task is related to the definition of training requirements and programs for the existing and planned coal mines in the region.

Appendix 1.0

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A REPORT ON

THE ELK RIVER GRID/BASELINE SYSTEMS

J.J. J. Jeura -cri

G. F. Lawrence, Chief Geologist.

April, 1979.

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INTRODUCTION

The Elk River Coal Project, like many other mining properties, has accumulated various mapping systems and baseline control systems throughout the exploration stage(s). Also, like many other properties after which feasibility studies have proven the viability of the deposit, accurate mine mapping and baseline control systems on which detailed planning and operations control can be carried out must be established.

In some cases, mapping and baseline systems established during the exploration stage(s) could be adopted as the mine control systems. This is only the case where the following conditions are met:

- The original mapping system has sufficient ground control and can produce maps with the required accuracy.
- 2. The exploration baseline system is orientated parallel to structural strike and also today, where data bases are increasingly used to store and evaluate geological data, it is advantageous to locate the baseline such that all measurements are positive, that is, in northerly and easterly directions.

In the case of the Elk River Project, these conditions were not met and consequently additional, more up-to-date aerial mapping was carried out in late 1976 when Elco Mining Limited began a major feasibility study and exploration program on this property. During the feasibility study, a new metric Mine Baseline System was designed for the purpose of developing a bench map system and providing future mine operations control.

Purpose of this Report

Due to the lack of readily accessible, detailed information on the different Elk River grid and baseline systems, it became the purpose of this report to make available a current detailed chronicle and information document from which future references could be made. The sources for this report include the following:

- personal conversations and correspondence with the service companies that had been involved in this work,
- old files of letters and telexs dealing with the subject,
- Elco's Elk River Feasibility Report.

Objectives of the Study

There are two main objectives for this study:

- The first is to prepare a detailed documentation of the various survey and map systems that have been developed and planned for the Elk River Project to date.
- 2. The second is to examine the first metric Mine Baseline System design, and, because of certain problems encountered with that design, recommend an alternate system which would incorporate both the corrections required on the first design and, cover all future requirements within the total licence area.

Review of Mapping and Survey Control System Development

Mapping and control was first established for the Elk River coal licences in 1968 when the North American Coal Company optioned the licences from Scurry-Rainbow Oil Ltd. Aerial photography was completed by Spartan Air Services and a base map at 1 inch = 1000 feet with 20 foot contours of the property was prepared. An exploration baseline system was developed on which field work could be referenced.

In 1969, when North American did not extend its option, Scurry-Rainbow continued exploration. A control network and grid system, known as the MSEL Grid System, was extended to the Elk River licences from the Fording Coal Ltd. operation by McElhanney Surveying and Engineering Ltd. McElhanney updated and enlarged the 1968 base map to cover the entire licence area at a scale of 1 inch = 1000 feet with a 20 foot contour inter-

val. A portion of Scurry's envisioned mine area was mapped at 1 inch =
200 feet with a 5 foot contour interval. Field work was referenced to the
North American "Exploration Baseline".

In December 1969, Emkay Canada Natural Resources Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Morrison-Knudsen Company Inc., acquired one-half interest of the Scurry-Rainbow licences. Exploration under the direction of Emkay resumed in July 1970. The mapping prepared by McElhanney in the 1969 exploration program was used in the Emkay program. Additional aerial photography and ground surveys were carried out for mapping of the proposed railway spur location south to Sparwood. Strip maps at scale of 1 inch = 1000 feet with a 20 foot contour interval were prepared. In 1970, McElhanney ran a vertical control survey up the Elk River Valley, beginning at Geodetic Bench Mark No. 115-D, located on the Canadian Pacific Railway bridge over Michel Creek. Bench marks were placed at approximately one mile intervals, running north along the road on the west side of the Elk River. During this program Emkay's field work was referenced to both the Exploration Baseline and the MSEL grid system. At this time MSEL grid values were determined for the Exploration Baseline Stations.

In December 1973, Exploration und Bergbau GmbH (E and B) of Duesseldorf, West Germany, acting on behalf of a group of European steel mills, commenced negotiations to purchase Morrison-Knudsen's interest in the Elk River Coal Project. Negotiations were concluded in May 1975, when an agreement to acquire Morrison-Knudsen's 50% interest was reached. During the negotiations period, E and B contracted Techman Ltd. to carry out mining evaluations of the property. Requiring a good base map on which various mining schemes could be tested, Techman in turn contracted McElhanney to prepare a base map at a scale of 1 inch = 400 feet with a 10 foot contour interval. The main axis of the map was set parallel to a mine baseline which Techman had established for their evaluation work.

In July 1975, E and B undertook an exploration program (prefeasibility study), designed to evaluate the coal quality and the reserve potential of the Elk River deposit, in order to determine if these parameters met the requirements of the European steel mills. All field work was referenced

to the Exploration Baseline and recorded on the 1 inch = 1000 feet base maps. Burnett Resource Surveys Ltd. and McElhanney Surveying & Engineering Ltd. were contracted to carry out the field surveying, however, there were ten exploration drill holes that did not receive final surveys.

In June 1976, a Joint Venture Agreement was finalized between Elco Mining Limited, a Canadian company formed to represent the European steel mills, and three other Canadian companies, Home Oil Limited, Scurry-Rainbow Oil Limited and Steel Company of Canada Limited. Elco Mining Limited would be the Project Manager.

In October 1976, a major feasibility study and exploration program was begun by Elco. A new metric control network and grid system, known as the Elco Mining Grid System (EMGS) was developed along with new metric base maps. The EMGS was tied to both local Federal Government UTM control and the earlier MSEL control. This enabled the coordinates from the earlier systems to be converted to the new metric system. The new metric base maps were prepared at the following scales:

> 1:1000 with 2 meter contour intervals 1:2000 with 5 meter contour intervals 1:5000 with 10 meter contour intervals 1:10000 with 25 meter contour intervals 1:20000 with 50 meter contour intervals

These maps, however, did not cover the entire licence area. The eastern, western, northern and southern portions of the licence area remain unmapped at these scales, see Figures 1.0 to 5.0 inclusive. Additional strip maps, at 1 inch = 1000 feet with a 20 foot contour interval were prepared for the potential railway lines, one of which Elco would select as the best possible route. Total 1 inch = 1000 feet mapping to date is shown on Figure 6.0, page 10.

The aerial photography, network control surveying, field surveying, and the initial aerial triangulation was carried out by McElhanney. Final aerial triangulation was performed by Rheinische Braunkohlenwerke AG















of West Germany, after McElhanney failed to complete this work on time. The metric base maps were also prepared in West Germany by Geomess Ing. GmbH. The imperial scale strip maps were prepared by McElhanney.

In addition to the metric base map preparation, Geomess was also contracted to develop a geological data base which could undertake specific evaluations and map plotting for geology and mine planning. A metric Mine Baseline System was planned from which mine bench plans could be developed and geological bench surveying could be carried out during future mining operations, see Map 1.0, page 12.

THE ELK RIVER GRID/BASELINE SYSTEMS

The MSEL Grid System

The MSEL System, extended into the Elk River Valley in 1969, is a plane rectangular system with an origin (a point considered to be error-free) at survey monument "712", located in the Fording River Valley. Bearings are referred to the meridian running through the Alberta-British Columbia border monument, "5F". Distances are reduced to the 5200 foot datum. The longitude of "5F" is 114⁰42' West.

The MSEL grid was developed for other users to the south of the Elk River Project and was extended into the Elk River Valley from a survey carried up from the south. A series of control points were established, including ties made to the Geodetic Survey of Canada stations "Bleasdell" and "Riverside". MSEL coordinate values were then established for these Geodetic stations from which a bearing and grid distance was derived as follows:



The Exploration Baseline System

The Exploration Baseline System was established in 1968 by McElhanney for North American Coal Corporation for the purpose of controlling an exploration drilling, trenching and adit driving program. Stations were set at 1000 foot intervals. In 1970, McElhanney established MSEL coordinates for the baseline stations. Station 0+00, located on the south bank of Aldridge Creek near the Kanelk transmission line, had MSEL coordinates of 542,197.00 ftN, 71,117.30 ftE, and Station 400+00, located in the northern licence area had MSEL coordinates of 581,339.4455 ftN, 62, 879.0382 ftE.

An inverse calculation of these MSEL coordinates rotates the Exploration Baseline 11⁰53'07.8" west of the MSEL Grid North.

The Techman Mine Baseline System

The Techman Mine Baseline System was established in 1974 for Exploration und Bergbau GmbH of West Germany. This baseline was orientated such that it was parallel to the overall structural strike of the deposit. A central location in the potential mine area, Station 300+00 on the Exploration Baseline, was selected as the point of origin. Baseline coordinate, 300+00 N, 0+00 E, the same as the Exploration Baseline coordinate, was assigned to the point of origin. Stations were laid out in 500 foot intervals in both directions from Station 300+00.

The bearing of the Techman Baseline was determined from many strike measurements that had been made in both directions from Exploration Baseline Station 300+00. It was found that for a 1000 foot run along, or parallel to the Exploration Baseline, strike passed through a point on a line tangent to the baseline at an average distance of 165 feet from the baseline, see Figure 7.0 below.

Using an inverse tangent calculation, the Techman Baseline rotates $9^{0}22'09.8"$ west of the Exploration Baseline North. Relative to the MSEL Grid, the Techman Baseline rotates $11^{0}53'07.8" + 9^{0}22'09.8" = 21^{0}15'17.6"$ west of the MSEL Grid North.



Figure 7.0: Development of Techman Mine Baseline

The Elco Mining Grid System (EMGS)

The Elco Mining Grid System, known as the EMGS system, was established in October 1976. This is a slightly modified UTM plane rectangular system. Its origin (considered an error-free point) is the Geodetic Survey of Canada station "Bleasdell". The central meridian is 117⁰00'00", the same for UTM Zone 11. Distances are reduced to a convenient,local datum of 1500 meters. The published government coordinate values for station "Bleasdell", 5,579,003.40 mN, 645,546.10 mE were adopted.

A tie was made to the Geodetic Survey of Canada station "Riverside". The published coordinate values for Riverside are 5,591,401.9 mN, 642,926.7 mE, and an inverse computation using the published coordinate values, gives a bearing and grid distance from "Bleasdell" to "Riverside" of 348⁰04'14.5 and 12,672.18 meters respectively.

The same inverse computation, only using MSEL coordinate values, gives a bearing and grid distance from "Bleasdell" to "Riverside" of $349^{\circ}51'04"$ and 12,657.23 m respectively. When the obvious discrepancy between the two surveys was discovered, weather conditions were such that further field checks could not be made at that time of year. The Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, who are responsible for geodetic surveys, were informed. They were, quote, "not surprised with the discrepancy since "Bleasdell" and "Riverside" were only classed as fourth order control stations".

For the purpose of establishing the EMGS grid the following decisions were made:

- Use the bearing from "Bleasdell" to "Riverside", as derived from the GSC published values for those stations, and, which by definition is error free;
- Use the grid distance from "Bleasdell" to "Riverside" as derived by the EMGS survey;
- 3. Using the above two values, EMGS coordinates for "Riverside" were established as 5,591,387.28 mN, 642,929.79 mE. Because of this arrangement, McElhanney who conducted the survey made the following recommendation:

"Since our survey tie consists of only one station in the vicinity of the mine development area, the transformation of coordinates should be confined to that area. Any transformation of coordinates from other surveys should not be undertaken until additional ties are made to the triangulation system".

Having the MSEL grid and the EMGS grid both tied to Mount Bleasdell and the MSEL grid tied to the Exploration Baseline at Station 0 + 00 it was then possible to complete coordinate conversion computations between the three systems. This will be described in detail in a later section.

The Metric Mine Baseline System

The Metric Mine Baseline System was developed in mid-1977 during Elco's feasibility study, see Map 1.0, page 12. This system, which has not been established in the field, was developed concurrently with a geological data base. The initial purpose of this system was to provide a reference grid by which mine bench plans could be developed from the data base.

The origin for the Metric Mine Baseline was coincident with the origin for the Exploration Baseline, Station 0 + 00. The orientation of the Metric Mine Baseline was to be parallel with the Techman Mine Baseline in order to keep new mine planning complementary with the Techman Mine planning, upon which the feasibility study was based. This placed the location of the Mine Baseline to the west and outside of the open pit area. All measurements into the initial thirty-six year pit would therefore be positive.

At first glance the metric Mine Baseline System seemed to be a fairly workable system, however, when an attempt was made to develop a coordinate conversion program for this system, problems were encountered. The baseline azimuth is not a true north azimuth, the baseline is not exactly parallel with the Techman Baseline and its location is not strategically well placed. It is a simple matter to correct the azimuth and set the baseline parallel to the Techman Baseline, but its location and its overall coverage of the entire licence area, with respect to future considerations, is not easily improved without major changes. An alternative system has therefore been devised.

Grid Convergence

When using "azimuth" directions it is appropriate to indicate the reference meridian from which the azimuth angle is rotated. In the situation where there are various grid/baseline systems existing it is adviseable to only use azimuth angles that are referenced to the True North Meridian. The Elk River Project has two rectangular grid systems, the MSEL and EMGS, both of which have central or reference meridians located at great distances from the licence area. When a plane rectangular grid system is extended over long distances, corrections for grid convergence with a known local meridian must be made. The GSC station "Bleasdell" has published longitude and latitude values and since both the MSEL and EMGS grids are tied to this station grid convergence can be calculated for both systems. The following method is used to perform this calculation: "Convergence = (Meridian Longitude-Station Longitude) x Sine Station Latitude".

EMGS Convergence at Station "Bleasdell"

EMGS is referenced to central meridian 117⁰00'00"

- Longitude of Station "Bleasdell" = 114⁰57'15.69"
- 3. Latitude of Station "Bleasdell" = 50⁰20'49.48"
- 4. EMGS convergence = $(117^{\circ}00'00" 114^{\circ}57'15.69")$ x Sine $50^{\circ}20'49.48"$ = $N1^{\circ}34'30"$ E or $1^{\circ}34'30"$ True North Azimuth

MSEL Convergence at Station "Bleasdell"

2.

- MSEL is referenced to the meridian 114⁰42'00" through monument "5F".
- 2. Longitude of Station "Bleasdell" = 114⁰57'15.69"
- 3. Latitude of Station "Bleasdell" = 50⁰20'49.48"
- 4. MSEL convergence = $(114^{\circ}42'00" 114^{\circ}57'15.69")$ x Sine $50^{\circ}20'49.48"$ = $N0^{\circ}$ 11'45" W or $359^{\circ}48'15"$ True North Azimuth

N 0° 11'45" W, however, is not the correct MSEL grid convergence. It has been established that a systematic error has been carried through the MSEL system. This can be identified as follows:

 The convergence at "Bleasdell" in the EMGS system amounts to N 1⁰34'30" E. This must be applied to the EMGS grid azimuth 348⁰04'14.5" from "Bleashell" to "Riverside", which by definition is error free, (see EMGS Grid System, page 14).

$$348^{\circ}04'14.5^{\circ} + 1^{\circ}34'30'' = 349^{\circ}38'44.5''$$

2. The convergence at "Bleasdell" in the MSEL system amounts to N 0⁰11'45" W. This must be applied to the MSEL grid azimuth 349⁰51'04" from "Bleasdell" to "Riverside", which is not error free, (see MSEL Grid System, page 11).

$$349^{\circ}51'04" - 0^{\circ}11'45" = 349^{\circ}39'19.0"$$

3. The actual survey error is the convergence applied MSEL azimuth ("Bleasdell" to "Riverside"), minus the convergence corrected, EMGS error free azimuth ("Bleasdell" to "Riverside").

 $-349^{\circ}39'19.0" - 349^{\circ}38'44.5" = N0^{\circ}00'34.5" W.$

The correct MSEL grid convergence therefore =

 $N0^{0}11'45"$ W + $N0^{0}00'34.5"$ W = $N^{0}012'19.5"$ W or $359^{0}47'40.5$ True North Azimuth

In order to avoid further confusion on azimuths the True North azimuths have been calculated for each Elk River grid and baseline system and are listed below. In addition a "Grid/Baseline Orientation Diagram", see Figure 8.0, page 19, has been prepared which shows the correct True North azimuth for each system as it passes through GSC station "Bleasdell". The rotation angles between each system are also shown. These must be known in order to perform coordinate conversions from one system to the next. The True North azimuths for average strike, as used in the data base, and magnet north, for the year 1976, are also shown.

System	Bearing from True North	True North Azimuth		
MSEL	N 0 ⁰ 12'19.5" W	359⁰47' 40.5"		
Exploration Baseline	N 12 ⁰ 05'27.3" W	347 ⁰ 54'32.7"		
EMGS	N 1 ⁰ 34'30" E	1 ⁰ 34'30"		
Techman Baseline	N 21 ⁰ 27'37" W	338⁰32'2 3"		
Metric Mine Baseline	N 21 ⁰ 27'37" W	338 ⁰ 32123"		

An Alternative Metric Mine Baseline System (MBLS)

An alternative location for the metric Mine Baseline has been selected by Elco. It is recommended that it be located through the GSC station "Bleasdell" which is the "tie" point for the EMGS and the MSEL grid systems, see Map. 2.0, page 20, "Alternative Metric Mine Baseline". In order that all locations within the licence area have positive coordinate values, Elco further recommends that station "Bleasdell" be assigned metric Mine Baseline coordinate values of:

10 + 000 m North, 2 + 000 m East. This baseline system would have the same True North azimuth as the Techman Baseline System, 338⁰32'23", in order to maintain consistency with the Techman Alternative "D" mining plan and parallelism with structural strike. As shown on Map 2.0, the grid spacing is at 500 meter intervals in the



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19

-MAGNETIC NORTH (1976) •

_____ ____ FIGURE 8.0 TRUE NORTH AZIMUTH 0°00'00" 359° 47° 40.5" 347° 54° 32 7" <u>NOTES</u>: ELCO MINING LIMITED MAGNETIC DECLINATION 20° 56'(1976) DECREASING 4.0' WEST ANNUALLY ELK RIVER COAL PROJECT GRID/ BASELINE ORIENTATION DIAGRAM 340° 00' 00" 338° 32' 23 " **ALSO TECHMAN BASELINE 01*34'30" ATE MAY 1/79 BY: G. LAWRENCE 20* 56' 00" • DWG NO: CC-ER79-73733-23

north-south direction and 400 meter intervals in the east-west direction. This corresponds exactly with Elco's bench plan sheet size, 500 x 400 meters, at a 1:600 scale. For control purposes during construction and the later mine operations periods, either EDM* stations, or a baseline could be easily established along line 3 + 600 mE, between stations 1 + 400 mN and 1 + 800 mE. This portion of line 3 + 600 mE offers an excellent commanding view of the proposed plant and mine site area in the valley below and would closely parallel an existing access road located on or near the crest of the west flank ridge. There would be no risk of disturbance from construction and mining activities.

Coordinate Conversions

Coordinate conversions from one grid or baseline system to another grid or baseline system can be carried out when the following "tie" data between the systems is known:

- The equivalent coordinate values of each system for the "tie" station, e. g. MSEL and EMGS coordinates for station Bleasdell;
- 2. The True North azimuth of each system at the "tie" station;
- 3. The angle of rotation between the True North azimuths of each system.

MSEL - EMGS Coordinate Conversions

1. Tie Station: Mt. Bleasdell 2. MSEL Coordinates: 547,113.70 ft N, 58,370.30 ft E 3. EMGS Coordinates: 5,579,003.40 M N, 645,546.10 M E 359⁰47'40.5" 4. MSEL True North Azimuth: 1°34'30" 5. EMGS True North Azimuth: 1046'49.5" 6. Angle of Rotation: 7. MSEL to EMGS Coordinate Conversion: _____ft N, _____ft E, (a) MSEL coordinates

* - EDM: Electronic Distance Measuring

547.113.70 ft N. 58.370.30 ft. E. (b) Subtract: Convert to polar coordinates , $r \& \Theta$, (c) (d) Change "r" to meters, multiply by 0.3048, Rotate " θ " east (+) 1⁰46'49.5", (e) Convert to rectangular co-ordinates x & y, (f) (g) Add: 5,579,003.40 mN, 645,546.10 mE. 8. Inverse Conversion, EMGS to MSEL: (a) EMGS coordinates: : mN, mΕ, 5.579.003.40 mN. 645.546.10 mE. (b) Subtract Convert to polar coordinates, r & 0, (c) Change "r" to meters, divide by 0.3048, (d) Rotate "0" west (-)1⁰46'49.5", (e) Convert to rectangular coordinates, x & y, (f) (g) Add: 547,113.70 ft N, 58,370.30 ft. E.

Exploration Baseline - MSEL Coordinate Conversions

Tie Station: Station 0 + 00, Exploration Baseline Origin 1. 2. Exploration Baseline coordinates : 00.0 ft. N, 00.0 ft. E 542,197.0 ft. N, 71,117.3 ft. E 3. MSEL Coordinates: Exploration Baseline True North Azimuth: 347⁰54'32.7" 4. 359⁰47'40.5" 5. MSEL True North Azimuth: 11⁰53'07.8" 6. Angle of Rotation Exploration Baseline to MSEL Coordinate Conversion: 7. Exploration Baseline coordinates: ft N, ft E, (a) Convert to polar coordinates, $r \& \theta$, (b) Rotate "0" east (+) 11⁰53'07.8", (c) (d) Convert to rectangular coordinates x & y, Add: 542,197.0 ft. N, 71,117.3 ft. E. (e) 8. Inverse Conversion, MSEL to Exploration Baseline: MSEL coordinates _____ft. N, _____ft. E, (a) 542,197.0 ft. N, 71,117.3 ft. E, (b) Subtract: (c) Convert to polar coordinates $r \& \Theta$, Rotate " θ " west (-) 11⁰53'07.8". (d) Convert to rectangular coordinates x & y. (e)

Exploration Baseline - EMGS Coordinate Conversions

 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 	Tie Station: Station $0 + 00$, Exploration Baseline Origin Exploration Baseline Coordinates: 00.0 ft. N 00.0 ft. E EMGS Coordinates: 5,577,626.225 mN, 649,476.0703 mE Exploration Baseline North Azimuth: $347^{0}54'32.7''$ EMGS North Azimuth: $1^{0}34'30''$ Angle of Rotation: $13^{0}39'57.3''$ Exploration Baseline to EMGS Coordinate Conversion: (a) Exploration Baseline coordinate: ft N ft E
	 (a) Exploration baserine coordinates. It is in the coordinates of the coordinat
0	(T) Add: $5,577,020.225$ MM, $649,470.0703$ ME.
٥.	Inverse conversion, EMGS to Exploration Baseline:
EMGS	(a) EMGS coordinates mN, mE, (b) Subtract: 5,577,626.225 mN, 649,476.0703 mE, (c) Convert to polar coordinates, $r \& \theta$, (d) Change "r" to feet, divide by 0.3048, (e) Rotate " θ " west (-) 13 ⁰ 39'57.3", (f) Convert to rectangular coordinates, $x \& y$. - Elco Proposed Metric Mine Baseline (MBLS) Coordinate Conversions
<u>L1105</u>	
1.	Tie Station: Mt. Bleasdell
2.	EMGS Coordinates: 5,579,003.40 mN, 645,546.10 mE
3.	Metric Mine Baseline Coordinates: 10 + 000.00 mN, 2 + 0000.00 mE
4.	EMGS True North Azimuth: 10 34'30"
5.	MBLS True North Azimuty: 338° 32' 23"
6.	Angle of Rotation: 23°02'07"
7.	EMGS to Proposed MBLS Coordinate Conversion:
	(a) EMGS coordinates:mN,mE,
	(b) Subtract: 5,5/9,003.40 mN, 645,546,10 mE,
	(c) Convert to polar coordinates $r \& \Theta$,
	(d) Rotate " U " west (-) 23 ⁻ 02 ⁻ 0/"

(e) Convert to rectangular coordinates x & y,

(f) Add: 10 + 000.0 mN, 2 + 000.0 mE.

8. Inverse Conversion, Proposed MBLS to EMGS Coordinates:

- (a) MBLS coordinates: _____mN, ____mE,
- (b) Subtract: 10 + 000.0 mN, 2 + 000.0 mE,
- (c) Convert to polar coordinates, $r \& \theta$,
- (d) Rotate "θ" east (+) 23⁰02'07",
- (e) Convert to rectangular coordinates, x & y,
- (f) Add: 5,579,003.40 mN, 645,546.10 mE.

MSEL - Elco Proposed Metric Mine Baseline (MBLS) Coordinate Conversions

1. Tie Station: Mt. Bleasdell 2. MSEL Coordinates: 547,113.70 ft N, 58,370.30 ft. E 3. Metric Mine Baseline Coordinates: 10 + 000.00 mN, 2 + 000.00 mE 359⁰47'40.5" MSEL True North Azimuth: 4. MBLS True North Azimuth: 338⁰32'23" 5. 21015'17.5" 6. Angle of Rotation: 7. MSEL to Proposed MBLS Coordinate Conversion: (a) MSEL coordinates: (b) Subtract: 547,113.70 ft. N, 58,370.30 ft. E, (c) Convert to polar coordinates, $r \& \theta$, (d) Change "r" to meters, multiply by 0.3048, (e) Rotate "θ" west (-) 21⁰15'17.5". (f) Convert to rectangular coordinates, x & y, 10 + 000.0 mN, 2 + 000.mE.(g) Add: 9. Inverse Conversion, Proposed MBLS to MSEL Coordinates: (a) MBLS coordinates: mN mΕ, (b) Subtract: 10 + 000.00 mN, 2 + 000.00 mE,Convert to polar coordinates, $r \& \theta$, (c) Change "r" to feet, divide by 0.3048, (d) (e) Rotate " θ " east (+) 21⁰15'17.5", . . Convert to rectangular coordinates, x & y, (f) (q) Add: 547,113.70 ft. N, 58,370.30 ft. E.

Exploration Baseline - Elco Proposed Metric Mine Baseline (MBLS) Coordinate Conversions

- Tie Station: Mt. Bleasdell 1. 2. Exploration Baseline Coordinates (calculated): 74 + 36.614 ft. N, 114 + 61.096 ft. E Metric Mine Baseline Coordinates: 10 + 000.0 mN, 2 + 000.0 mE 3. Exploration Baseline True North Azimuth: 347054'32.7" 4. 338032'23" Metric Mine Baseline True North Azimuth: 5. 9⁰22'09.7" Angle of Rotation: 6. Exploration Baseline to Proposed MBLS Coordinate Conversion: 7. (a) Exploration Baseline Coordinates: ft. N, _____ ft. E, 74 + 36.614 ft. N. 114 + 61.09 ft. E. (b) Subtract: (c) Convert to polar coordinates, $r \& \theta$, (d) Change "r" to meters, multiply by 0.3048, (e) Rotate "0" west (-) 9⁰22'09.7". (f) Convert to rectangular coordinates, x & y, 10 + 000.0 mN, 2 + 000.0 mE. (g) Add: 8. Inverse Conversion, Proposed MBLS to Exploration Baseline Coordinates: (a) MBLS coordinates: _____mN, ___mE, 10 + 000.0 mN, 2 + 000.0 mE, (b) Subtract: (c) Convert to polar coordinates, $r \& \theta$, (d) Change "r" to feet, divide by 0.3048, (e) Rotate " θ " east (+) $9^{\circ}22'09.7"$,
 - (f) Convert to rectangular coordinates, x & y,
 - (g) Add: 74 + 36.614 ft. N, 114 + 61.096 ft. E.

Errors Identified to Date in the Existing Elco Mapping and Surveying Documentation

<u>Grid Convergence</u>: - All topographical maps that have been produced by Geomess to date are labelled with a grid convergence diagram that indicates the EMGS grid convergence to be $1^{0}38'$. This convergence angle has apparently been adopted from the local NTS map sheet, Mount Head (82J/7W) rather than using the convergence angle calculated for Mount Bleasdell, $1^{0}34'30"$. The NTS convergence angle, $1^{0}38'$, represents an approximate grid convergence at the centre of the NTS map sheet, which is located slightly to the east of the licence area, whereas, Mount Bleasdell, at $1^{0}34'30"$, is on the western edge of the licence area. Only the calculated convergence angle of $1^{0}34'30"$ should be used to show grid convergence on the licence area maps. There are two reasons for this:

- 1⁰34'30" is a more precise representation of EMGS convergence, and the total mapping area is not large enough to warrant more than one grid convergence adjustment.
- The calculated Mount Bleasdell convergence angle 1⁰34'30" is an integral component of the rotation angle between the EMGS and MSEL grids.

<u>Control Monuments for the EMGS</u>: - The Feasibility Report states that north orientation was established by the azimuth taken from Mount Bleasdell to Mount Weary. This is not correct; the published bearing from Mount Bleasell to Riverside was used to establish north orientation.

<u>Techman, Exploration and Metric Mine Baseline Azimuths</u>: - The Feasibility Report has used unreferenced azimuths for these baseline systems. These azimuths were considered to be referenced to True North, however, investigations have indicated that they were referenced to the EMGS Grid North. It is adviseable to use only True North referenced azimuths, but should other references be used, they should always be identified.

- The Feasibility Report also stated that the metric Mine Baseline was established parallel to the Techman Baseline. This is not exactly correct, when the azimuth quoted in the Feasibility Report for the Techman Baseline was changed to a True North referenced azimuth, a slight difference from the actual Techman Baseline True North azimuth was found. Elco's proposed Metric Mine Baseline has been oriented parallel to the Techman Baseline.

CONCLUSIONS

It is intended that this review of the various Elk River grid/baseline systems will serve as a reference for both present and future Elk River operations. It has been useful in identifying certain areas where either corrections were necessary and where data was not clearly defined. In time, it is expected that this review will have to be updated again.

The alternative Metric Mine Baseline System, as proposed by Elco, will take care of all future mine planning and operations control requirements. Since it has also been designed to be used as the layout control for the bench plans, it is recommended that this system be adopted as soon as possible.

Appendix 2.0

Appendix 3.0

-			_	SURVEY BY C. D. U.	JOB NO. 79-1	CLIENT	ELCO MINING LIMITED
				DRAWN BY DATE DEC, 17 th, 1979 APPROVED SCALE 1 : 50,000	DATE DEC. 17 th , 1979	PROJECT	ELK BIVER BROJECT
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NOTE: CO-ORDINATES BASED ON ELCO MINING GRID SYSTEM (EMGS) ORIGIN OF GRID AT MOUNT BLEASDELL WITH A VALUE OF 5,579,003.4 N. AND 645,546.10 E. GRID BEARINGS DERIVED FROM UTM AZIMUTH BLEASDELL TO RIVERSIDE OF 348°04'14" ALL DISTANCES REDUCED TO 1500 m DATUM ABOVE SEA LEVEL ELEVATIONS TO GEODETIC DATUM AND DERIVED FROM EXISTING TRIG STATION AND BENCH MARK RECORDS.

-				SURVEY BY JOB NO. C. D. U. 79 - 1 DRAWN BY DATE DEC. 17 th, 1979 APPROVED SCALE I : 50,000	JOB NO. 79-1	CLIENT	ELCO MINING LIMITED			
					DATE DEC. 17 th, 1979	PROJECT		C.P.		
						ELK RIVER PROJECT				
	BY	REVISION	APP'D.		I : 50,000	1				

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