

## **EXHIBIT 9: SURROUNDING SITE INFORMATION**

A brief description of project related Naughton plant surrounding scenic, historical, archeological and recreations locations, natural resources, plant and animal life, land reclamation, possible safety hazards, and plans for protecting the environment follows:

### **1. Historical Sites - National Historic Trails**

The Oregon, California, Mormon, and Pony Express National Historical Trails cross Lincoln County, Wyoming in an east-to-west direction. All of these trails cross the Overthrust Foothills Sub-region where the Naughton plant is located. The closest historical trails are located approximately 10 to 12 miles south and 12 to 15 miles north of the Naughton plant. Construction on the Naughton plant property will not impact any of these national historic trails.

### **2. Cultural**

There have been Native American campsites, lithic scatters, and secondary lithic procurement sites found in the Lincoln County, Wyoming area. Other sites that have been identified and inventoried include: burials, ceremonial stone alignments, rock art, rock shelters, ceramic-bearing sites, quarries and primary lithic procurement sites, hunting blinds, house pit features, and bison kill and butchering sites. The Naughton plant is located in the Overthrust Foothills Sub-region where a total of 705 Native American sites have been located within this large sub-region. Only 9 percent of the total 514,560 acres of this sub-region have been inventoried. Construction on the Naughton plant property is not expected to impact any of these cultural sites.

### **3. Historic Era Sites**

There are many historic era sites found in the Lincoln County, Wyoming area. They include emigrant trails, freight wagon and stagecoach trails, military camp and fort sites, early highway, early ranches and farms, stock-herding camps, irrigation systems, coal mines, early oil fields, railroads, bridges, historic landscapes, and urban dwellings. Again, the Naughton plant is located in the Overthrust Foothills Sub-region where a total of 460 Euro American or other historic sites have been found. Only 9 percent of the total 514,560 acres of this sub-region have been inventoried. Construction on the Naughton plant property is not expected to impact any of these historic era sites.

### **4. Paleontological**

Fossil Basin is the name of the area that surrounds the Fossil Butte National Monument. The Fossil Butte National Monument is an area which contains world renowned fossil resources, especially high quality vertebrate fossils, and is located approximately 10 to 12 miles north and west of the Naughton plant. Construction on the Naughton plant property is not expected to impact any unknown paleontological sites are located in the vicinity of the Naughton plant.

## **5. Recreational Locations**

There are many recreational opportunities in the vicinity of the Naughton plant. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered land, which is located around the Naughton plant, is managed as part of their multiple use philosophy. These recreational opportunities include sightseeing, touring, photography, wildlife viewing, floating, mountain biking, camping, fishing, hunting, and antler shed harvesting. There are also public parks and a golf course near Kemmerer and Diamondville. The Naughton Unit 3 Clearwater Pond, Viva Naughton Reservoir, Kemmerer City Reservoir, and Hams Fork River provide the public with fishing opportunities. The Pine Creek ski area is located near Cokeville that provides winter recreational opportunities. The closest recreational opportunity to the Naughton plant is fishing at the Naughton Unit 3 Clearwater Pond, which is located on PacifiCorp property. This plant process water pond has deteriorated as a fishery. Although the opportunity for the general public to utilize the land for the identified recreational opportunities exists, relatively few people take advantage because of the human development in the area. The general public has access to thousands of acres of public land in Lincoln County, Wyoming, and the surrounding counties, that are located remotely from human development and are more attractive.

## **6. Visual Resources**

The area in the vicinity of the Naughton plant is classified as Class III and Class IV Visual Resource areas, which are the lowest classifications because of the human modifications to the surrounding landscape. The four main visual resource classifications (I to IV) are based on scenic quality, visual sensitivity, and distance zones. The visual classes I to IV range from completely natural landscapes to landscapes containing extensive human modification.

## **7. Vegetation**

The sagebrush communities in the general area of the Naughton plant are dominated by Wyoming big sagebrush and mountain big sagebrush. This plant community is a shrub-steppe type, with Wyoming big sagebrush being the dominant shrub. In some cases, the Wyoming big sagebrush plant community occurs with patches of mixed grasses. Often, rolling landscapes, such as those around the Naughton plant, feature Wyoming big sagebrush dominating broad slopes, but with sand sagebrush or various cushion plants on wind-swept ridges and knolls with big sagebrush in the hollows. This vegetative type provides critical winter range for big game and is essential for greater sage-grouse and other sagebrush dependent species.

The desert shrub community comprises a mixture of shrub species that occur in dry saline habitats dominated by shad scale and salt brush, but can be a mixture of Gardner's salt brush, black greasewood, and desert cushion plants.

Greasewood fans and flats vegetative community is classified as greasewood fans and flats when 75 percent of the total shrub cover and where shrubs comprise more than 25 percent of

the vegetative cover are classified as greasewood fans and flats. This vegetation type often is found mixed with grasses and is generally found along streams at low to medium elevations, although it can occur on fine-textured saline upland areas and on basin fans and flats.

Special Status Species Plants: no threatened or endangered plant species are found in the vicinity of the Naughton plant. There are also no proposed or candidate species that have been listed in Wyoming. There are 8 BLM sensitive plant species and 17 rare plant species of concern that are tracked by the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database (WYNDD). A list of the 8 BLM sensitive plant species and the 17 rare plant species of concern follows:

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**Special Status Plant Species Known to or Potentially Occurring in the Kemmerer Area**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank <sup>1</sup>
<b>Federally Listed Plant Species</b>		
<i>Spiranthes diluvialis</i>	Ute ladies' tresses	Federally threatened
<b>BLM Sensitive Plant Species</b>		
<i>Astragalus recemosus</i> var. <i>treleasei</i>	Trelease's racemose milkvetch	G5T2/S1
<i>Lepidium integrifolium</i> var. <i>integrifolium</i>	Entire-leaved peppergrass	G2T1/S1
<i>Lesquerella macrocarpa</i>	Large-fruited bladderpod	GS/S2
<i>Lesquerella multiceps</i>	Western bladderpod	G3/S1
<i>Lesquerella prostrate</i>	Prostrate bladderpot	G3/S1
<i>Phlox pungens</i>	Beaver-rim phlox	G2/S2
<i>Physaria condensata</i>	Tufted twinpod	G2/S2
<i>Physaria domii</i>	Dom's twinpod	G1/S1
<b>WYNDO Plant Species of Concern</b>		
<i>Achnatherum swallenii</i>	Swallen mountain ricegrass	G5/S2
<i>Astragalus bisculcatus</i> var. <i>haydenianus</i>	Hayden's milkvetch	G5T5/S2
<i>Astragalus coltonii</i> var. <i>moabensis</i>	Moab milkvetch	G5T3/S2
<i>Astragalus lantiginosus</i> var. <i>selinus</i>	Sodaville milkvetch	G5T5//S2
<i>Atriplex falcate</i>	Sickle saltbush	G5/S1
<i>Chamae chaenactis scaposa</i>	Fullstem	G5/S1-2
<i>Downingia laeta</i>	Great Basin downingia	G5/S1
<i>Eriogonum devaricatum</i>	Divergent wild buckwheat	G5/S1

Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank <sup>1</sup>
<i>Lathyrus lenszwerti</i> var. <i>lanszwertii</i>	Nevada sweetpea	G5T5/S1
<i>Lesquerella parvula</i>	Narrow-leaved bladderpod	G5T3/S1
<i>Opuntia polyacantha</i> var. <i>juniparina</i>	Juniper prickly pear	G5T3/S1
<i>Opuntia polyacantha</i> var. <i>rufispina</i>	Rufous-spine prickly pear	G5T5/S2
<i>Penstemon scariosus</i> var. <i>garrettii</i>	Garrett's beardtongue	G5T3/S1
<i>Phacelia glandulosa</i> var. <i>deserta</i>	Desert glandular Phacelia	G5T1-2/S1
<i>Phlox albomarginata</i>	White-margined phlox	G5/S1
<i>Potentilla multisecta</i>	Deep creek cinquefoil	G3-4/S1
<i>Silene douglasii</i>	Douglas' campion	G5/S1

Sources: BLM 2003a Kenath et al. 2003

<sup>1</sup>The WYNDD utilizes a standardized ranking system developed by The Nature Conservancy's Natural Heritage Network to assess the global and statewide conservation status of each plant and animal species, subspecies, and variety. Each taxon is ranked on a scale of 1-5, from highest conservation concern to lowest. Codes are as follows:

- G Global rank: Rank refers to the range wide status of a species.
- T Trinomial rank: Rank refers to the range wide status of a species or variety.
- S State rank: Rank refers to the status of the taxon (species or subspecies) in Wyoming. State ranks differ from state to state.
- 1 Critically imperiled because of extreme rarity (often known from 5 or fewer extant occurrences or very few remaining individuals) or because some factor of a species' life history makes it vulnerable to extinction.
- 2 Imperiled because of rarity (often known from 6 to 20 occurrences) or because of factors demonstrably making a species vulnerable to extinction.
- 3 Rare or local throughout its range or found locally in a restricted range (usually known from 21 to 100 occurrences).
- 4 Apparently secure, although the species may be quite rare in its range, especially at the periphery.
- 5 Demonstrably secure, although the species may be rare in parts of its range, especially at the periphery.
- 6 Ute ladies-tresses are not known to occur in the planning area; however, potential habitat does occur in the planning area.

BLM Bureau of Land Management

WYNCC Wyoming Natural Diversity Database

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## 8. Animal Life

Overview: the area where the Naughton plant is located is classified as the eco-region of the Southern Rocky Mountain and the Intermountain semi-desert provinces. The wildlife and habitats within this area is representative of northern Great Basin flora and fauna. There are 2 big game species that are found near the Naughton plant, which are the mule deer and the pronghorn antelope. The area where the Naughton plant is located is considered a critical winter habitat for both big game species. There are furbearing animals that are found near the Naughton plant, which include the badger, bobcat, and long-tailed weasel. There are several predatory animals found in the area including the coyote, jackrabbit, red fox, raccoon and skunk. The primary small game specie found in the area is the cottontail rabbit. Game birds found in this area include the sage-grouse, chucker, and the Hungarian partridge. The raptor species found in this area include eagles, hawks, owls, falcons, vultures, Swainson's hawk, ferruginous hawk, red-tailed hawk, northern harrier, golden eagle, prairie falcon, American kestrel, and great-horned owl. There are numerous shrew, bat, squirrel, gopher species found in the area. The larger sagebrush habitats support the sage thrasher, Brewer's sparrow, and the sage sparrow.

Special Status Species Animals: there are 2 threatened or endangered animal species found in southwestern Wyoming. They are the black-footed ferret (endangered) and the Canada Lynx (threatened). The yell-billed cuckoo is the only candidate species that may be found in southwestern Wyoming. There are 2 species that have been delisted from threatened status in 2007. They are the grizzly bear and bald eagle, but they are still listed as a BLM sensitive species. The gray wolf was delisted, but is still considered BLM sensitive. There are 24 species that may occur or have suitable habitat in southwestern Wyoming that are considered sensitive by the BLM. No critical habitat for threatened or endangered animals occurs in the vicinity of the Naughton plant. A complete list of the 8 BLM special status wildlife species follows:

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**Special Status Wildlife Species Occurring or Potentially Occurring in the Kemmerer Area**

Common Name	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat
<b>Trophy Game</b>		
Grizzly bear	Sensitive, NSS3	Montane forests
<b>Furbearing Animals</b>		
Canada lynx	Threatened, NSS1	Montane forests
<b>Predatory Animals</b>		
Gray wolf	Sensitive	Greater Yellowstone ecosystem
<b>Game Birds</b>		
Greater sage-grouse	Sensitive, NSS2	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain-foothill shrub
<b>Nongame (Raptors)</b>		
Bald Eagle	Sensitive, NSS2	Cottonwood riparian, mixed coniferous forests near large lakes and rivers
Northern goshawk	Sensitive, NSS4	Conifer and deciduous forests
Ferruginous hawk	Sensitive, NSS3	Basin-prairie shrub, grassland, rock outcrops
Peregrine falcon	Sensitive, NSS3	Tall cliffs
Burrowing owl	Sensitive, NSS4	Grassland, basin-prairie shrub
<b>Nongame (Neotropical) Migrants</b>		
White-faced ibis	Sensitive, NSS3	Marshes, wet meadows
Trumpeter swan	Sensitive, NSS2	Lakes, ponds, rivers
Long-billed curlew	Sensitive, NSS3	Grassland, plains, foothills, wet meadows
Yellow-billed cuckoo	Candidate, NSS2	Riparian areas west of the Continental Divide, open woodlands, streamside willow, and alder groves
Mountain plover	Sensitive	Shortgrass prairies and shrubsteppe; prefers areas with little vegetative cover, such as prairie dog towns (USFWS 2003)
Loggerhead shrike	Sensitive	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain-foothill shrub
Sage thrasher	Sensitive, NSS4	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain-foothill shrub
Brewer's sparrow	Sensitive, NSS4	Basin-prairie shrub
Sage sparrow	Sensitive, NSS4	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain-foothill shrub

Pygmy rabbit	Sensitive, NSS3	Basin-prairie and riparian shrub
White-tailed prairie dig	Sensitive, NSS3	Basin-prairie shrub, grasslands
Idaho pocket gopher	Sensitive, NSS3	Shallow stony soils
Black-footed ferret	Endangered, NSS1	Prairie dog towns

<b>Nongame (Amphibians)</b>		
Northern leopard frog	Sensitive, NSS4	Beaver ponds, permanent water in plains and foothills
Great Basin spadefoot	Sensitive, NSS4	Sagebrush communities, spring seeps, permanent and temporary waters
Boreal toad	Sensitive, NSS2	Pond margins, wet meadows, riparian areas
Spotted frog	Sensitive, NSS4	Ponds, sloughs, small streams
Tiger salamander	NSS4	Slow moving streams, pools, ponds, wet meadows, and lakes

**Sources: USFWS 2004; BLM 2002c**

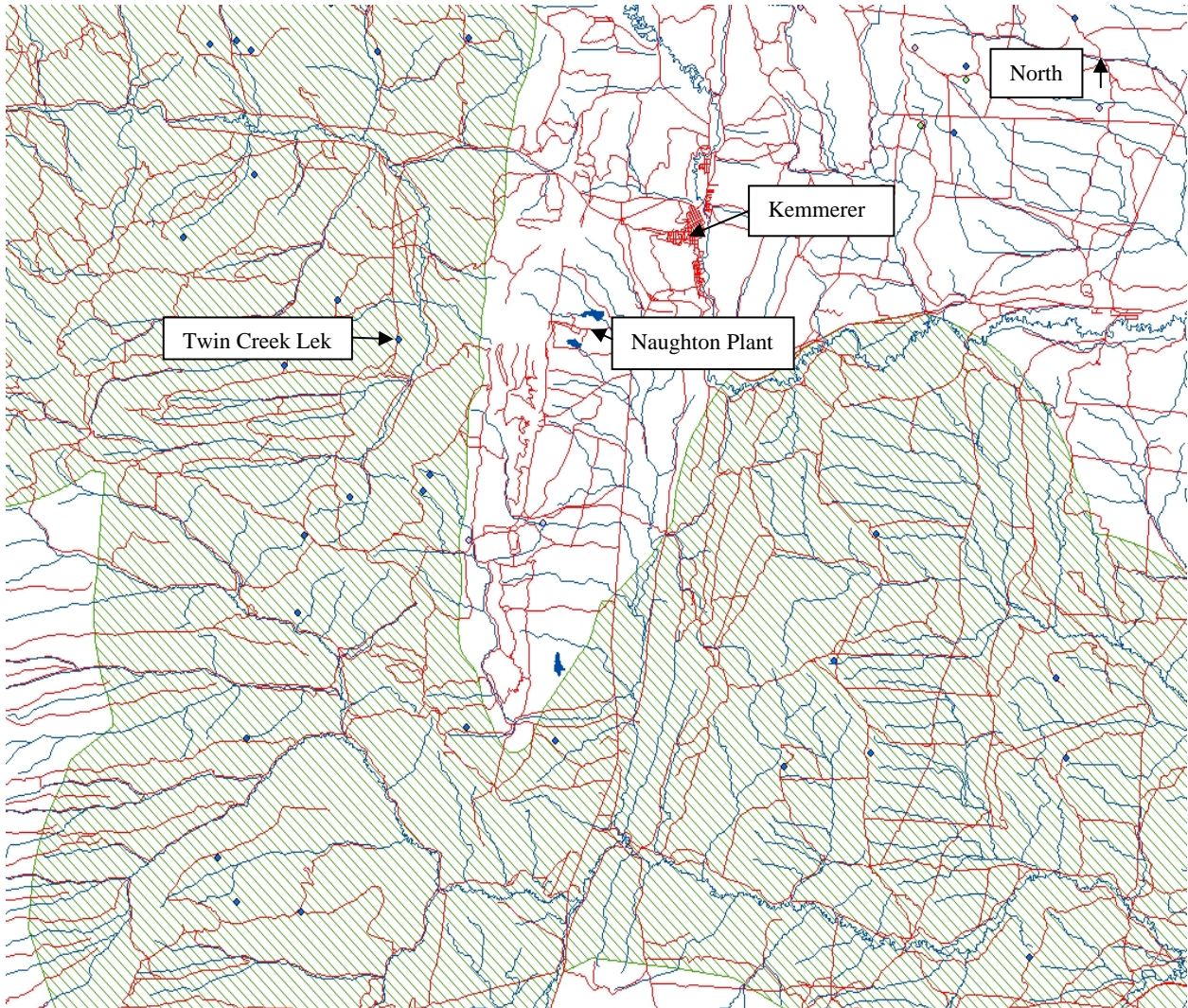
<sup>1</sup>Status: Sensitive – BLM Sensitive Species: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed Candidate – in accordance with the ESA. State-listed definitions (NSS1 through NSS4 are now identified by WGFD as species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) :

NSS1 – Native Species Status 1	Populations are greatly restricted or declining, extirpation appears possible OR on-going significant loss of habitat.
NSS2 – Native Species Status 2	Populations are declining, extirpation appears possible; habitat is restricted or vulnerable, but no recent or ongoing significant loss; species may be sensitive to human disturbance <b>-OR-</b> Populations are declining or restricted in numbers and (or) distribution, extirpation is not imminent; ongoing significant loss of habitat.
NSS3 – Native Species Status 3	Populations are greatly restricted or declining, extirpation appears possible; habitat is not restricted, vulnerable, but no loss; species is not sensitive to human disturbance <b>-OR-</b> Populations are declining or restricted in numbers and (or) distribution, extirpation is not imminent; habitat is restricted or vulnerable, but no recent or ongoing significant loss; species may be sensitive to human disturbance. <b>-OR-</b> Species is widely distributed; population status or trends are unknown, but are suspected to be stable; ongoing significant loss of habitat.

NSS4 – Native Species Status 4	Populations are greatly restricted or declining, extirpation appears possible; habitat is stable and not restricted, <b>-OR-</b> Populations are declining or restricted in numbers and (or) distribution, extirpation is not imminent, habitat is not restricted, vulnerable, but no loss; species is not sensitive to human disturbance, <b>-OR-</b> Species is widely distributed, population status or trends are unknown but are suspected to be stable; habitat is restricted or vulnerable, not no recent or ongoing significant loss; species may be sensitive to human disturbance; <b>-OR-</b> Populations are stable or increasing and not restricted in numbers and (or) distribution; ongoing significant loss of habitat.
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The greater sage-grouse is considered a BLM sensitive species because of declining populations throughout Wyoming. In 2005, the US Fish and Wildlife Service determined that listing the greater sage-grouse was not warranted at that time, but the State of Wyoming has developed a specific management plan for this species.

*Kemmerer Area Greater Sage-Grouse Core Area and Leks* - The following map obtained from the Wildlife Management Coordinator, Green River Region, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, represents the Kemmerer area greater sage-grouse Core Area and leks.



The Twin Creek Lek is the closest sage-grouse asset and is approximately 4.5 miles from the boundary of the Naughton plant. The Kemmerer area greater sage-grouse Core Area is hatched on the map above and the Naughton plant is outside the Core Area.

## 9. Mineral Resources

Wyoming is known for mineral resources including bentonite, oil and gas, coal, sodium (trona), phosphate, and oil shale. The Naughton plant is located in an area that is open for oil and gas leasing, but has a low to moderate potential of economically viable production. The area immediately to the northwest, west, and southwest of the Naughton plant has been identified as having economically viable coal resources. The Chevron Mining Kemmerer Coal Mine is located immediately west of the Naughton plant and supplies coal to the Naughton plant and to other markets.

## 10. Land Reclamation

At the completion of the construction activities, all temporarily disturbed work areas associated with this project(s) will be restored.

## 11. Possible Safety Hazards

Potential safety issues include transportation and traffic hazards, site access, construction, safe work practices, security, heavy equipment transportation, traffic management, emergency procedures, and fire control.

The following project specific safety and environmental controls are planned:

### *PacifiCorp Safety Plan*

The PacifiCorp Safety Plan will be established in conformity with the template EPC contract Exhibit J, which is available if requested.

### *Contractor's Site Specific Safety Plan(s)*

Each on-site contractor will be expected to develop, publish and orchestrate a site and project specific safety plan conforming to 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1910 and 1926. The plans will include the following features:

- Leadership and management
- Personal protective equipment
- Housekeeping
- Inspection
- Emergency response planning
- Site specific conditions
- Proactive programs
- Training

- Health procedures
- Meetings
- Accident reports
- First aid
- Fire protection
- Area emergency resources
- Barricades
- Rigging and cranes
- Traffic control
- Scaffolding
- Applicable attachments

The contractor's site safety plans will be reviewed and approved by the Owner's Engineer and the project team.

*Plans to Protect the Environment*

Each on-site contractor will be expected to develop, publish components and orchestrate a site and project specific environmental protection safety plan. The plans will include the following features:

- Chemicals and material safety data sheets (MSDS)
- Spill prevention, reduction and countermeasures
- Secondary containment
- Fugitive dust management
- Hazardous materials abatement, including asbestos, lead paint, oil
- Proactive programs
- Waste disposal