Fact Sheet – Proposed Perol Reservoir

Conga Project’s Water Management Plan

The Conga Project’s extensive water management plan includes constructing four engineered reservoirs. In May 2013, construction on the first reservoir – Chailhuagon – was completed, providing downstream communities with 2.6 million cubic meters (m³) of water storage capacity, more than doubling the capacity of Chailhuagon lake.

The four reservoirs will more than quadruple the water storage capacity of the existing lakes in the Conga Project area. In addition, they will significantly improve the provisioning of water to downstream communities since flows from the reservoirs will have engineered outlets that provide for the controlled and safe release of water, year-round. Water flow to downstream users currently is limited to only certain times of the year due to the six-month dry season.

Perol Reservoir

The proposed Perol reservoir will have the same capacity – 800,000 m³ – as Perol lake and will be located approximately 1 km from the lake’s current location and proposed mining operations (see map). Also planned for the same basin is a 566,000 m³ sediment control structure to manage and maintain water quality. Construction of the reservoir and transfer of the water from Perol lake to the new reservoir is contingent upon securing the appropriate permits following an intensive public involvement process.

Engineered outlets will ensure steady water flow from the reservoir to downstream communities. In the rainy season, the reservoir collects water from the Chirimayo basin. During the six-month dry season, water from the reservoir will be released to downstream users.

Construction of the Perol reservoir and the associated sediment pond is part of the Conga Project’s “water first” approach. Continued development of reservoirs and construction of the mining project itself will only continue if they can be done in a safe, socially and environmentally responsible manner with risk-adjusted returns that justify future investment.

Perol Reservoir Facts (once construction is complete)

- Capacity: 800,000 m³
- Sediment Control: 566,000 m³
- Surface Area: 6.8 hectares
- Maximum Depth: 29.3 m
- Applicable Water Quality Standards: ECA 3 for agriculture
- Uses: Irrigation, water supply
- Expected Construction Start Date: Construction will not begin until all necessary permits are secured and public involvement process is complete.
- Estimated Total Cost to Build: USD $25 million
- Local Employment for Reservoir Construction:
  - 75 percent of contracted work will be to local contractors
  - 85 percent of contract employees will be from the Cajamarca region

Map showing proposed Perol reservoir/dam (dique) proximity to Perol lake (laguna)

Left: Site for proposed Perol Reservoir
Right: Access road and sediment control works at proposed Perol Reservoir site