



NETL Life Cycle Inventory Data

Process Documentation File

Section II: Process Description

Associated Documentation

This unit process is composed of this document and the data sheet (DS) *DS_Stage1_C_Electric_Shovel_120_Tons_Payload_2010.01.xls*, which provides additional details regarding relevant calculations, data quality, and references.

Goal and Scope

The scope of this unit process covers the materials required for the construction of a single, 120 short ton payload electric shovel needed to haul overburden to a stockpile and to extract coal and load it into a truck at a large surface coal mine, as described below. The electric shovel is assumed to be composed entirely of steel plate. This process is based on the reference flow of 1 piece of electric shovel, as described below and shown in **Figure 1**.

This unit process is used under Life Cycle (LC) Stage #1 to assist in the movement of overburden and the extraction of coal from the coal mine. It is combined with other relevant equipment for LC Stage #1 in a separate construction assembly process, *DF_Stage1_C_Assembly_PRB_Surface_Coal_Mine_2010.01.doc*. The assembly process quantifies the fraction of each piece of equipment needed under LC Stage #1 to produce 1 kg of coal.

Boundary and Description

The total weight for one electric shovel was estimated to be 1,365,728 kg (3,011,000 lbs). This figure represents manufacturer specifications for the working weight of an electric shovel (Bucyrus 2008). The total weight of an electric shovel was readily available from published sources, but only minimal data for the material breakdown of shovel subcomponents were found. Therefore, the electric shovel was assumed to be composed entirely of steel plate, according to the amount indicated above.

Figure 1 provides an overview of the boundary of this unit process. Emissions related to the physical assembly of the electric shovel (e.g., emitted while assembling the components of a shovel, including transport of those components) are not considered in this study. Upstream emissions from the production of raw materials used for the construction of the electric shovel (e.g., steel plate) are calculated outside of the boundary of this unit process, based on proprietary profiles available within the GaBi model. As shown in Figure 1 and discussed above, the electric shovel constructed in this unit process is incorporated into the assembly process for removal of overburden and the acquisition of surface-mined Powder River Basin sub-bituminous coal under LC Stage #1.

Table 1 summarizes the relevant properties and assumptions used to calculate the amount of steel plate contained in a single electric shovel. **Table 2** provides a summary of modeled input and output flows. Additional detail regarding input and output flows, including calculation methods, is contained in the associated DS.

Figure 1: Unit Process Scope and Boundary

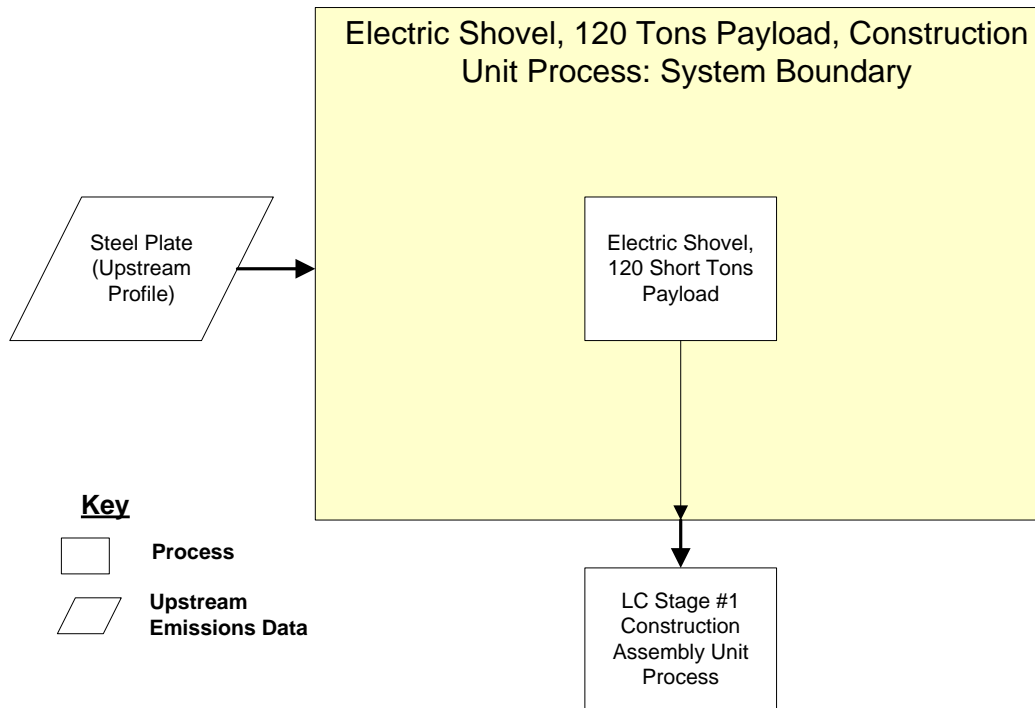


Table 1: Properties of a Single Electric Shovel

Material Composition and Weights		
Material	Weight	Reference
Average Weight of 1 Electric Shovel, kg (lbs)	1,365,728 (3,011,000)	Bucyrus 2008
Steel Plate, kg (lbs)	1,365,728 (3,011,000)	NETL Engineering Calculation

Table 2: Unit Process Input and Output Flows

Flow Name*	Value	Units (Per Reference Flow)
Inputs		
Steel Plate, BF (85% Recovery Rate) [Metals]	1,365,728.00	kg
Outputs		
Electric Shovel, 120 Tons Payload [Installation]	1	pcs

* **Bold face** clarifies that the value shown *does not* include upstream environmental flows. Upstream environmental flows were added during the modeling process using GaBi modeling software, as shown in Figure 1.

Embedded Unit Processes

None.

References

Bucyrus 2008
Bucyrus International. 2008. *Electric Mining Shovels: The range*. Bucyrus International.
<http://www.bucyrus.com/media/23533/shovels%20trifold%200105.pdf> (Accessed December 18, 2009).

Section III: Document Control Information

Date Created: February 15, 2009
Point of Contact: Timothy Skone (NETL), Timothy.Skone@NETL.DOE.GOV
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