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Return of Private Foundation
or Section 4947(a)(1) Nonexempt Charitable Trust
Treated as a Private Foundation

Note. The foundation may be able to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

2011

For calendar year 2011 or tax year beginning

, and ending

Name of foundation NICKEL PRODUCERS ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, INC.		A Employer identification number 13-3070077
Number and street (or P O box number if mail is not delivered to street address) 2525 MERIDIAN PARKWAY	Room/suite 240	B Telephone number 919-595-1950
City or town, state, and ZIP code DURHAM, NC 27713		C If exemption application is pending, check here <input type="checkbox"/>
G Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Final return <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return of a former public charity <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Name change		D 1. Foreign organizations, check here <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation <input type="checkbox"/>
H Check type of organization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust <input type="checkbox"/> Other taxable private foundation		E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here <input type="checkbox"/>
I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, col (c), line 16) \$ 588,686.	J Accounting method: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____	F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here <input type="checkbox"/>

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses (The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a).)		(a) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received		3,339,700.		N/A	
2 Check <input type="checkbox"/> if the foundation is not required to attach Sch B					
3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments		75.	75.		STATEMENT 1
4 Dividends and interest from securities					
5a Gross rents					
b Net rental income or (loss)					
6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10					
b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a					
7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)			0.		
8 Net short-term capital gain					
9 Income modifications					
10a Gross sales less returns and allowances					
b Less Cost of goods sold					
c Gross profit or (loss)					
11 Other income		<19,921.>	0.		STATEMENT 2
12 Total. Add lines 1 through 11		3,319,854.	75.		
13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc		297,854.	0.		0.
14 Other employee salaries and wages		516,269.	0.		0.
15 Pension plans, employee benefits		389,799.	0.		0.
16a Legal fees					
b Accounting fees STMT 3		10,850.	0.		0.
c Other professional fees STMT 4		51,015.	0.		0.
17 Interest					
18 Taxes					
19 Depreciation and depletion		24,943.	0.		
20 Occupancy		58,263.	0.		0.
21 Travel, conferences, and meetings		281,080.	0.		0.
22 Printing and publications					
23 Other expenses STMT 5		233,135.	1,372.		0.
24 Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23		1,863,208.	1,372.		0.
25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid		1,355,652.			1,376,021.
26 Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25		3,218,860.	1,372.		1,376,021.
27 Subtract line 26 from line 12:					
a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements		100,994.			
b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)			0.		
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)				N/A	

**NICKEL PRODUCERS ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, INC.**

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Part II Balance Sheets <small>Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only</small>		Beginning of year	End of year		
		(a) Book Value	(b) Book Value	(c) Fair Market Value	
Assets	1 Cash - non-interest-bearing				
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	323,756.	433,056.	433,056.	
	3 Accounts receivable ▶ 175,866.				
	Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶	243,137.	175,866.		
	4 Pledges receivable ▶				
	Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	5 Grants receivable				
	6 Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons				
	7 Other notes and loans receivable ▶				
	Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	8 Inventories for sale or use				
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges				
	10a Investments - U.S. and state government obligations				
	b Investments - corporate stock				
	c Investments - corporate bonds				
	11 Investments - land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶				
	Less accumulated depreciation ▶				
	12 Investments - mortgage loans				
	13 Investments - other				
	14 Land, buildings, and equipment: basis ▶ 155,630.				
	Less accumulated depreciation STMT 6 ▶ 63,584.	9,661.	92,046.	155,630.	
	15 Other assets (describe ▶ STATEMENT 7)	40,929.	29,415.	0.	
	16 Total assets (to be completed by all filers)	617,483.	730,383.	588,686.	
	Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	48,872.	71,227.	
		18 Grants payable	893,212.	861,842.	
19 Deferred revenue			6,234.		
20 Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons					
21 Mortgages and other notes payable					
22 Other liabilities (describe ▶ STATEMENT 8)		107,896.	122,583.		
23 Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)		1,049,980.	1,061,886.		
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Foundations that follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 24 through 26 and lines 30 and 31.				
	24 Unrestricted	<432,497.>	<331,503.>		
	25 Temporarily restricted				
	26 Permanently restricted				
	Foundations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 31.				
	27 Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds				
	28 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg., and equipment fund				
	29 Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds				
	30 Total net assets or fund balances	<432,497.>	<331,503.>		
	31 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	617,483.	730,383.		

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances

1 Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year - Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	1	<432,497.>
2 Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	2	100,994.
3 Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	3	0.
4 Add lines 1, 2, and 3	4	<331,503.>
5 Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	5	0.
6 Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5) - Part II, column (b), line 30	6	<331,503.>

Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e.g., real estate, 2-story brick warehouse; or common stock, 200 shs. MLC Co.)	(b) How acquired P - Purchase D - Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo., day, yr.)	(d) Date sold (mo., day, yr.)
1a			
b NONE			
c			
d			
e			

(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) (e) plus (f) minus (g)
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69			(i) Gains (Col. (h) gain minus col. (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col. (h))
(i) F.M.V. as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col. (i) over col. (j), if any	
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss)	{ If gain, also enter in Part I, line 7 If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 7 }	2
3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6): If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c). If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8	{ }	3

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income.)

If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank.

Was the foundation liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes," the foundation does not qualify under section 4940(e). Do not complete this part.

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year; see instructions before making any entries.

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col. (b) divided by col. (c))
2010			
2009			
2008			
2007			
2006			

2 Total of line 1, column (d)	2
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period - divide the total on line 2 by 5, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years	3
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2011 from Part X, line 5	4
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3	5
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)	6
7 Add lines 5 and 6	7
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate. See the Part VI instructions.	8

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Part VI Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948 - see instructions)

1a Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter "N/A" on line 1. Date of ruling or determination letter: _____ (attach copy of letter if necessary-see instructions)			
b Domestic foundations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b		1	0.
c All other domestic foundations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col. (b).			
2 Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)		2	0.
3 Add lines 1 and 2		3	0.
4 Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)		4	0.
5 Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-		5	0.
6 Credits/Payments:			
a 2011 estimated tax payments and 2010 overpayment credited to 2011	6a		
b Exempt foreign organizations - tax withheld at source	6b		
c Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c		
d Backup withholding erroneously withheld	6d		
7 Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d	7		0.
8 Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if Form 2220 is attached	8		
9 Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed	9		0.
10 Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid	10		
11 Enter the amount of line 10 to be: Credited to 2012 estimated tax <input type="checkbox"/> Refunded <input type="checkbox"/>	11		

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1a During the tax year, did the foundation attempt to influence any national, state, or local legislation or did it participate or intervene in any political campaign?		X
b Did it spend more than \$100 during the year (either directly or indirectly) for political purposes (see instructions for definition)? <i>If the answer is "Yes" to 1a or 1b, attach a detailed description of the activities and copies of any materials published or distributed by the foundation in connection with the activities.</i>		X
c Did the foundation file Form 1120-POL for this year?		X
d Enter the amount (if any) of tax on political expenditures (section 4955) imposed during the year: (1) On the foundation. <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 0. (2) On foundation managers. <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 0.		
e Enter the reimbursement (if any) paid by the foundation during the year for political expenditure tax imposed on foundation managers. <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 0.		
2 Has the foundation engaged in any activities that have not previously been reported to the IRS? <i>If "Yes," attach a detailed description of the activities.</i>		X
3 Has the foundation made any changes, not previously reported to the IRS, in its governing instrument, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, or other similar instruments? <i>If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes</i>		X
4a Did the foundation have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		X
b If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?		
5 Was there a liquidation, termination, dissolution, or substantial contraction during the year? <i>If "Yes," attach the statement required by General Instruction T.</i>		X
6 Are the requirements of section 508(e) (relating to sections 4941 through 4945) satisfied either: • By language in the governing instrument, or • By state legislation that effectively amends the governing instrument so that no mandatory directions that conflict with the state law remain in the governing instrument?	X	
7 Did the foundation have at least \$5,000 in assets at any time during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Part II, col. (c), and Part XV</i>	X	
8a Enter the states to which the foundation reports or with which it is registered (see instructions) <input type="checkbox"/> NY		
b If the answer is "Yes" to line 7, has the foundation furnished a copy of Form 990-PF to the Attorney General (or designate) of each state as required by General Instruction G? <i>If "No," attach explanation</i>	X	
9 Is the foundation claiming status as a private operating foundation within the meaning of section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5) for calendar year 2011 or the taxable year beginning in 2011 (see instructions for Part XIV)? <i>If "Yes," complete Part XIV</i>		X
10 Did any persons become substantial contributors during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," attach a schedule listing their names and addresses</i>		X

N/A

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Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities (continued)

11	At any time during the year, did the foundation, directly or indirectly, own a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," attach schedule (see instructions)	11		X
12	Did the foundation make a distribution to a donor advised fund over which the foundation or a disqualified person had advisory privileges? If "Yes," attach statement (see instructions)	12		X
13	Did the foundation comply with the public inspection requirements for its annual returns and exemption application? Website address ► WWW.NIPERA.ORG	13	X	
14	The books are in care of ► SCHUETZ CPA, PLLC Telephone no. ► 919-595-1947 Located at ► 2525 MERIDIAN PARKWAY, STE 240, DURHAM, NC ZIP+4 ► 27713			
15	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year	15	N/A	
16	At any time during calendar year 2011, did the foundation have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a bank, securities, or other financial account in a foreign country? See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1. If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ►	16	Yes	No X

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.

	Yes	No
1a During the year did the foundation (either directly or indirectly):		
(1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
(2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
(3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
(4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
(5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
(6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official? (Exception Check "No" if the foundation agreed to make a grant to or to employ the official for a period after termination of government service, if terminating within 90 days.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
b If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)-(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see instructions)? Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here	N/A	1b
c Did the foundation engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2011?		1c X
2 Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the foundation was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)):		
a At the end of tax year 2011, did the foundation have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2011? If "Yes," list the years ►	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
b Are there any years listed in 2a for which the foundation is not applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income? (If applying section 4942(a)(2) to all years listed, answer "No" and attach statement - see instructions.)	N/A	2b
c If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to any of the years listed in 2a, list the years here. ►		
3a Did the foundation hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
b If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2011 as a result of (1) any purchase by the foundation or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969; (2) the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest; or (3) the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine if the foundation had excess business holdings in 2011)	N/A	3b
4a Did the foundation invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes?		4a X
b Did the foundation make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2011?		4b X

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Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required (continued)

5a During the year did the foundation pay or incur any amount to:

- (1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- (2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955); or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- (3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- (4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc., organization described in section 509(a)(1), (2), or (3), or section 4940(d)(2)? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- (5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals? ☐ Yes ☒ No

b If any answer is "Yes" to 5a(1)-(5), did **any** of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see instructions)?

Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here ▶ ☐

c If the answer is "Yes" to question 5a(4), does the foundation claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant?

SEE STATEMENT 9

☒ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes," attach the statement required by Regulations section 53.4945-5(d).

6a Did the foundation, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?

☐ Yes ☒ No

b Did the foundation, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?

If "Yes" to 6b, file Form 8870

7a At any time during the tax year, was the foundation a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?

☐ Yes ☒ No

b If "Yes," did the foundation receive any proceeds or have any net income attributable to the transaction?

N/A

5b

X

6b

X

7b

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors

1 List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation.

(a) Name and address	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
HUDSON BATES	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR			
2605 MERIDIAN PARKWAY, SUITE 121	40.00	297,854.	31,530.	0.
DURHAM, NC 27713				
VICTOR KERCHENKO	TREASURER			
2605 MERIDIAN PARKWAY, SUITE 121	1.25	0.	0.	0.
DURHAM, NC 27713				
DAVID BUTLER	SECRETARY			
2605 MERIDIAN PARKWAY, SUITE 121	1.25	0.	0.	0.
DURHAM, NC 27713				
KEVIN BRADLEY	CHAIRMAN			
2605 MERIDIAN PARKWAY, SUITE 121	1.25	0.	0.	0.
DURHAM, NC 27713				

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$50,000	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
ADRIANA R OLLER				
10 WYNMORE DR, DURHAM, NC 27713	40.00	199,066.	26,680.	0.
CHRISTIAN E. SCHLEKAT				
10 MONTCREST DRIVE, DURHAM, NC 27713	40.00	163,004.	23,581.	0.
RAYETTA G. HENDERSON				
2 RHYGATE CT, DURHAM, NC 27713	40.00	123,825.	19,772.	0.
EMILY C. ROGEVICH - 9210 BOTHWELL ST				
APT 30, RALEIGH, NC 27617	40.00	97,870.	15,242.	0.
TARA LYONS-DARDEN				
600 LONG COVE CT, CLAYTON, NC 27527	40.00	79,424.	23,568.	0.
Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000				0

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**NICKEL PRODUCERS ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors (continued)

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services. If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
HAMNER INSTITUTES FOR HEALTH SCIENCE - 6 DAVIS DRIVE, RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709	RESEARCH	360,000.
FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR MOLECULAR BIOLOGY FORCKENBECKSTRABE 6, AACHEN, GERMANY 52074	RESEARCH	238,230.
DEPT. OF INTERIOR- US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY 12201 SUNRISE VALLEY DR, RESTON, VA 20192	RESEARCH	125,846.
WCA ENVIRONMENT LIMITED - BRUNEL HOUSE, VOLUNTEER WAY, FARINDON, OXFORDSHIRE, UNITED	RESEARCH	93,165.

Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services

0

Part IX-A Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc.

	Expenses
1 GRANT 2008-21 US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY - STATEMENT 15	
	92,284.
2 GRANT 2011-04 MODE OF ACTION NI STUDIES - STATEMENT 14	
	360,000.
3 GRANT 2009-18 NI MICROCOSM STUDY - STATEMENT 13	
	213,317.
4 GRANT 2010-08 ACUTE ECOTOXICITY TESTING - STATEMENT 16	
	61,230.

Part IX-B Summary of Program-Related Investments

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2.

	Amount
1 N/A	
2	
3 All other program-related investments. See instructions.	
Total. Add lines 1 through 3	0.

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**NICKEL PRODUCERS ENVIRONMENTAL
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Part X Minimum Investment Return (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see instructions.)

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes:		
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a	0.
b	Average of monthly cash balances	1b	378,406.
c	Fair market value of all other assets	1c	
d	Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d	378,406.
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation)	1e	0.
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2	0.
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	378,406.
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1 1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)	4	5,676.
5	Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5	372,730.
6	Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5	6	18,637.

Part XI Distributable Amount (see instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations check here ☐ and do not complete this part.)

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6	1	18,637.
2a	Tax on investment income for 2011 from Part VI, line 5	2a	
b	Income tax for 2011. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2b	
c	Add lines 2a and 2b	2c	0.
3	Distributable amount before adjustments. Subtract line 2c from line 1	3	18,637.
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions	4	0.
5	Add lines 3 and 4	5	18,637.
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see instructions)	6	0.
7	Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1	7	18,637.

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes:		
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc. - total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a	1,376,021.
b	Program-related investments - total from Part IX-B	1b	0.
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2	
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the:		
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a	
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b	
4	Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4	1,376,021.
5	Foundations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b	5	0.
6	Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4	6	1,376,021.

Note. The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years.

**NICKEL PRODUCERS ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Form 990-PF (2011)

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Part XIII Undistributed Income (see instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2010	(c) 2010	(d) 2011
1 Distributable amount for 2011 from Part XI, line 7				18,637.
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2011				
a Enter amount for 2010 only			0.	
b Total for prior years:		0.		
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2011:				
a From 2006	1,641,801.			
b From 2007	1,100,297.			
c From 2008	847,443.			
d From 2009	2,244,363.			
e From 2010	1,811,403.			
f Total of lines 3a through e	7,645,307.			
4 Qualifying distributions for 2011 from Part XII, line 4: ► \$	1,376,021.			
a Applied to 2010, but not more than line 2a			0.	
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required - see instructions)		0.		
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required - see instructions)	0.			
d Applied to 2011 distributable amount				18,637.
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus	1,357,384.			
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2011 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a).)	0.			0.
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e Subtract line 5	9,002,691.			
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b		0.		
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed		0.		
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b. Taxable amount - see instructions		0.		
e Undistributed income for 2010. Subtract line 4a from line 2a. Taxable amount - see instr.			0.	
f Undistributed income for 2011. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2012				0.
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(F) or 4942(g)(3)	0.			
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2006 not applied on line 5 or line 7	1,641,801.			
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2012. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a	7,360,890.			
10 Analysis of line 9:				
a Excess from 2007	1,100,297.			
b Excess from 2008	847,443.			
c Excess from 2009	2,244,363.			
d Excess from 2010	1,811,403.			
e Excess from 2011	1,357,384.			

Part XIV Private Operating Foundations (see instructions and Part VII-A, question 9) **N/A**

1 a If the foundation has received a ruling or determination letter that it is a private operating foundation, and the ruling is effective for 2011, enter the date of the ruling ▶

b Check box to indicate whether the foundation is a private operating foundation described in section ☐ 4942(j)(3) or ☐ 4942(j)(5)

	Tax year	Prior 3 years			(e) Total
	(a) 2011	(b) 2010	(c) 2009	(d) 2008	
2 a Enter the lesser of the adjusted net income from Part I or the minimum investment return from Part X for each year listed					
b 85% of line 2a					
c Qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 for each year listed					
d Amounts included in line 2c not used directly for active conduct of exempt activities					
e Qualifying distributions made directly for active conduct of exempt activities. Subtract line 2d from line 2c					
3 Complete 3a, b, or c for the alternative test relied upon:					
a "Assets" alternative test - enter:					
(1) Value of all assets					
(2) Value of assets qualifying under section 4942(j)(3)(B)(i)					
b "Endowment" alternative test - enter 2/3 of minimum investment return shown in Part X, line 6 for each year listed					
c "Support" alternative test - enter:					
(1) Total support other than gross investment income (interest, dividends, rents, payments on securities loans (section 512(a)(5)), or royalties)					
(2) Support from general public and 5 or more exempt organizations as provided in section 4942(j)(3)(B)(iii)					
(3) Largest amount of support from an exempt organization					
(4) Gross investment income					

Part XV Supplementary Information (Complete this part only if the foundation had \$5,000 or more in assets at any time during the year-see instructions.)

1 Information Regarding Foundation Managers:

- a** List any managers of the foundation who have contributed more than 2% of the total contributions received by the foundation before the close of any tax year (but only if they have contributed more than \$5,000). (See section 507(d)(2).)

NONE

- b** List any managers of the foundation who own 10% or more of the stock of a corporation (or an equally large portion of the ownership of a partnership or other entity) of which the foundation has a 10% or greater interest.

NONE

2 Information Regarding Contribution, Grant, Gift, Loan, Scholarship, etc., Programs:

Check here ☐ if the foundation only makes contributions to preselected charitable organizations and does not accept unsolicited requests for funds. If the foundation makes gifts, grants, etc. (see instructions) to individuals or organizations under other conditions, complete items 2a, b, c, and d.

- a** The name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom applications should be addressed:

SEE STATEMENT 10

- b** The form in which applications should be submitted and information and materials they should include:

- c** Any submission deadlines:

- d** Any restrictions or limitations on awards, such as by geographical areas, charitable fields, kinds of institutions, or other factors:

Part XV

Supplementary Information (continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment				
Recipient	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
Name and address (home or business)				
a Paid during the year				
SEE ATTACHED STATEMENT 11				
Total			▶ 3a	0.
b Approved for future payment				
SEE ATTACHED STATEMENT 12				
Total			▶ 3b	0.

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Schedule B(Form 990, 990-EZ,
or 990-PF)Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Schedule of Contributors**

▶ Attach to Form 990, Form 990-EZ, or Form 990-PF.

OMB No 1545-0047

2011

Name of the organization

NICKEL PRODUCERS ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, INC.

Employer identification number

13-3070077

Organization type (check one).

Filers of:

Section:

Form 990 or 990-EZ

☐

501(c)() (enter number) organization

☐4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust **not** treated as a private foundation☐

527 political organization

Form 990-PF

☒

501(c)(3) exempt private foundation

☐

4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation

☐

501(c)(3) taxable private foundation

Check if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule**.**Note.** Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.**General Rule**

- ☒ For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, \$5,000 or more (in money or property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II

Special Rules

- ☐ For a section 501(c)(3) organization filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the 33 1/3% support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) and received from any one contributor, during the year, a contribution of the greater of (1) \$5,000 or (2) 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h, or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II
- ☐ For a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than \$1,000 for use *exclusively* for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I, II, and III
- ☐ For a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions for use *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but these contributions did not total to more than \$1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Do not complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received nonexclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions of \$5,000 or more during the year ▶ \$ _____

Caution. An organization that is not covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules does not file Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990; or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on Part I, line 2 of its Form 990-PF, to certify that it does not meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

LHA For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF. Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) (2011)

Name of organization

NICKEL PRODUCERS ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, INC.

Employer identification number

13-3070077

Part I Contributors (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
1	NICKEL INSTITUTE BROOKFIELD PLACE 161 BAY STREET, SUITE 2700 TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA M5J 2S1	\$ 3,339,700.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution)
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution)
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution)
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution)
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution)
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution)
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution)

Employer identification number

13-3070077

[illegible]

Name of organization

NICKEL PRODUCERS ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, INC.

Employer identification number

13-3070077

Part III

Exclusively religious, charitable, etc., individual contributions to section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organizations that total more than \$1,000 for the year. Complete columns (a) through (e) and the following line entry. For organizations completing Part III, enter the total of exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions of \$1,000 or less for the year. (Enter this information once) ▶ \$

Use duplicate copies of Part III if additional space is needed

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee

FORM 990-PF INTEREST ON SAVINGS AND TEMPORARY CASH INVESTMENTS STATEMENT 1

SOURCE	AMOUNT
INTEREST INCOME	75.
TOTAL TO FORM 990-PF, PART I, LINE 3, COLUMN A	75.

FORM 990-PF OTHER INCOME STATEMENT 2

DESCRIPTION	(A) REVENUE PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME
REIMBURSED PROJECT REVENUE	<19,921.>	0.	
TOTAL TO FORM 990-PF, PART I, LINE 11	<19,921.>	0.	

FORM 990-PF ACCOUNTING FEES STATEMENT 3

DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES
AUDITING & TAX PREPARATION	10,850.	0.		0.
TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 16B	10,850.	0.		0.

FORM 990-PF OTHER PROFESSIONAL FEES STATEMENT 4

DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES
IT CONSULTING FEES	17,340.	0.		0.
OTHER	33,675.	0.		0.
TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 16C	51,015.	0.		0.

FORM 990-PF	OTHER EXPENSES			STATEMENT	5
DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES	
BANK CHARGES	1,372.	1,372.			0.
MEETINGS	7,688.	0.			0.
TRANSLATION SERVICES	397.	0.			0.
DISCRETIONARY AWARD	109,988.	0.			0.
COMMUNICATION PROJECT COSTS	22,562.	0.			0.
MISCELLANEOUS	40,150.	0.			0.
DUES & FEES	13,020.	0.			0.
IT EXPENSES	37,958.	0.			0.
TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 23	233,135.	1,372.			0.

FORM 990-PF	DEPRECIATION OF ASSETS NOT HELD FOR INVESTMENT			STATEMENT	6
DESCRIPTION	COST OR OTHER BASIS	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	BOOK VALUE	FAIR MARKET VALUE	
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	105,259.	0.	105,259.	105,259.	
FURNITURE & FIXTURES	50,371.	0.	50,371.	50,371.	
TO 990-PF, PART II, LN 14	155,630.	0.	155,630.	155,630.	

FORM 990-PF	OTHER ASSETS			STATEMENT	7
DESCRIPTION	BEGINNING OF YR BOOK VALUE	END OF YEAR BOOK VALUE	FAIR MARKET VALUE		
PREPAID EXPENSES	40,929.	16,747.			0.
SECURITY DEPOSIT	0.	12,668.			0.
TO FORM 990-PF, PART II, LINE 15	40,929.	29,415.			0.

FORM 990-PF	OTHER LIABILITIES	STATEMENT	8
DESCRIPTION	BOY AMOUNT	EOY AMOUNT	
PAYROLL LIABILITIES	107,896.	122,583.	
TOTAL TO FORM 990-PF, PART II, LINE 22	107,896.	122,583.	

FORM 990-PF

EXPENDITURE RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT
PART VII-B, LINE 5C

STATEMENT 9

GRANTEE'S NAME

SEE STATEMENT 11

GRANTEE'S ADDRESSGRANT AMOUNTDATE OF GRANTAMOUNT EXPENDEDPURPOSE OF GRANT

FORM 990-PF

GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION INFORMATION
PART XV, LINES 2A THROUGH 2D

STATEMENT 10

NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON TO WHOM APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED

HUDSON BATES, NIPERA 2625 MERIDIAN PKW. SUITE 240 DURHAM NC 27713

TELEPHONE NUMBERFORM AND CONTENT OF APPLICATIONS

APPLICANTS SHOULD SUBMIT DETAILS ON THE PROPOSED INVESTIGATION, A PROPOSED BUDGET & ESTIMATED TIME NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT.

ANY SUBMISSION DEADLINES

MOST APPLICATIONS ARE REPLIES TO PROPOSAL REQUESTS MADE BY NIPERA WITH SPECIFIC DEADLINES.

RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS ON AWARDS

GRANTS ARE AWARDED ONLY ON THE TOXICITY OF NICKEL AND NICKEL COMPOUNDS.

				Purpose of grant:			
Grantee	Address	Contract Number	Relationship	Foundation Status	Title of Study	Grant Expended	
Particle Technology Inc	Illinois	2007-01	None	n/a	Sample Repository Maintenance	\$	5,955
HydroQual Inc		2007-09	None	n/a	Terrestrial Biotic Ligand Mode	\$	13,750
CRAES		2008-01	None	n/a	Invertebrate testing Chinese so	\$	32,000
		2008-21	None	n/a	US Geological Survey	\$	92,284
Northwestern University		2009-02	None	n/a	Ni speciation in sediments	\$	7,968
		2009-03	None	n/a	Ni Speciation 2 sample	\$	14,845
		2009-09	None	n/a	Sediment Prgm Field Valid Study	\$	21,598
Patnarca/Dipartimento di Santa Alimentare ed Animale		2009-17	None	n/a	Kinetics of Ni Met Human	\$	36,555
Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology		2009-18	None	n/a	Ni microcosm study	\$	213,317
Goodman/Gradient Corporation		2009-21	None	n/a	Manuscript Ni ion bioavail modl	\$	1,262
SKS Consulting Services		2009-25	None	n/a	Review SCOEL, Seilkop-Sivulka	\$	5,338
		2009-29	None	n/a	Accrd Risk Charact of Ni	\$	8,574
TERA		2009-31	None	n/a	Science Workshop	\$	3,773
University of Antwerp		2010-04	None	n/a	Sub-cell fract and tissue Ni An	\$	12,758
		2010-08	None	n/a	Acute Ecotoxicity Testing	\$	61,230
		2010-09	None	n/a	Ni in Sediment Tech Pgm1 Cs1	\$	3,915
		2010-10	None	n/a	Ni in Sediment Tech Prgm Cs2	\$	22,777
Angeline Kirby Memorial Health Center, Chilean Mining and Metallurgy Research Center, Oregon State University, Royal Institute of Technology		2010-12	None	n/a	Bioaccess inter-lab valid study	\$	12,016
Angeline Kirby Memorial Health Center, Chilean Mining and Metallurgy Research Center, Oregon State University, Royal Institute of Technology		2010-13	None	n/a	KMHC contract Bioacc inter-lab	\$	7,500
Angeline Kirby Memorial Health Center, Chilean Mining and Metallurgy Research Center, Oregon State University, Royal Institute of Technology		2010-14	None	n/a	Bioacc Inter-lab Valid - CIMM	\$	2,546
wca Environmental Ltd		2010-15	None	n/a	Ni EQS Under Water Framework	\$	32,471
Angeline Kirby Memorial Health Center, Chilean Mining and Metallurgy Research Center, Oregon State University, Royal Institute of Technology		2010-16	None	n/a	Bioaccessibility inter-lab OSU	\$	9,375
G Oberdorster/University of Rochester and L Haber/TERA		2010-17	None	n/a	Vitro and in vivo inhalation	\$	5,250
G Oberdorster/University of Rochester and L Haber/TERA		2010-18	None	n/a	Vitro and in Vivo Inhal support	\$	3,437
Exponent		2010-19	None	n/a	Eval Lab to field extrapolation	\$	8,090
Windward Environmental and Exponent		2010-20	None	n/a	Weight Evid on Lab to Field Com	\$	2,000
CSIRO		2010-21	None	n/a	Bioavail EQS China Soil	\$	58,817
NiPERA Staff and Consultants	North Carolina	2010-AD	None	n/a	ETAP	\$	48,338
wca Environmental Arche		2011-01	None	n/a	Web based BLM tools	\$	20,340
wca Environmental Ltd		2011-02	None	n/a	Updating field based Ni threshold analysi	\$	2,285
CANMET MMSL		2011-03	None	n/a	Critical Surface Area Analysis of Ferronit	\$	1,492
H Clewell/The Hamner Institute	North Carolina	2011-04	None	n/a	Mode of Action Ni Studies	\$	360,000
U Gent		2011-05	None	n/a	Extending Chronic Ni BLM	\$	17,000
wca Environmental Ltd		2011-06	None	n/a	Metal Bioavail under water fram	\$	11,000
S Constant/Epithelix Sarl	Switzerland	2011-07	None	n/a	Dvlpmt of a 3D in vitro cell	\$	41,111
ARCHE		2011-08	None	n/a	Sediment Testing Prgm Mtg Exp	\$	6,561
wca Environmental Ltd		2011-09	None	n/a	wca General Support for Ni EQS	\$	17,610
ARCHE		2011-11	None	n/a	Sediment Effects Assmnt Rpt	\$	31,876
HydroQual, wca Environmental Ltd, Beijing Continental Grand Hotel		2011-12	None	n/a	Attend Ni Bioavailability Workshop in Chi	\$	5,957
J Goodman/Gradient and S Seilkop/SKS Consulting Services		2011-13	None	n/a	Draft Manuscripts	\$	464
M Kohman Vincent/TERA		2011-14	None	n/a	Meta Analg Resp Cancer	\$	10,560
Mutch & Associates		2011-17	None	n/a	Assess Metal Persistence	\$	1,025
Mutch & Associates		2011-18	None	n/a	Incorporate WHAM 6 & 7	\$	24,700
Odnevali Wallinder/KTH		2011-19	None	n/a	KTH Project	\$	4,739
HydroQual, wca Environmental Ltd, Beijing Continental Grand Hotel		2011-20	None	n/a	Attend Ni BLM Wkshp China - Hydroqual	\$	27,900
HydroQual, wca Environmental Ltd, Beijing Continental Grand Hotel		2011-22	None	n/a	Meeting Expenses - Hotel (D 3 5 07-11)	\$	6,795
ARCHE		2011-26	None	n/a	ARCHE Sediment Risk Characteriz	\$	2,245
Nickel Institute Staff		2011-AA	None	n/a	Ontano presentation	\$	1,058
		20A8-21	None	n/a	USGS addl		

PART XV3(A) - GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE

Grantee	Address	Contract Number	Relationship	Foundation Status	Purpose of grant Title of Study	Amount
Particle Technology Inc		2007-01	None	N/A	Sample Repository Maintenance	\$ 3,600
CRAES		2008-01	None	N/A	Invertebrate testing Chinese so	\$ 4,000
Bill Stubblefield (Parametnx/Oregon State University)		2008-27	None	N/A	Manuscript Manne Ni Ecotox	\$ 6,375
Patnarca/Dipartimento di Sanita Alimentare ed Animale		2009-17	None	N/A	Kinetics of Ni Met Human	\$ 48,742
Goodman/Gradient Corporation		2009-21	None	N/A	Manuscript Ni ion bioavail modl	\$ 3,613
SKS Consulting Services		2009-25	None	N/A	Review SCOEL, Seilkop-Sivulka	\$ 4,587
SKS Consulting Services		2009-26	None	N/A	Seilkop-Sivulka projects	\$ 8,350
University of Antwerp		2010-04	None	N/A	Sub-cell fract and tissue Ni An	\$ 1,742
Angeline Kirby Memorial Health Center, Chilean Mining and Metallurgy Research Center, Oregon State University, Royal Institute of Technology		2010-16	None	N/A	Bioaccessibility inter-lab OSU	\$ 7,292
G Oberdorster/University of Rochester and L Haber/TERA		2010-17	None	N/A	Vitro and in vivo inhalation	\$ 9,750
G Oberdorster/University of Rochester and L Haber/TERA		2010-18	None	N/A	Vitro and in Vivo Inhal support	\$ 11,563
wca Environmental Arche		2011-01	None	N/A	Web based BLM tools	\$ 2,260
wca Environmental Ltd		2011-02	None	N/A	Updating field based Ni threshold analysis	\$ 3,455
H Clowell/The Hamner Institute		2011-04	None	N/A	Mode of Action Ni Studies	\$ 271,335
U Gent		2011-05	None	N/A	Extending Chronic Ni BLM	\$ 51,000
S Constant/Epithelix Sari		2011-07	None	N/A	Dvlpmnt of a 3D in vitro cell	\$ 41,140
ARCHE		2011-08	None	N/A	Sediment Testing Prgm Mtg Exp	\$ 439
wca Environmental Ltd		2011-09	None	N/A	Ni EQS WFD Strategy	\$ 23,821
ARCHE, wca, Windward Env		2011-10	None	N/A	Dev Env Risk Assmnt FS-ARCHE	\$ 26,880
ARCHE		2011-11	None	N/A	Sediment Effects Assmnt Rpt	\$ 641
J Goodman/Gradient and S Seilkop/SKS Consulting Services		2011-13	None	N/A	Draft Manuscripts	\$ 7,536
M Kohman Vincent/TERA		2011-14	None	N/A	Meta Analy Resp Cancer	\$ 25,500
J Goodman/Gradient and S Seilkop/SKS Consulting Services		2011-15	None	N/A	Review Rpts and Manuscripts	\$ 8,000
ARCHE, wca, Windward Env		2011-16	None	N/A	Risk Asses Fact Sheet -Windward	\$ 2,000
Mutch & Associates		2011-17	None	N/A	Assess Metal Persistence	\$ 1,024
Mutch & Associates		2011-18	None	N/A	Incorporate WHAM 6 & 7	\$ 24,700
Odnevall Wallinder/KTH		2011-19	None	N/A	KTH Project	\$ 9,511
HydroQual, wca Environmental Ltd, Beijing Continental Grand Hotel		2011-20	None	N/A	Attend Ni BLM Wkshp China - Hydroqual	\$ 3,100
ARCHE, wca, Windward Env		2011-21	None	N/A	Dvlp Ni RA Fact Sheet-WCA	\$ 5,771
South Carolina Research Foundation	South Carolina	2011-23	None	N/A	Manne/Estuarine Sediment Toxicity	\$ 131,089
Consulting Support Dr Chandler	South Carolina	2011-24	None	N/A	Manne/Estuarine Sediment Toxicity	\$ 18,750
US Geological Survey and ARCHE		2011-25	None	N/A	Toxicity Testing of NiSpiked Se	\$ 15,000
ARCHE		2011-26	None	N/A	ARCHE Sediment Risk Characteriz	\$ 8,507
NiPERA Staff and Consultants		2011-AD	None	N/A	AD ETAP	\$ 70,767

R \$ 861,840

PROGRAM 5: NICKEL OEL PROJECTS

APPENDIX 1

Title: Laboratory to Field Validation—Mesocosm Study Investigator(s): Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology Project #: 2009-18					
Project Manager: (Initials)	CES	Project Completion: (date)	Q2 2011	Workload Weighting: (+ to +++) ¹⁰⁵	+++
Total Budget	Through 2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
\$250,000	\$250,000 ^{106,107}	\$0 ¹⁰⁸	\$0	\$0	\$0
Description	<p>The outcome of the Environmental section of the European Union Risk Assessment (EU RA) of Nickel includes an Assessment Factor of 2 for the freshwater aquatic effects assessment, which was proposed by the Danish Rapporteur and supported by the other Member States. This means that the critical effects concentrations supported by laboratory ecotoxicological data are divided in half. The basis for the Assessment Factor was the absence of field or mesocosm data, which would have allowed for a comparison of laboratory ecotoxicity data with field-level effects. The impact of the Assessment Factor is important: with the Assessment Factor of 2, Regional Risk of nickel in the Aquatic Compartment was concluded; with an Assessment Factor of 1 (which is the case for the Cu Risk Assessment, where field and mesocosm data are available), no Regional Risk would have been concluded. The Member Working Group discussed the possibility of performing mesocosm studies in 2004, and concluded at the time that mesocosm results were less important than other more immediate ecotoxicological research needs. The situation changed in 2008, and the one remaining piece of information considered in the derivation of Assessment Factors that is missing is field/mesocosm data. A mesocosm study has been contracted with the Fraunhofer Institute, where researchers have performed a similar, well-received mesocosm study for the copper industry. The study involves dosing enclosures that contain freshwater ecological communities. This is an experimental approach and will provide quantitative results that can be directly compared to the relevant freshwater Predicted No Effect Concentration (PNEC).</p>				
Objectives	<p>Strategic: To quantify the laboratory to field difference in nickel toxicity to aquatic organisms, which may be useful in arguing against the two-fold Assessment Factor that was used in the EU RA to derive the aquatic PNEC</p>				
	<p>To provide quantitative information on the long-term effects of nickel to complex ecological systems, which will be useful in determining whether or not laboratory-based toxicity data are protective of effects observed in the field</p> <p>Specific: To determine nickel No Observed Effects Concentration for ecological endpoints in freshwater mesocosms</p>				
Potential Business Impact	<p>o PNECs serve as the basis for Environmental Quality Standards in the EU and will be used in the Chemical Safety Report for nickel substances in REACH. The use of the Assessment Factor of 2 in the derivation of the PNEC is not substantiated by data, meaning that the PNEC may be two times too high.</p>				
Deliverables	<p>o Final report anticipated in Q2 2011</p>				

¹⁰⁵ + = up 1 week; ++ = 2 – 4 weeks; +++ = 5 – 16 weeks; ++++ = 17 – 26 weeks; +++++ > 26 weeks

¹⁰⁶ In 2009, \$250,000 was budgeted for this project. This budget was rolled forward into 2010 and 2011.

¹⁰⁷ A contract was signed for \$193,343 in 2009, and later modified to \$221,660 to account for additional chemical analyses, participation of a Fraunhofer scientist in a regulatory meeting, and fluctuation in exchange rate from 2009 to 2011.

¹⁰⁸ In 2011, \$213,317 was paid on this project. The remaining unspent portion of the budget for this line item (\$36,683) was returned to unallocated cash.

KPIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On-time delivery ○ On budget ○ Quality of work ○ Meets objective
Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ None
Regional Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EU
Driver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regulatory Action

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Date of Update	January 23, 2012
<p>NiPERA sponsored researchers from the Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology in Schmallenberg, Germany, to investigate the effects of nickel on freshwater communities in aquatic mesocosms. A kickoff conference call occurred in December 2008, in which NiPERA and Fraunhofer Institute researchers discussed technical and logistical issues. The Community Level Study of Nickel in Aquatic Mesocosms was conducted in 2009.</p> <p>In May 2009, a final proposal was received and a contract was signed with the Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology for the aquatic mesocosm experiments. The preliminary dosing experiments were conducted in April 2009 and were used to inform of the concentrations to be used for definitive testing.</p> <p>The definitive, full-scale mesocosm experiments began in May 2009. From May until September 2009, researchers conducted the pretreatment phase. During this time, biotic and abiotic parameters were measured to ensure appropriate testing conditions for initiation of the treatment phase. The mesocosm chambers were colonized with a representative freshwater community in July 2009, and the researchers continued working to minimize fluctuations of important abiotic parameters.</p> <p>The Fraunhofer researchers and the Nickel Institute used the measured abiotic conditions to estimate bioavailable effects concentrations, in order to choose the appropriate dosing regime. In October, the mesocosms were dosed with nickel to create the appropriate concentration series, thus beginning the treatment phase of the study.</p> <p>During February 2010, the 16-week exposure portion of the nickel mesocosm experiment was completed. The data generated during the exposure period was analyzed to determine No Observed Effects Concentrations (NOECs) for a range of biological endpoints, including effects to algae and invertebrates. Additionally, community level effects on the phyto- and the zooplankton were analyzed by several indices (e.g., number of taxa, evenness), and community level NOECs were determined. Extensive data processing and statistical analyses were completed in 2010. Draft final reports were received in November 2010.</p> <p>In January 2011, C. Schlegel (NiPERA) met with representatives from DEPA and ECHA in Copenhagen to discuss the availability of new higher tier information on Ni aquatic toxicity. The meeting was also attended by Member State representatives (Germany, the Netherlands, and the UK) and independent experts. The meeting goals were to determine whether the information presented was sufficiently substantive from the scientific perspective to warrant further consideration by Member States (MS) for incorporation into the Nickel EQS in the Water Framework Directive and for use in REACH. Outcomes of the Aquatic mesocosm study, as well as from two other NiPERA sponsored research programs were presented, including a field-based invertebrate effects study (wca Environment, Ltd., UK) and a Weight of Evidence analysis (Exponent, USA). While the detailed interpretation of the information varied among the meeting participants, the consensus view was that the information did reduce uncertainty in the Ni aquatic effects assessment, and that an analysis of the safety margin that is provided by the precautionary steps that are currently present in the determination of the Hazardous Concentration at the 5th percentile (HC5) is warranted. This was a first step in terms of communicating the outcome of these studies, and further communication with DEPA and DG Environment is warranted to determine the appropriate means for formal review of the information. The communication of the outcomes of this program continued to be discussed with the appropriate regulators in 2011.</p> <p>Based on the outcomes of the Copenhagen discussions, the draft reports were modified.</p> <p>New Developments</p>	

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Date of Update	January 23, 2012
The final report entitled "Community level study with nickel in aquatic microcosms" was received in May 2011. The final payment was made in May 2011.	
Drafting of a manuscript based on the research conducted in this study will commence in 2012.	

PROGRAM 3: NICKEL METAL CLASSIFICATION PROJECTS

APPENDIX 1

Title: Filling Data Gaps on Cancer Mode of Action: In vivo Studies Investigator: H. Clewell/The Hamner Institute (North Carolina, USA) Project #: 2011-04					
Project Manager: (Initials)	ARO	Project Duration: (months)	4Q 2012	Workload Weighting: (+ to +++) ⁴³	+++
Total Budget	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
\$631,335⁴⁴	\$631,335⁴⁵	\$0⁴⁶	\$0	\$0	\$0
Description	This research project will look at identifying markers of mode of action for carcinogenicity of nickel. For this purpose, a 4-week rat inhalation study with two reference compounds (nickel sulfate hexahydrate and nickel subsulfide) will be conducted and gene expression analysis in lung tissue will be assessed to identify dose-dependent transitions that are relevant to the mode of action for carcinogenicity of nickel. Analyses of nickel lung levels, bronchio-alveolar lavage fluid (BALF), and histopathology will complement the gene expression results.				
Objectives	Strategic: Advance the knowledge on the key determinants of carcinogenicity and mode of action for nickel-containing substances in anticipation of IARC's (International Agency for Research on Cancer) future discussions on carcinogenicity of nickel metal and to refine the risk characterization for individual nickel substances as well as mixtures				
	Specific: Generate new data on cellular pathways that are of high relevance for the tumorigenicity of nickel substances <i>in vivo</i> , and relate these changes to the bioavailability of nickel				
Potential Business Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Further knowledge on the mode of action for tumor induction by nickel may decrease the chances for a more restrictive classification of nickel metal by IARC. o The identification of thresholds for initial events can provide further support for a non linear risk assessment for the carcinogenicity of nickel. 				
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Contract signed 2Q 2011 o Progress reports received 3Q 2011 and 4Q 2011, o Progress reports expected by 1Q 2012 o Manuscript 1 expected 2Q 2012 o Manuscript 2 expected 3Q 2012 				
KPIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o On-time delivery o On budget o Quality of work o Meet objective 				
Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o None 				
Regional Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Global 				
Driver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Regulatory 				

⁴³ + = up 1 week; ++ = 2 – 4 weeks; +++ = 5 – 16 weeks; ++++ = 17 – 26 weeks; +++++ > 26 weeks

⁴⁴ The budget shown here corresponds to the \$300,000 allocated in 2010 for the Filling Datagaps Based on Workshop Outcome projects, plus an additional \$200,000 that were approved to continue these projects in 2012. An additional \$81,335 were added to this project's 2011 budget from the 2011 Research Contingency Funds (\$50,000 in April and \$31,335 in December), \$30,000 from unspent funds in project 2009-31 and \$20,000 from unspent funds in project 2010-01, bringing the total contracted amount for project 2011-04 to \$631,335. The 2009-31 and the 2010-01 projects also fall under the umbrella of the Nickel Metal Classification Team projects, D3.1

⁴⁵ In 2011, funds of \$360,000 were paid. Unspent 2011 funds of \$271,335 for contract 2011-04 will be rolled over to 2012

⁴⁶ An additional \$80,000 was approved in the 2012 budget for Follow-up in vivo studies.

PROJECT UPDATE

Date of Update	January 27, 2012
<p>Background:</p> <p>After the March 2009 IARC meeting, several initiatives were started to identify key datasets that would allow us to improve our understanding of the carcinogenicity of nickel substances. Obtaining this information will place us in a better position to prevent any changes to the current carcinogen classification of nickel metal as IARC Group 2B and to refine the risk characterization for individual nickel substances as well as mixtures.</p> <p>In October 2010, NiPERA prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) that included in vivo and in vitro studies with reference compounds. L. Haber and G. Oberdörster acted as reviewers for these projects, providing input into the RFP and commenting on the submissions. In November 2010, proposals for this work were received from 5 research groups. After careful evaluation, all three reviewers (including A. Oller of NiPERA) identified the Hamner Institute and Epithelix Sarl as the top ranking groups for the in vivo and in vitro studies, respectively. In January 2011, it was decided to proceed with the in vivo studies at the Hamner.</p> <p>This study consists of exposing rats for one and four weeks, via inhalation, to 4 levels of nickel sulfate and nickel subsulfide. At the end of exposure, the following assays will be conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation of mRNA (from whole lung and dissected sites) and gene expression analysis in lung bronchio-alveolar tissue (target for tumor induction by nickel) to assess the time and dose dependent induction of genes triggered by nickel exposure • Benchmark dose analysis of the gene expression changes to identify potential mode(s)-of-action for the various forms of nickel (e.g., nickel subsulfide, nickel sulfate hexahydrate) and assess dose-dependent transitions • Measurement of nickel levels in lungs of exposed animals after 4 weeks exposure and SEM of lung tissues in animals exposed to nickel subsulfide to observe localization of particles within the lung • Isolation of bronchio-alveolar lavage fluid (BALF) to assess inflammation • Histopathological examination of lung tissues to assess toxicity and inflammation • Confirmatory tests based on gene expression results <p>New Developments:</p> <p>A contract with the Hamner Research Institutes was signed in April 2011. Drs. D. Dodd and H. Clewell are the principal investigators for these studies. L. Haber and G. Oberdörster were retained under separate contract to review the reports from this project. The contract was revised in December 2011 to include costs associated with Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) studies to be conducted at North Carolina State University (\$31,335).</p> <p>The first progress report for this project was received in July 2011. This report described the training on microdissection received by the personnel at the Hamner and included results from the nickel sulfate aerosol characterization, in anticipation of the initiation of the in vivo studies. The 1 and 4 week inhalation studies with nickel sulfate were completed in August 2011. For the 1-week exposure, the achieved mean (\pm standard deviation) concentrations were 0.00 (\pm 0.00), 0.128 (\pm 0.027), 0.246 (\pm 0.043), 0.496 (\pm 0.062), and 1.020 (\pm 0.107) mg/m³ for target exposure concentrations of 0, 0.125, 0.25, 0.5, and 1.0 mg/m³ nickel sulfate hexahydrate, respectively. For the 4- week exposure, mean (\pm SD) concentrations were 0.00 (\pm 0.00), 0.138 (\pm 0.037), 0.246 (\pm 0.055), 0.502 (\pm 0.051), and 1.004 (\pm 0.075) mg/m³ (same target exposure concentrations).</p> <p>The average mass median aerodynamic diameters (MMAD) for the 1-week exposure were 0.822, 0.882, 0.999, and 1.087 μm for target exposure concentrations of 0.125, 0.25, 0.5, and 1.0 mg/m³ nickel sulfate hexahydrate, respectively. For the 4- week exposure, the average MMAD were 0.840, 0.918, 1.093, and 1.160 μm (same target exposure concentrations).</p>	

A second report for this project was received in October 2011. The report indicated that data analysis for lung histopathology, BALF cytology, BALF supernatant markers, lung gene expression, and lung nickel burden were in progress. Nickel sulfate exposure-related histopathology effects (details not available) were observed in the highest concentration group following four weeks exposure. Per study protocol, lung histopathology and BALF cytology evaluations will be performed in lower concentration exposure groups of the 4-week time point until a NOAEL is achieved.

Regarding the analysis of micro-dissected lung tissue, select lung lobes from the high nickel sulfate concentration and control groups of the 4-week exposed rats (n=16) were micro-dissected for removal of distal airways (Protocol Amendment 1). The remaining non-dissected tissues were also saved. Gene expression and nickel burden analysis is being conducted on the micro-dissected and remaining non-dissected tissue. Results from this procedure will be used to decide on the processing of lung samples from rats of the lower concentration exposure groups.

Due to a microbiology status report by Charles River Laboratories that F344 animals shipped from their K83 breeding area facility may be positive for *Strep. pneumoniae*, the Hamner initiated the collection of oropharyngeal swabs from animals immediately prior to the 4-week necropsy (Protocol Amendment 1). Swab samples were analyzed for presence of *Strep. pneumoniae*. Results indicated 5 (of 57) positive cases and no more than 1 positive case per endpoint per nickel sulfate concentration group. Three positive cases were from animals designated for lung histopathology and BALF analysis. These 3 cases, along with study animals from the control and high nickel sulfate concentration groups were evaluated for lung histopathology and BALF cytology. Results indicated that the *Strep* positive animals had no biologically significant impact on BAL cytology differential count or an indication of infection following microscopic examination. These results, along with absence of clinical observations and no alteration in animal body weight during the in-life phase of the study, indicate that the positive *Strep. pneumoniae* results observed in select study animals will not be a contributing factor in evaluating dose-response relationships of nickel sulfate for these endpoints. Since Charles River Laboratories (CRL) do not plan to depopulate their F344 colony because of occasional positive findings of *Strep* in their facility, a decision was made and agreed on with the lab to continue using the F344 rat from CRL for the next 4-week inhalation study with nickel subsulfide. Oral swab or fecal samples will be taken from all nickel subsulfide study animals at necropsy and stored for possible future analysis of *Streptococcus*.

Pre-study inhalation exposure trials with nickel subsulfide were initiated during the summer of 2011. Activities included testing inhalation chambers for uniformity of test chemical distribution, setting of target exposure concentrations for the 4-week study, and measuring particle size distribution during exposure. Wright Dust Feeders (WDF) were selected for the generation of nickel subsulfide particles into the inhalation exposure chambers. Different WDF outputs were tested to achieve accurate and reproducible target exposure concentrations. As expected, pre-study chamber distribution trials indicated good distribution (chamber sampling port-to-sampling port coefficient variations of less than 15%) for the nickel subsulfide particles throughout the area of animal caging (i.e., animal breathing zone).

The protocol for this project was amended 3 times in 2011: the first time to include the testing of the animals for the presence of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and to do micro-dissections in tissues stored in RNA-later at -70°C, the second time to change the fixative to be used in the nickel subsulfide study to allow the use of TEM to study the presence of particles, and the third time to separate the lung tissue for nickel analysis prior to the addition of RNA-later, as the presence of RNA-later appeared to confound the assessment of nickel lung levels in the nickel sulfate study.

A third progress report is expected in 1Q 2012. It is expected that these in vivo studies will identify the most relevant markers that will then be used in the follow-up in vitro studies (2012-2013) to examine more closely the kinetics of gene expression induction as a function of nickel uptake for various nickel substances. This will be done using the Mucilair rat and human cell systems in parallel.

PROJECT UPDATE

Date of Update	February 16, 2012
<p>Background: A Workplan was originally developed by NiPERA and NI staff during 2007 which outlines the Ni Consortia's approach for complying with the requirements of REACH before the December 1, 2010 registration deadline. The work that was carried out by NiPERA staff for Consortium 1 substances is summarized in the corresponding Environmental and Human Health Workplan (see Appendix 2). This Workplan includes complete planning for 11 different programs and related subtasks, including timing and budget information. The Workplan for Consortium 1 was reviewed in detail and revised several times each year by the NI REACH Team to evaluate progress and ensure that timing and cost estimates were up-to-date.</p> <p>The Consortium 1 Environmental and Human Health Workplan for each substance was implemented during the fall of 2007. Considerable work was done during 2008-2010 to meet the program goals. The Ni Consortia Workplan, including strategy, budget, and timing, for all REACH-related testing programs was updated annually and circulated to the Members by the Secretariat. The most recent version of the Workplan, covering projects scheduled for 2011-2015, is included as Appendix 2.</p> <p>New Developments: The final parts of the 2007-2010 Work Plans were completed in 2011.</p> <p>Progress on REACH Consortia work is reported below under <i>Environmental Programs</i>, <i>Human Health Programs</i>, and <i>IUCLID and Chemical Safety Report</i>.</p> <p><u>Environmental Programs</u></p> <p><i>Sediment Testing Program:</i></p> <p>Background: The Technical Conclusion i) Sediment Program was established under REACH Consortium 1, Task 2.1. A conclusion i) (further testing required) for nickel in the sediment compartment was determined as an outcome of the EU Ni Risk Assessment. EU Member States and the ECB (European Chemicals Bureau) accepted a formal testing recommendation for sediments, which was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on May 28th, 2008.</p> <p>The need for additional testing was the conclusion that the ecotoxicity results of the whole sediment toxicity tests conducted under the historic conclusion i) research program (2004-2005) were confounded by technical issues associated with the introduction of Ni into sediments in the laboratory and the subsequent diffusional loss of Ni into overlying water. Briefly, relatively poor sorption of Ni to sediment particles resulted in the loss of dissolved Ni from the sediments. Furthermore, observed toxicity to the sediment toxicity test organisms was explained by Ni concentrations in overlying water, as opposed to Ni concentrations in the sediments. Interpretation of these ecotoxicity data required that conservative assumptions be applied to the outcome of these tests, which resulted in PNEC_{sed} (Predicted No Effects Concentration for nickel in sediments) values that were below ambient and natural background concentrations. These PNEC_{sed} values were neither scientifically defensible nor sustainable and their application would have led to the conclusion of risk at 100% of the operational sites within the RA, as well as at the regional scale. As such, the Danish Rapporteur and other Member States recommended that further testing be conducted to generate the data to calculate a scientifically sound PNEC_{sed} based on laboratory approaches aimed at controlling the diffusional loss of Ni from sediments and that could be validated in the field. The generation of these data will eliminate much of the uncertainty in the PNEC_{sed} derivation and bring closure to the conclusion i) for sediment.</p> <p>To derive PNEC_{sed} values, the research was comprised of three components, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an evaluation of optimal sediment spiking techniques; 2. the generation of reliable ecotoxicity data on sediment dwelling organisms providing effect concentrations relating to bulk sediment concentrations; and 	

PROJECT UPDATE

Date of Update	February 16, 2012
<p>3. the development of an integrated, equilibrium-partitioning based bioavailability model for normalizing the sediment effect concentrations to bioavailable sediment concentrations under both aerobic and anaerobic conditions.</p> <p>The research programs under the Technical Conclusion i) program were designed to specifically address these components. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) portion of the program was designed to evaluate multiple spiking methods to determine the distribution of Ni between pore-water and solid-sediment phases over time, which was compared to the distribution of Ni in naturally Ni contaminated field collected sediments. Extensive ecotoxicity testing has been completed for nine benthic organisms and for eight sediment types to evaluate the bioavailability of Ni in a wide range of sediments and toxicity to a variety of benthic organisms and to provide effects concentrations relating to bulk sediment concentrations. These data are being used to generate an integrated bioavailability model for toxicity in sediments. The toxicity model has been field-validated by a study at the University of Michigan. Additional research has been conducted by Northwestern University to determine solid phase speciation of Ni in sediments using X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy (XAS).</p> <p>New Developments 2011:</p> <p>The Technical Conclusion i) Group made a final evaluation of the data generated in the Sediment Testing Program at the end of 2010. The Nickel Industry delivered final research reports of the USGS Laboratory Testing, University of Michigan Field Study, the Northwestern University Solid Phase Speciation Study, and the NR CAN/ University of Quebec Nickel Partitioning Evaluation to the Danish Environmental Protection Agency (DEPA) in November and December 2011. At this time, DEPA also received the Sediment Effects Assessment drafted by the ARCHE Consultancy of Ghent, Belgium, which synthesized the information from the various research studies into an effects assessment for nickel in sediment. In addition, a summary of the Technical Conclusion i) Group's recommendations, drafted by the group's chairman (Dr. Colin Janssen) was also delivered to DEPA in November 2011. Representatives from DEPA indicated receipt of the above cited reports on December 23, 2011 and have stated that the review process is underway.</p> <p><i>Risk Characterization:</i> The risk characterization for all environmental compartments, excluding the sediment compartment was completed in 2010. Risk characterization for the sediment compartment will occur when a PNEC sediment value has been agreed upon.</p> <p><i>Testing:</i> No new ecotoxicity testing was conducted under REACH Consortium 1 in 2011.</p> <p>Table 1. Summary of Remaining NiPERA Contracts (initiated prior to 2011) for Consortium 1 Environmental Work Plan</p>	

PROJECT UPDATE

Date of Update	February 16, 2012			
Contract Number: Title	Contracted Amount	Total Payments to Date	Amount Owed	Status
2008-21 & 20A8-21: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Toxicity Testing	\$693,741*	\$693,562*	\$0	Closed
2009.03: NW University	\$37,112	\$37,112	\$0	Closed
2009.09: Sediment Program - Field Validation Study	\$215,984	\$215,984	\$0	Closed
2010-09: Sediment bioavailability models and risk characterization	\$5,000	\$3,914	\$0	Closed

* Of the total, \$660,000 was paid from Consortium 1 while \$33,476 was from the NiPERA Administration budget (Project # 20A8-21).

All outstanding Consortium 1 contracts under the Environmental Work Plan were closed in 2011.

Human Health Programs

Testing: No new human health testing was conducted under REACH Consortium 1. Minimal testing on Ni sulfate and Ni chloride (as source substances) was conducted as part of the read-across program to other target Ni compounds as described under the summary for Consortium 2 in 2010. All testing under the Workplan for 2007-2010 is now completed.

DNELs/DMELs: No contracts for this work were open during 2010 or 2011.

Table 2. Summary of NiPERA 2011 Contracts for Consortium 1 Human Health Workplan

Contract Number: Title	Contracted Amount	Total Payments to Date	Amount Owed	Status
No new NiPERA contracts established as of December 2011*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

* Contracts for the 2011-2015 Workplan will be paid through the Nickel Institute whether they are managed by NiPERA and/or other parts of the Nickel Institute

IUCLID and Chemical Safety Report

IUCLID Development: No contracts were executed during 2010. All contractual work for this project was completed in previous years.

Using the Lead Risk Assessment as an example, NiPERA staff and consultants developed criteria tables that can be used to determine the quality and relevance of human data in nickel studies. Several modifications of the table have been developed and are currently being used by the consultants to evaluate nickel epidemiological data, human exposure data, and human sensitization data for use in the IUCLID database and Chemical Safety Report (CSR).

In Q1 2010, the development of the IUCLID database files for nickel metal and nickel sulphate were developed for early REACH registration of these substances to ECHA. NiPERA staff, Nickel Institute staff, and various consultants worked to complete the IUCLID files for a joint submission by Nickel

PROJECT UPDATE

Date of Update	February 16, 2012
<p>Background: A Workplan was developed by NiPERA and NI staff during 2007 which outline the Ni Consortia's approach for complying with the requirements of REACH before the December 1, 2010 registration deadline. The work carried out by NiPERA staff for Consortium 3 special preparations, intermediates, and multi-constituent substances is summarized in the corresponding Environmental and Human Health Workplan (see Appendix 2). This Workplan includes complete planning for 11 different programs and related subtasks, including timing and budget information. The Workplan for Consortium 3 has been reviewed in detail and revised several times a year by the NI REACH Team to evaluate progress and ensure that timing and cost estimates are up-to-date.</p> <p>The Consortium 3 Environmental and Human Health Workplan for each substance were implemented during the fall of 2007. Considerable work was done during 2008-2009 to meet the program goals. The Ni Consortia Workplan, including strategy, budget, and timing, for all REACH-related testing programs was updated annually and circulated to the Members by the Secretariat. The most recent version of the Workplan, covering projects scheduled for 2011-2015, is included as Appendix 2.</p> <p>Progress on REACH Consortia work is reported below under <i>Environmental Programs</i>, <i>Human Health Programs</i>, and <i>IUCLID and Chemical Safety Report</i>.</p> <p><u>Environmental Programs</u></p> <p>Testing Program: CANMET-MMSL conducted Transformation/Dissolution (T/D P) Testing on two nickel matte samples (a metallic nickel matte and a high-copper content sulfidic nickel matte) and a ferronickel sample in Consortium 3. T/D P testing at the 10 mg/L loading rate commenced for the Ni mattes and the ferronickel in October and November 2008, respectively. Results of T/D P testing for mattes and ferronickel sample in Consortium 3 were received in January 2009. Further T/D P testing at the 100 mg/L loading rate was conducted for the nickel matte samples in February 2009. T/D P testing at the 100 mg/L loading rate was conducted to confirm the proposed classifications for the nickel mattes. Final results of all T/D P testing for ferronickel and nickel mattes were received in March 2009 and no further testing is anticipated. Final reports for the T/D P testing on ferronickel and nickel mattes were received in June 2009 and August 2009, respectively.</p> <p>In 2009, CANMET-MMSL conducted Transformation/Dissolution (T/D P) Testing on a nickel ash sample. The 24 hour T/D P screening test was conducted in June 2009 and the results of the screening tests indicated the need for additional definitive testing. The 7 day acute T/D P testing was conducted at the 1 mg/L loading rate at pH 6 and pH 8 and 28 day chronic T/D P testing (1 mg/L loading) was conducted at pH 6. Final reports were received in May 2010. Results of the definitive T/D P testing were used to assign the appropriate GHS environmental classifications. All T/D P Testing for Consortia 3 was completed in 2010.</p> <p>In 2009, Springborn Smithers Laboratory was contracted to conduct ecotoxicity testing on the nickel mattes, ferronickel, and nickel ash. The testing program aimed to validate the classifications assigned based on the outcome of the T/D P testing (see above). In April of 2009, contract 2009-22 with Springborn Smithers for ecotoxicity validation testing was terminated based on non-compliance with the contract terms and inability to demonstrate reliability of the data. Briefly, concerns about the quality, repeatability, reliability, and regulatory compliance of the data produced in this testing program were not adequately addressed by the testing laboratory. Additionally, the testing exceeded the timeline identified under the contract terms.</p>	

PROJECT UPDATE

Date of Update	February 16, 2012			
New Developments:				
A new contract for the ecotoxicity validation testing was established with AECOM Environmental, Inc. in Fort Collins, Colorado. Ecotoxicity testing was conducted in 2010 and completed in Q2 2011. Final reports were received in May 2011.				
Testing: No new ecotoxicity testing was conducted under REACH Consortium 3 in 2011.				
Table 1. Summary of NiPERA 2011 Contracts for Consortium 3 Environmental Work Plan				
Contract Number: Title	Contracted Amount	Total Payments to Date	Amount Owed	Status
2010-08: Ecotox Validation Testing Ni Mattes & Ferronickel	\$70,928	\$70,928	\$0	Closed

All outstanding Consortium 3 contracts under the Environmental Work Plan were closed in 2011.

Human Health Programs

Testing Program: All human health toxicity and mutagenicity testing included under the Consortium 3 Workplan were conducted between May 2008 and the end of 2010 and are now complete (refer to Appendix 2 for background information). All data generated under this program have been reported to the Ni REACH Consortia Technical Working Group and have been incorporated into the relevant substance registration dossiers. No new testing was conducted under REACH Consortium 3 in 2011.

IUCLID and Chemical Safety Reports

The development of the IUCLID database files for the Consortium 3 substances occurred during Q2 and was completed by Q3 2010 for REACH registration of these substances to ECHA. Chemical Safety Reports (CSRs) were not prepared or required for the Consortium 3 substances at this time.

Using the Lead Risk Assessment as an example, NiPERA staff and consultants developed criteria tables that can be used to determine the quality and relevance of human data in nickel studies. Several modifications of the table have been developed and have been used by the consultants to evaluate nickel epidemiological data, human exposure data, and human sensitization data for use in the IUCLID database.

In Q3 2010, the development of the IUCLID database files for nickel matte and nickel ash were developed for REACH registration of these substances to ECHA. NiPERA staff, Nickel Institute staff, and various consultants worked to complete the IUCLID files for a joint submission by Nickel Consortia members. The IUCLID database files were circulated to the Working Group, Steering Team and the General Assembly in August and September of 2010 for approval and finalized in September 2010. No contracts regarding IUCLID updates were established for the Consortium 3 Workplan in 2010.

New Developments in 2011

In Q1 2011, the IUCLID database files for the Consortium 3 nickel substances were updated and circulated to the Working Group, Steering Team, and General Assembly for approval in Q2 2011. The updated dossiers were finalized and submitted to ECHA as part of our annual update in Q2 and Q3 of 2011.

In Q3 and Q4 2011, work was initiated to update the IUCLID database files for the planned 2012 update.

Application for Extension of Time To File an Exempt Organization Return

OMB No. 1545-1709

► File a separate application for each return.

- If you are filing for an **Automatic 3-Month Extension**, complete only **Part I** and check this box ☒
- If you are filing for an **Additional (Not Automatic) 3-Month Extension**, complete only **Part II** (on page 2 of this form).

Do not complete Part II unless you have already been granted an automatic 3-month extension on a previously filed Form 8868.

Electronic filing (e-file). You can electronically file Form 8868 if you need a 3-month automatic extension of time to file (6 months for a corporation required to file Form 990-T), or an additional (not automatic) 3-month extension of time. You can electronically file Form 8868 to request an extension of time to file any of the forms listed in Part I or Part II with the exception of Form 8870, Information Return for Transfers Associated With Certain Personal Benefit Contracts, which must be sent to the IRS in paper format (see instructions). For more details on the electronic filing of this form, visit www.irs.gov/efile and click on *e-file for Charities & Nonprofits*.

Part I Automatic 3-Month Extension of Time. Only submit original (no copies needed).

A corporation required to file Form 990-T and requesting an automatic 6-month extension - check this box and complete Part I only ☐

All other corporations (including 1120-C filers), partnerships, REMICs, and trusts must use Form 7004 to request an extension of time to file income tax returns

Type or print	Name of exempt organization or other filer, see instructions. NICKEL PRODUCERS ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, INC.	Employer identification number (EIN) or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13-3070077
File by the due date for filing your return. See instructions.	Number, street, and room or suite no. If a P.O. box, see instructions. 2525 MERIDIAN PARKWAY, NO. 240	Social security number (SSN) <input type="checkbox"/>
	City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. For a foreign address, see instructions. DURHAM, NC 27713	

Enter the Return code for the return that this application is for (file a separate application for each return)

04

Application Is For	Return Code	Application Is For	Return Code
Form 990	01	Form 990-T (corporation)	07
Form 990-BL	02	Form 1041-A	08
Form 990-EZ	01	Form 4720	09
Form 990-PF	04	Form 5227	10
Form 990-T (sec. 401(a) or 408(a) trust)	05	Form 6069	11
Form 990-T (trust other than above)	06	Form 8870	12

SCHUETZ CPA, PLLC

- The books are in the care of ► **2525 MERIDIAN PARKWAY, STE 240 - DURHAM, NC 27713**

Telephone No. ► **919-595-1947**

FAX No. ►

- If the organization does not have an office or place of business in the United States, check this box ☐
- If this is for a Group Return, enter the organization's four digit Group Exemption Number (GEN) _____. If this is for the whole group, check this box ☐. If it is for part of the group, check this box ☐ and attach a list with the names and EINs of all members the extension is for.

1 I request an automatic 3-month (6 months for a corporation required to file Form 990-T) extension of time until **AUGUST 15, 2012**, to file the exempt organization return for the organization named above. The extension

is for the organization's return for:

► ☒ calendar year **2011** or

► ☐ tax year beginning _____, and ending _____

- 2 If the tax year entered in line 1 is for less than 12 months, check reason: ☐ Initial return ☐ Final return ☐ Change in accounting period

3a If this application is for Form 990-BL, 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter the tentative tax, less any nonrefundable credits. See instructions.	3a	\$	0.
b If this application is for Form 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter any refundable credits and estimated tax payments made. Include any prior year overpayment allowed as a credit.	3b	\$	0.
c Balance due. Subtract line 3b from line 3a. Include your payment with this form, if required, by using EFTPS (Electronic Federal Tax Payment System) See instructions.	3c	\$	0.

Caution. If you are going to make an electronic fund withdrawal with this Form 8868, see Form 8453-EO and Form 8879-EO for payment instructions.

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see Instructions.

Form **8868** (Rev. 1-2012)

• If you are filing for an **Additional (Not Automatic) 3-Month Extension**, complete only **Part II** and check this box ☒ **X**

Note. Only complete Part II if you have already been granted an automatic 3-month extension on a previously filed Form 8868.

• If you are filing for an **Automatic 3-Month Extension**, complete only **Part I** (on page 1).

Part II Additional (Not Automatic) 3-Month Extension of Time. Only file the original (no copies needed).

Type or print File by the due date for filing your return. See instructions.	Enter filer's identifying number, see instructions	
	Name of exempt organization or other filer, see instructions NICKEL PRODUCERS ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, INC.	Employer identification number (EIN) or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13-3070077
	Number, street, and room or suite no. If a P.O. box, see instructions 2525 MERIDIAN PARKWAY, NO. 240	Social security number (SSN) <input type="checkbox"/>
	City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. For a foreign address, see instructions. DURHAM, NC 27713	

Enter the Return code for the return that this application is for (file a separate application for each return)

04

Application Is For	Return Code	Application Is For	Return Code
Form 990	01		
Form 990-BL	02	Form 1041-A	08
Form 990-EZ	01	Form 4720	09
Form 990-PF	04	Form 5227	10
Form 990-T (sec. 401(a) or 408(a) trust)	05	Form 6069	11
Form 990-T (trust other than above)	06	Form 8870	12

STOP! Do not complete Part II if you were not already granted an automatic 3-month extension on a previously filed Form 8868.

SCHUETZ CPA, PLLC

• The books are in the care of **2525 MERIDIAN PARKWAY, STE 240 - DURHAM, NC 27713**

Telephone No. **919-595-1947**

FAX No. ☐

• If the organization does not have an office or place of business in the United States, check this box ☐

• If this is for a Group Return, enter the organization's four digit Group Exemption Number (GEN) ☐. If this is for the whole group, check this box ☐. If it is for part of the group, check this box ☐ and attach a list with the names and EINs of all members the extension is for.

4 I request an additional 3-month extension of time until **NOVEMBER 15, 2012.**

5 For calendar year **2011**, or other tax year beginning ☐ , and ending ☐

6 If the tax year entered in line 5 is for less than 12 months, check reason: ☐ Initial return ☐ Final return

☐ Change in accounting period

7 State in detail why you need the extension

ADDITIONAL TIME IS NEEDED TO ACCUMULATE INFORMATION TO PREPARE AN ACCURATE TAX RETURN.

8a If this application is for Form 990-BL, 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter the tentative tax, less any nonrefundable credits. See instructions.	8a	\$	0.
b If this application is for Form 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter any refundable credits and estimated tax payments made. Include any prior year overpayment allowed as a credit and any amount paid previously with Form 8868.	8b	\$	0.
c Balance due. Subtract line 8b from line 8a. Include your payment with this form, if required, by using EFTPS (Electronic Federal Tax Payment System). See instructions.	8c	\$	0.

Signature and Verification must be completed for Part II only.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this form, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete, and that I am authorized to prepare this form.

Signature  Title **CPA / AGENT**

Date **8/13/12**

Form 8868 (Rev. 1-2012)