July 24th, 2015 – Tailings Spill RF1, TSF

Please find the following information as a follow up to the spill report submitted July 25th, 2015 by Agnico Eagle Meadowbank division, related to the tailings spill that occurred on July 24th, 2015 at the tailings storage facilities (TSF). This detailed report is submitted in compliance with the conditions under the Nunavut Water Board License 2AM-MEA0815, Part H, Item 9c.

Cause of Spill

The spill occurred on July 24th, 2015 at 9h50 am (CT). The spill occurred during the change of tailings deposition point to E13 along the Rock Fill Road 1 (RF1) in the North tailings Cell (TSF). Shortly after the tailings slurry was sent to point E13, a leak was identified on the tailings pipe. The pipe was damaged during the winter time and the crack was located under the pipe, below the pipe insulation layer. The damage was not observed during the pipe inspection prior to the spill as it was under the insulation layer. Figure 1 presents the approximate location of the spill and Photo 1 presents the pipe damage.

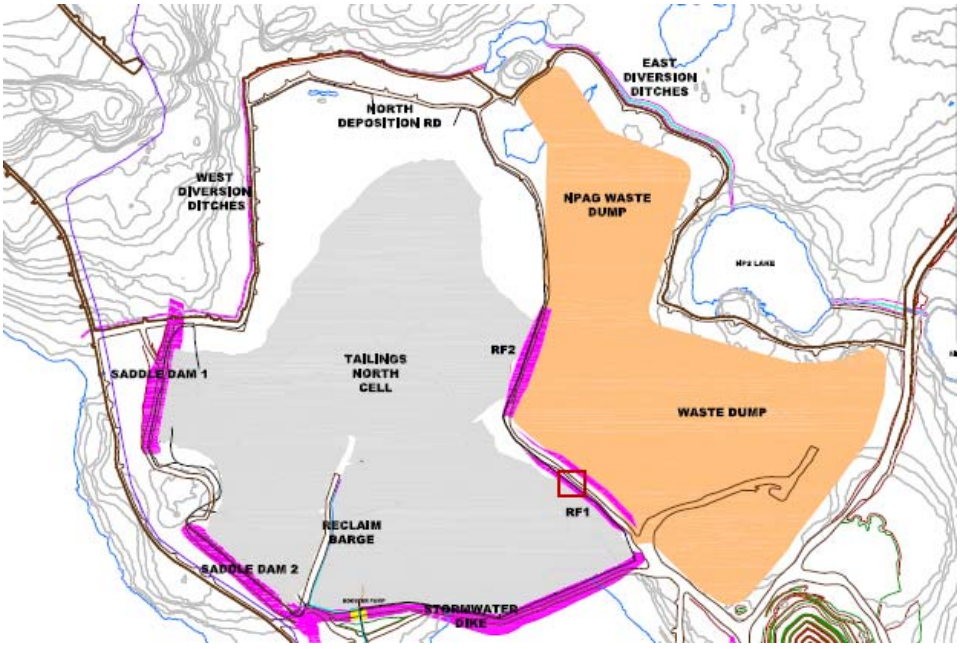

Figure 1 – Approximate location of the tailings slurry spill on RF1 from July 24th, 2015

Photo 1 – Pipe damage after the removal of insulation cover

Spill Description

Approximately 5000 liters (5 m^3) of tailings slurry was spilled because of the pipe damage. This estimation is based on the daily mill throughput:

Approximate daily slurry flow to TSF: 14,500 m^3

Approximate duration of the spill: 30 seconds (0.5 minute)

(14,500 m^3 /24 hours) = 604 m^3/h, therefore (604 m^3 / 60 minutes) = 10.0 m^3 /min

For 0.5 minute: 5.0 m^3 of tailings slurry

The slurry went over the surface of the RF1 and also on the slope towards the TSF impoundment. An area of approximately 245 m^2 on the surface of the RF1 was contaminated with tailings slurry, as presented on Figure 2.

As soon as the personnel in charge of the tailings deposition in the TSF noted that slurry was spilling after the switch of deposition point, the tailings discharge was stopped and pressure released. The tailings spilled from the pipe for approximately 30 seconds (0.5 minute). The tailings slurry flow was then sent back to the previous deposition point.

There was no environmental threat to the nearest water body; Third Portage Lake which is at approximately 1.25 kilometers to the west of RF1.

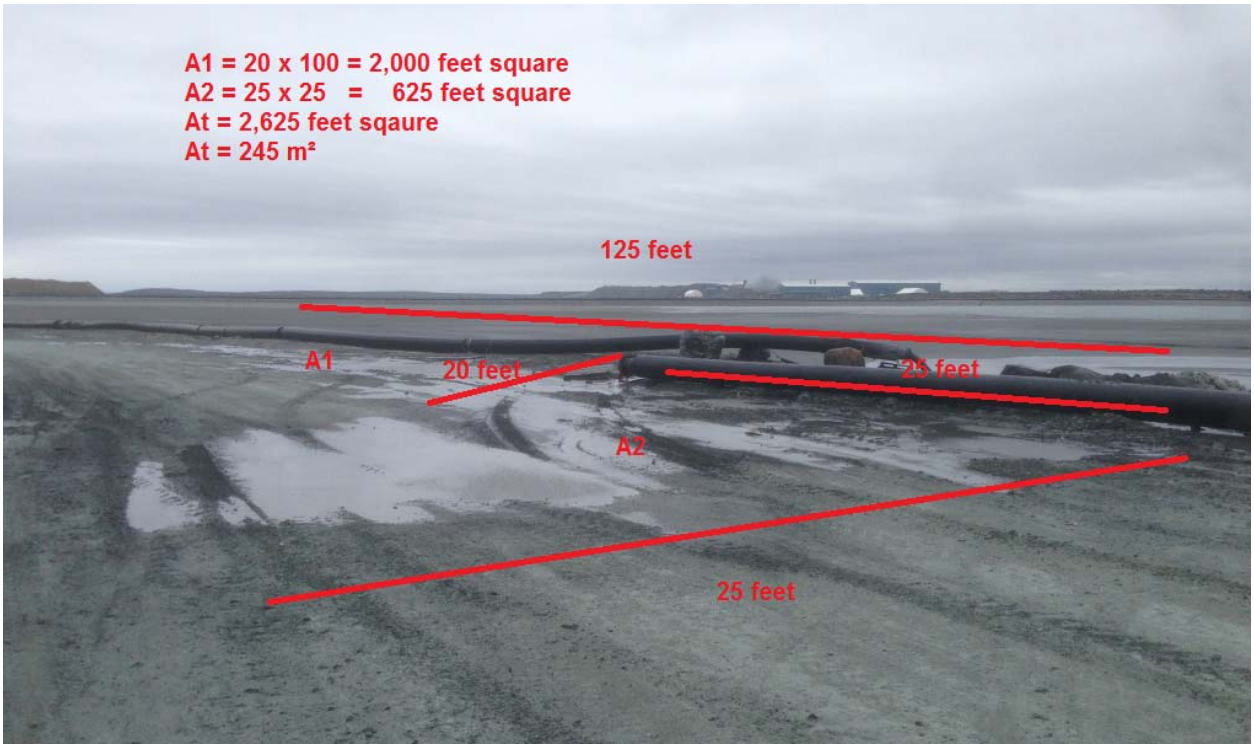

Figure 2 - An area of approximately 245 m^2 on the surface of the RF1 was contaminated

Remediation

Clean up was started on the morning of July 25th, 2015. As presented on Photo 2, the loader scraped the contaminated surface of RF1 to remove all the tailings slurry and contaminated soil. The contaminated material was then disposed in the Tailings storage facility impoundment by the loader, as presented on Photo 3. Clean aggregates were then placed on the surface of the road. Photo 4 shows the surface of the RF1 after the cleanup was completed.

Photo 2 – Cleaning of the RF1 contaminated surface with the loader

Photo 3 – Disposal of the contaminated soil in TSF

Photo 4 – RF1 surface after cleanup activities

Mitigation Action

In the future the Dike & Dewatering Team (in charge of the tailings deposition) will thoroughly inspect the piping prior to further deposition point moves and use the air compressor to identify any possible leaks on the pipe. The pipe was likely damaged during the winter by equipment used for snow plowing. Prior to next winter, equipment operators will be met to emphasize the importance of reporting incidents when the pipe is touched or damaged by equipment.

Closure

We trust that the above details described appropriately the spill incident that occurred at the Meadowbank TSF on July 24th, 2015 and the cleanup activities. Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions.

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