

October 11th, 2015 - Tailings Spill RF2, TSF

Please find the following information as a follow up to the spill report submitted October 11th, 2015 by Agnico Eagle Meadowbank division, related to the tailings spill that occurred on October 11th, 2015 at the tailings storage facilities (TSF). This detailed report is submitted to the Inspector in compliance with the conditions under the Nunavut Water Board License 2AM-MEA1525, Part H, Item 8c.

Spill Description

While switching the tailings deposition point in the North Tailings Cell, a spill of approximately 500L of tailings slurry occurred on RF2 (Rockfill Road 2). RF2 is a peripheral structure of the North Tailings Cell. After the deposition point change, while unflanging (separating) the inactive tailings pipe to complete the pipe clean up, some residual slurry left in the pipe spilled on the road surface, as the other extremity of the pipe was located at a higher elevation.

No watercourses are in the vicinity and there was no off site impact or discharge to any receiving watercourses.

Spill location: Northing: 7216031 Easting: 638094

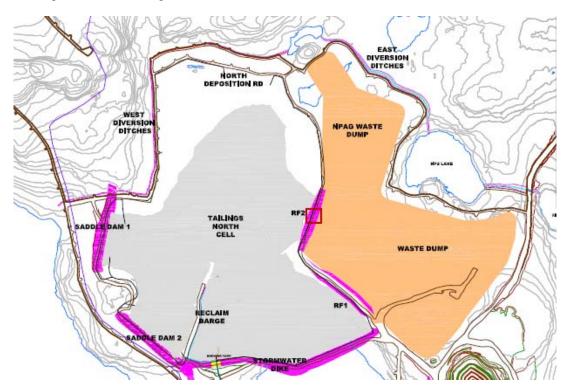


Figure 1 – Approximate location of the tailings slurry spill on RF2 (TSF) from October 11th, 2015

Clean-Up Actions

The slurry was confined over the RF2 structure and within the tailings facility area. An area of approximately 10 m² was contaminated by the tailings slurry. Immediately after the spill occurred on October 11th, 2015, the slurry and the contaminated material were collected with a loader. The loader scraped the contaminated surface of RF2 to remove all the tailings slurry and contaminated soil. The contaminated material was then disposed in the Tailings storage facility impoundment by the loader. Photo 1 shows the area after the completion of the clean-up.



Photo 1 - RF2 surface after cleanup activities, October 11th 2015

Mitigation Action

In the future the Dike & Dewatering Team (in charge of the tailings deposition) will inspect and ensure that the tailings pipe is clean and does not contain tailings slurry that could spill when unflanging (separating) the pipe, especially if one extremity of the pipe is located in a higher elevation.

Closure

We trust that the above details described appropriately the spill incident that occurred at the Meadowbank TSF on October 11th, 2015 and the cleanup activities. Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions.

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