

May 15th, 2016 Vault backhoe spill

Please find the following information as a follow up to the Spill report submitted May 16th, 2016 by Agnico Eagle Meadowbank division. 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

On May 15th, 2016, backhoe #10 was working in Vault pit area when the hydraulic pump seemed to failed causing hydraulic oil to be sprayed on the ground



There were no off site impact or discharge to any receiving watercourses.

Cause of Spill

The spill was caused when a bolt on a set of half clamps located on a block unit near the hydraulic pump broke. The initial assessment pointed towards pump failure but upon further investigation, the bolt was found to be at the root of the spill.

Remediation Actions

The backhoe was stopped immediately. Once the machinery could be moved safely, contaminated material was collected and brought to the landfarm area.



Corrective measures

The defective bolt was changed on the clamps. A visual inspection was done on the other clamp bolts on the backhoe and nothing particular was found. The failed bolt was also checked for stress signs. Nothing out of the ordinary was noted. The bolt type and brand was also found to be the same as usually used on Caterpillar equipment.

Closure

We trust that the above details described appropriately the spill incident that occurred at the Meadowbank on May 15th, 2016 and the cleanup activities. Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions.

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