

2023-08-17 MBK 30L Nitric Acid

GN reference #: 2023-351

Please find the following information as a follow up to the Spill report submitted August 18th, 2023, 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-MEA1530, Part H, Item 8c.

Spill Description

During operations at Meadowbank, drums of Nitric Acid were found in to be damaged in a sea can, resulting in areas of the sea can floor to be dissolved. Approximately 30 liters of nitric acid spilled onto the ground of the mill pad.





Spill Location: 65° 1'1.26"N & 96° 3'49.15"W on IOL

There were no off-site impacts or discharges to any receiving watercourse. Distance to the closest lake is 450m to Third Portage Lake.

Cause of Spill

Damaged drums

Remediation Actions

The drums were carefully extracted from the shipping container in order to enable the container handler to relocate it from the area for the purpose of excavating and removing the contaminated soil. An excavator was mobilized to excavate the contaminated soil, which was subsequently disposed of through the milling process.



Corrective measures

In order to confirm that this incident was isolated, inspections were conducted on all sea cans containing the same product. The investigation into the underlying factors behind the spill is ongoing. Agnico Eagle initiated communication with the supplier to obtain information regarding the potential factors that may have contributed to the drum's failure. The supplier is actively conducting their own investigation to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the unidentified factors that led to the incident. Agnico Eagle will implement corrective actions as deemed necessary in accordance with the findings.

Closure

We trust that the above details described appropriately the spill incident that occurred at the Meadowbank site on August 17th, 2023, and the cleanup activities. Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions.



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