AGNICO EAGLE
MELIADINE

Follow Up Report:
February 18, 2018 Fuel Tank Farm Spill

Description of Exceedance:

On February 18, 2018 a fuel spill was reported at the fuel tank farm. The spill occurred after the commissioning of the system, while transferring fuel to the Portal 1 fuel storage tank. A valve was left opened and not locked out at a connection that transferred fuel to the gas boy. Visual observations during the fuel transfer to the Portal 1 fuel storage tank showed that fuel was spilling out of the gas boy fuel line. Upon immediate observation of the spill, the system was shut down and no additional spill volumes occurred. During the fuel transfer, 1,022 liters of fuel were transferred to the Portal 1 fuel storage tank and approximately 6,500 liters were released to the environment in the area around the gas boy. This volume was calculated from instrumentation readings. No contaminants reached any water body.

Spill response:

E&I personnel were at the spill location during the occurrence. The Environment department was contacted immediately and straw logs and spill absorbent pads were mobilized to contain the fuel spill and to prevent the transport of contaminant away from the spill area. Due to the position of the fuel tanks located within the spill area near the gas boy, fuel spilled under the tanks was not easily accessed to be absorbed and disposed of as hazmat. There was extremely cold temperatures at this time (approximately -70 ^{o}C) and the ground where the spill occurred was frozen and the fuel also froze.

Spill Cleanup:

Once control of the spill site was obtained, spill cleanup activities were initiated. Approximately 4,500 l of free product was collected by pump to storage drums and totes. The collected free product is planned to be recycled as fuel for operating the incinerator at Site. Approximately 140 m^3 of snow and frozen fuel was removed and placed in the License A Landfarm. Since the area under the fuel tanks was not easily accessed for excavation, the tanks are currently being emptied so that they can be disconnected and removed so that equipment can access the area to complete the spill clean-up by excavating the area to remove any remaining fuel from the spill.

Spill Cause and Corrective Measures

The operator failed to close and lock-out a valve prior to initiating the fuel transfer. The spill was caused by human error, by not respecting all steps included in a JHA. A procedural check list was drafted to ensure that all steps are completed and executed correctly during future fuel transfers.