

## Follow Up Report: #19-169

### April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Orbit Drill 6 Spill

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#### **Description of Incident:**

On April 24<sup>th</sup> 2019, an inspection of Orbit Drill 6 was completed. A spill was discovered covering an area of approximately 0.5m<sup>2</sup>. It was estimated approximately 4 litres of oil was released onto the frozen surface of Lake B7. The incident occurred at drill hole M19-2518. GPS coordinates of the location are 538374.94N, 6989189.85W.

#### **Spill Response & Cleanup:**

Heat from the operation of the drill caused the ice to melt and oil flowed into the hole under the rig. Absorbent pads were used to collect oil from the water surface. Used absorbent pads were collected and disposed of in compliance with the hazmat management plan.



**Figure 1:** Absorbent pads used to clean up oil spilled beneath drill 6, on Lake B7.

## Spill Cause and Corrective Measures

The rotation head broke causing oil to leak to the drill floor and flow into the cutting tub. The cutting tub overflowed releasing approximately 4 litres of oil to the ice hole beneath the rig on Lake B7.

During the investigation it was determined a spill occurred 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019, at this location and an internal spill report was filed by Orbit Garant (the contractor). Due to a miscommunication between the environment department and the contractor, the report was not filed correctly and subsequently, the spill was not reported to regulatory authorities. It is unclear if the spilled oil at this location was a result of improper clean-up on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019, or if a second spill occurred at a later date.

Agnico Eagle's Geology department completed an additional follow up investigation and deemed the following corrective measures are necessary:

- Agnico Eagle staff will confirm clean-up of spills and complete drill inspections prior to drills relocating.
- Maintenance records will be kept for decantation tubs and cutting tubs under the drill.
- Orbit foremen will ensure thorough pre-operation inspections are completed.
- This incident will be used as an example during toolbox talks to remind staff of the importance of inspections and spill reporting.