

## Follow Up Report: #19-208

### May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Main Camp Lift Station – Treated Sewage Water

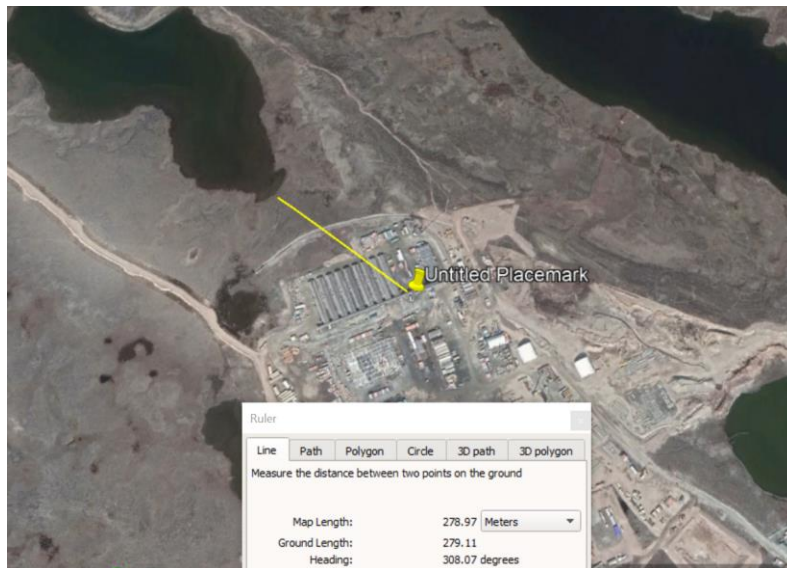
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#### Description of Incident:

During a daily inspection, water was noticed to be flowing from the main camp lift station. At this time, the treated wastewater from the exploration camp was being discharged into the lift station using a vacuum truck. The operator of the truck was notified immediately and pumping was stopped.

The cause of the spill was a mechanical failure on a glued elbow joint on the vertical section of piping from one of the lift station pumps. Approximately 8m<sup>3</sup> of water was released onto the ground. This release occurred in the same location as the spill occurring on May 12, 2019 (19-202).

No water bodies were impacted by this release. The closest natural water body is approximately 275m away.



**Figure 1: Spill location and distance to nearest water body.**

#### Spill Response & Cleanup:

Employees noticed the water and pumping from the truck was stopped immediately. A vacuum truck was used to remove standing water around the lift station building. Contaminated snow and soil was transported to the landfarm using a loader.



**Figure 2: The pipe, which is connected to the pump inside the lift station, separated at a connection point.**



**Figure 3: Standing water outside of the lift station was removed using the sucker truck.**

## **Spill Cause and Corrective Measures**

The immediate cause of the spill was the pipe which separated at a connection point. The pipe has since been reconnected and glued.

Following an investigation and consultation with the Energy & Infrastructure supervisor, discharging the MEL-7 treated effluent water into the MSB lift station is putting unnecessary strain on the pumps, leading to spills. To reduce the strain on the system, treated effluent from the exploration camp STP is being discharged to CP1, as per the Water Management Plan. The most recent MEL-7 results at the time of the spill showed that all parameters complied with criteria for discharge.