

Follow Up Report: #19-457

November 7, 2019 Sewage Spill

The following information refers to spill 19-457 reported by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. November 8th 2019, and is being provided in accordance with:

- the Nunavut Water Board License 2AM-MEL1631 Water License, part H, item 8c

Description of Incident:

On November 7th at approximately 11:00 am, ~25 L of sewage was spilled at the MSB sewage lift station. When hooking up the sucker truck line to the lift station the camlock coupler on the hose was improperly affixed to the connection resulting in the spill when the truck started pumping. No contaminants reached any water body. The closest water body, G2, was over 350 metres from the location of the spill.

Spill Response & Cleanup:

The truck operator shut down the pump. The sewage was then removed from surface with a backhoe, and surface gravel and ice was excavated and disposed of into the landfarm. A skid steer was used to remove more contaminated material that was close to the building. Approximately 0.5 tonnes of contaminated snow/ice and gravel were removed and placed into Landfarm A.

Corrective Measures

The spill investigation indicated that the camlock on the hose was not installed securely on the vacuum truck. Discussions between the Environmental department and Energy/Infrastructure (E/I) have decided that a secondary method of securing the camlock to the vacuum truck will be reviewed and utilized. E /I will review different available methods including using tie wraps, wire, Velcro, and/or tape to secure the camlock. In addition to this, the sewage truck procedure will be modified and the procedure will be reviewed with the vacuum truck operators. Figures 1 and 2 show the area after clean up.

Figure 1: Lift Station:Skid Steer finishing cleanup



Figure 2: Lift Station: After clean up

