

# Follow Up Report: #20-023

## January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Calcium Hydroxide Spill



The following information refers to spill 20-023 reported by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and is being provided in accordance with:

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

### Description of Incident:

On January 24<sup>th</sup> the Environment Department was contacted by a worker at the Process Plant informing that 50 L of 20 % liquid calcium hydroxide had spilled to the ground. A dosing pipe seal ruptured on a pressurized line, causing the solution to spray onto the interior wall of the process plant above the concrete secondary containment. As the solution flowed down the aluminum cladding walls to the concrete containment, some seeped out between the cladding and the concrete, which then flowed onto the industrial pad.

No water bodies were impacted by this spill. The closest natural water body is over 460 m from the spill location. The coordinates of the spill are 63° 2'16.77"N, 92°13'38.26"W.



**Figure 1:** Location of 20 % calcium hydroxide solution spill on the northern side of the process plant.



**Figure 2:** Calcium Hydroxide solution sprayed from the ruptured seal (circled) and seeped out between the cladding and concrete (arrow).



**Figure 3:** 50 L of 20 % Calcium Hydroxide prior to clean-up.

### Spill Response & Clean-up:

Mill personnel shut down the pump and tagged out the system to prevent further spillage. Material spilled outside of the building was collected using a telehandler, and placed in the mill sump. This material reentered the process and no further disposal considerations were required.

### Corrective Measures:

Parts are on order to replace the damaged seal. The pump was removed and reinstalled on the backup dosing line. The installation of spray guards has been recommended and feasibility is being evaluated.