

Follow Up Report: #20-463

December 15, 2020 – Haul Truck Hydraulic Spill

The following information refers to an incident reported by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. December 15, 2020, and is being provided in accordance with:

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

Description of Incident

At approximately 00:30 on November 15, 2020, a 50 ton haul truck working on the Ore Pad 2 (OP2) experienced a hydraulic hose failure. The operator lost hydraulic power and noticed the oil draining onto the pad. Workers used absorbents to contain and absorb as much oil as they could, but were unable to actually stop the hydraulic tank from draining out. Approximately 280L was released onto the ore pad.

The coordinates of this spill are 63° 2'4.41"N, 92°13'16.04"W. No water bodies were impacted by this spill.



Figure 1: Location of the spill on OP2.

Spill Response & Cleanup

Operators used absorbent pads to absorb as much of the oil as possible. The spill occurred adjacent to an ore pile and some of the oil made its way under the ore. The ore pile was pushed aside with a loader, and the affected ore was processed through the mill. The pad material below was scraped up with a loader, and approximately one cubic meter of pad gravel was removed and brought to the Landfarm A for future remediation.



Figure 2: Process photos of the clean up of the contaminated ore.

Cause of Incident and Corrective Measures

The specific cause in this incident was wear and tear on the vehicle. The operator did not notice hitting any rocks or debris, but the hydraulic hose came apart from the connection. Extremely cold temperatures were also a likely factor. Mandatory vehicle inspections are completed daily before each use, and a strict preventive maintenance schedule is followed. The hydraulic system was repaired, and the truck is back in operation.



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