

Follow Up Report: #20-466

December 20, 2020 – 60 L Untreated Sewage

The following information refers to an incident reported by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. December 20, 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 17:00 on December 20, 2020, the Environment Department was notified of a spill of an unknown amount of raw sewage/retention tank water. The spill was later estimated to be approximately 60 L. It occurred when a Victaulic fitting failed, which was connecting two segments of piping together. The piping transports water from the retention tank of the newly installed P-Wing to the main camp lift station.

The coordinates of this spill are 63° 2' 23"N, 92° 13' 39"W. No water bodies were impacted by this spill. The closest water body was approximately 315 m away.



Figure 1: Location of the spill beside P-Wing.

Spill Response & Cleanup

The water pooled in a depression at the toe of the pad behind P-Wing, making the recovery of the liquid straight forward. The sucker truck was used to recover the pooled water, which was later deposited into the MSB lift station.

Cause of Incident and Corrective Measures





Workers emptying the retention tank had adjusted a segment of the pipe and the fitting was loose and slipped off the pipe. Any residual water within the pipe drained out at that section. A closer inspection revealed that this was not the correct fitting for that type of pipe, and so when the pipe was adjusted it came loose. The fitting has since been replaced with a more suitable one.



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