

# Follow Up Report: #21-474

## November 23, 2021- Heat Recovery Water



The following information refers to an incident reported by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. on November 23, 2021, and is being provided in accordance with:

- the Nunavut Water Board License 2AM-MEL1631 Water License, Part H, item 8c
- the Government of Nunavut's, Environmental Protection Act subsection 5.1(a)

### Description of Incident:

Due to failure of an expansion joint on the heat recovery system, approximately 8 m<sup>3</sup> of water containing corrosion inhibitor (Drewgard 4109) spilled in the south end of the Arctic corridor (between the Multi Service Building (MSB) and the process plant), and then leaked to the ground below on the Industrial Pad. The mix of Drewgard to water in the system was estimated to be 11 L of Drewgard to every 1000 L of water.

No water body was impacted by this spill. The nearest body of water is >300 m away. The coordinates of the spill source are 63° 2' 17" N, 92° 13' 36" W.



**Figure 1:** Location of the spill source was inside the elevated pedestrian corridor, which then leaked to the ground below on the Industrial Pad.

### Spill Response & Cleanup:

- The system was shut down and isolated with the spill was primarily contained to the pedestrian walkway. As a result of winter conditions, the volume released to the ground froze in place and

was contained to the immediate area. Storage containers were removed from the area and a loader was used to clean up the frozen material. Waste material will be stored in totes for final disposal in the spring.



**Figure 2:** Final clean up.

## Spill Cause and Corrective Measures

The release occurred due to the failure of an expansion joint in the boiler recirculation system. A review of the original design indicated the correct components were used during construction. Therefore, the cause of the failed component is uncertain and is currently being investigated by an external consultant. The expansion joint was replaced, and the system inspected for further leak leaks. A visual alignment was performed by the Energy & Infrastructure Department millwright and heat technician using a level indicator and the remaining expansion joints were inspected for wear. Agnico Eagle Mines Limited will replace the expansion joints as per the recommendation from the external consultant.



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