

Follow Up Report: #2022067

March 6th, 2022 – Thickener Process Water Spill

The following information relates to spill 2022067 reported by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. On March 6th, 2022, and is being provided in accordance with:

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

Description of Incident

On March 6th, 2022, there was an overflow of approximately 45 m³ of thickener process water on the industrial pad, outside the process plant.

The coordinates of this spill are 63 2'13"N, 92 13'37"W. No water bodies were impacted by this spill; the closest water body (G2) is approximately 600 m northwest.

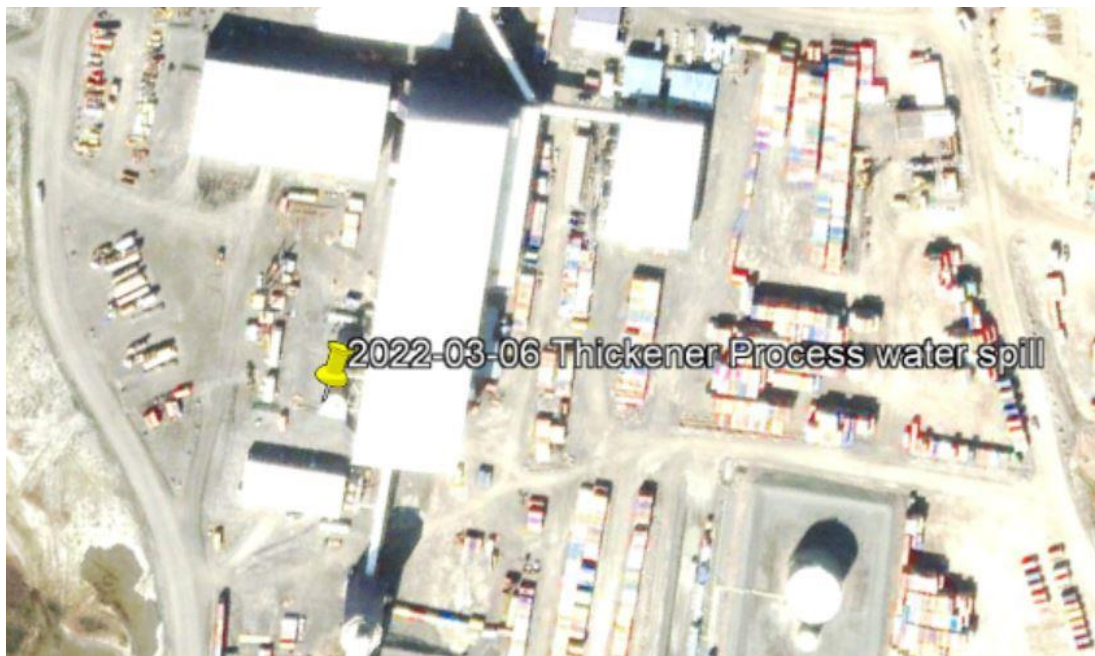


Figure 1: Location of the March 6th, 2022, thickener process water spill.



Figure 2: Thickener process water spill clean up

Spill Response & Cleanup

A temporary berm was built to contain the spill and minimize the impacted area. An excavator, loader and haul truck were used to clean up the spilled material. All material collected was placed in the process plant sump where it will be returned to the process plant system.

Cause of Incident and Corrective Measures

The investigation into the cause of the release identified ice build at the overflow discharge pipe. The ice buildup resulted in a blockage of the discharge causing the thickener tank to overflow.

It is important to note that the root cause of this spill was also the cause of a subsequent thickener water spill on March 11th (Spill #2022075). Thus, the corrective measures discussed in this section will be similarly included in the associated follow-up report to be issued in the coming week. The following corrective measures are being implemented:

- Visually inspecting the top of the grinding thickener/clarifier feedbox every 2 hours and clearing snow if safe (ongoing).
- Ensuring there is adequate water flow from the clarifier feedbox to the grinding thickener by removing some baffle on the clarifier feedbox (completed).
- Preventatively cleaning the grinding thickener overflow launder to regain a full capacity.
- Installing air vent system on the grinding thickener overflow pipe to the process water tank.
- Pouring a concrete secondary containment.
- Installing an additional thickener tank which will split the flow going into the grinding thickener.



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