Follow Up Report: #2022098
March 25th, 2022 – 25 L Sewage

The following information refers to incident #2022098 reported by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited March 25th, 2022, 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 12:40 on March 25th, 2022, after emptying the KCG sewage lift station tank, 25 L of sewage was spilled when the vacuum truck hose was disconnected.

The coordinates of this spill are 63° 1' 42.70"N, 92° 12' 47.81"W. No water bodies were impacted by this spill. The closest water body (B7) is approximately 870 m west.
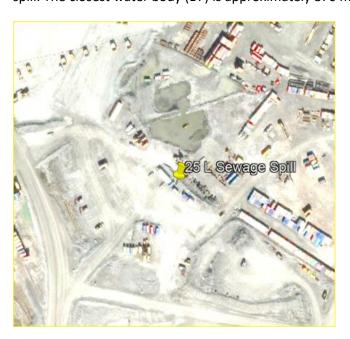

Figure 1: Location of the spill

Spill Response & Cleanup

The spill was contained to the local aera. The topography of the area and the freezing conditions prevented the sewage from migrating off site, facilitating spill recovery. Frozen contaminated material was collected using a backhoe and placed in drums to be returned to the sewage treatment system at a later date.

Figure 2: KCG sewage lift station tank spill cleanup

Cause of Incident and Corrective Measures

The operator of the sewage vacuum truck was unaware of the high level in the truck prior to emptying the KCG sewage lift station tank.

After emptying the KCG sewage lift station tank the operator closed the KCG sewage lift station tank discharge valve and attempted to clear the sewage vacuum truck suction line as per the procedure. The sewage vacuum truck was at capacity and unable to clear all of the fluid from the line. When the operator disconnected the sewage vacuum truck suction line the trapped sewage within the sewage vacuum truck suction line was released to the ground.

To prevent a similar incident from occurring, all sewage vacuum truck operators have received official training on sewage vacuum truck operations from the onsite training department.

Furthermore a review of the Sucker Truck Operations Procedure is ongoing and will be completed by all sewage vacuum truck operators.