

Follow Up Report: #2022171

May 8th, 2022 Saline Water Spill



The following information refers to spill 2022171 reported by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. May 8th, 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 May 8th, 2022 a water pump was turned on to pump saline water from one saline pond to another; from Saline Pond 1 to Tiriganiaq Pit 2. Shortly after, the Environment Department was informed that water was observed coming up from the Haul road north of Tiriganiaq Pit 2. Upon investigation, it was found that the pipe that transports the saline water had been broken; the pump at Saline Pond 1 was immediately turned off to stop the flow of saline water. It is estimated that a cumulative volume of approximately 800 L of saline water was discharged onto the Haul Road. Based on local topography, the runoff of this saline water will have entered Tiriganiaq Pit 2 (a saline pond) during the snowmelt period. The spill occurred due to a damaged pipe that had been struck by a grader when it was conducting routine maintenance of the Haul Road. Due to repeated grading activities on the road, enough material was removed to expose the pipe which resulted in the damage.

No water bodies were impacted by this spill. The closest natural water body, lake A38, is approximately 500 m from the spill location. The coordinates of the spill are 63° 1'30.56"N, 92°12'4.54"W.

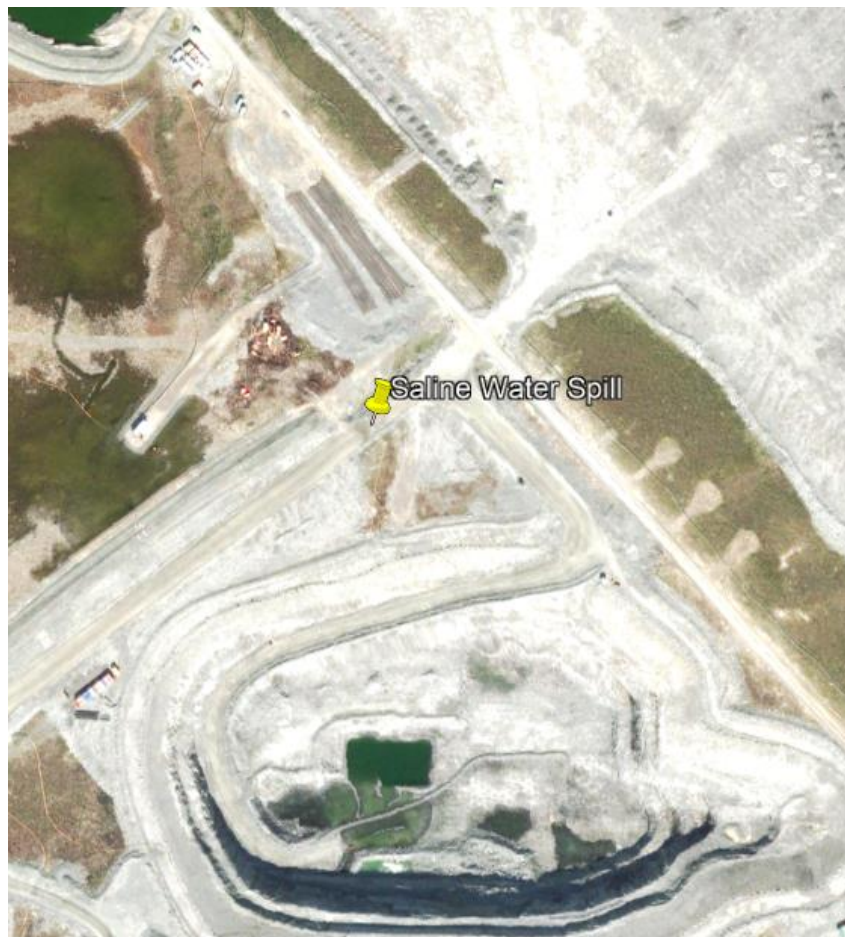


Figure 1: Location of saline water spill on the haul road north of Tiriganiaq pit 2.



Figure 2 and 3: Damaged pipe which saline water flowed out of (left) and repairs made the same day (right).

Spill Response & Clean-up:

Due to the local topography and the location in which the spill occurred being in the catchment of Tiriganiaq Pit 2 (a saline pond), the water will eventually report to the original destination of the pumping activities (Tiriganiaq Pit 2). Snowmelt and rainfall in the area will direct any residual to the saline water management system (Tiriganiaq Pit 2).

Corrective Measures:

Repairs were completed on the same day of the incident to prevent any future saline water spillage. The pipe was buried deeper under the Haul Road and additional material was placed on top of the pipe to ensure that grading operations would not expose the pipe again in the future. Locations of other buried pipes were inspected following this incident to ensure that similar accidents would not occur. Preventative maintenance will be performed to ensure the all pipes are adequately buried.

Weekly inspections by the Water management team will be completed which will include photo documentation of areas susceptible to future cracks. Any future cracks will be repaired immediately upon detection. As per usual site protocols, water movement pipes such as this will continue to be visually inspected carefully during start-up of pumping activities.



Randy Schwandt | Environment Coordinator

randy.schwandt@agnicoeagle.com | Direct 819.759.3555 x4603996 |

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited - Meliadine Mine, Suite 879 - Rankin Inlet, Nunavut,
Canada X0C 0G0

agnicoeagle.com     

Sent from Meliadine