

February 9th, 2023

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Sent via email: <u>kyle.amsel@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca</u>

# Re: Follow-up Report Spill #2023-011 – Spill of 7 m³ of Sewage at the Meliadine Gold Project

On January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Nunavut Spill Line was notified by Agnico Eagle personnel via email (spills@gov.nt.ca) of a spill of approximately 7 m³ of sewage at the Meliadine Gold Project site (spill location coordinates: 63° 2′ 23.60" N, 92° 13′ 39.57"). This follow-up report provides supplemental information based on the results of the incident investigation and is being provided in accordance with:

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

### **Description of Incident**

On January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at approximately 8:00 am, an estimated 7 m<sup>3</sup> of sewage was spilled to the industrial pad due to an equipment failure at the main camp lift station causing it to overflow. A worker discovered the spill occurring and notified their supervisor. The spilled sewage migrated south and collected in the multiple service building (MSB) parking lot. No water bodies were impacted by this spill. The closest water body (G2) is approximately 280 meters north, as seen in Figure 1.





Figure 1: Location of the sewage spill and proximity to water bodies.

#### **Spill Response and Remediation**

The Energy and Infrastructure Maintenance supervisor was notified that the spill was occurring and immediately sent an employee to stop the spill. The employee switched the pumping system into manual mode to lower the level in the tank to stop the overflow. The area was scrapped using a loader, and approximately 20 m³ of sewage-contaminated snow was brought to Landfarm A as per the Spill Contingency Plan.



Historically, smaller volumes of sewage or sewage-contaminated snow are disposed of within a sewage list station for treatment at the Sewage Treatment Plant. Alternatively, sewage-contaminated snow or soils may be utilized in the Landfarm. Due to the large volume of material that was generated from the spill remediation, Agnico Eagle requested and was granted and one time authorization from CIRNAC, in consultation with the KivIA, to allow for this material to be disposed of within the Tiriganiaq Pit 2.

Tiriganiaq Pit 2 is currently used for interim storage of saline contact water from the underground mine. This water will be treated at the Saline Effluent Treatment Plant (SETP) prior to discharge to sea at Melvin Bay to meet the MDMER discharge criteria.

#### **Root Causes and Corrective Measures**

An investigation was conducted soon after the incident occurred to determine the root cause and contributing factors. The investigation concluded with the following:

• The float detection system failed, resulting in the overflow.

The following corrective and preventative actions have been implemented to address the root causes and to reduce the likelihood of reoccurrence:

- Installation of a new float mechanism.
- An improved ultrasonic level sensor has been ordered and will be installed in this list station.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.





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Sent from Meliadine



## Appendix – Photos



**Photo 1:** Sewage spill location.





**Photo 2:** Sewage spill post remediation.