



May 4th, 2023

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Re: Follow-up Report Spill #2023-139 – Release of 20 L of Sewage at the Meliadine Gold Mine

On April 7th, 2023, the Nunavut Spill Line was notified by Agnico Eagle personnel via email (spills@gov.nt.ca) of a spill of approximately 20 L of sewage at the Meliadine Gold Mine site (spill location coordinates: 63° 2' 14.79" N, 92° 13' 25.64" W). This follow-up report provides supplemental information based on the results of the incident assessment and is being provided in accordance with:

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

Description of Incident

On April 7th, 2023, at approximately 13:30pm, an estimated 20 L of sewage was spilled onto the industrial pad by the powerplant wash car due to a miscommunication between the vacuum truck operators. During normal operations, both vacuum truck operators failed to confirm if hose was connected to the truck prior to transferring material from the lift station. No water bodies were impacted by this spill. The closest water body (G2) is approximately 595 meters northwest, as seen in Figure 1.



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

Spill Response and Remediation

The operator notified his supervisor of the incident. The supervisor then contacted the environment department to assess the spill. The sewage-impacted snow was excavated and brought to Landfarm A as per the Spill Contingency Plan.

Root Cause and Corrective Measures

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



- Lack of communication between operators. Both employees had radios but did not use them to confirm that the hose between the lift station and the vacuum truck was secure before the sewage transfer.

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

- Reviewed procedure and put emphasis on the importance of communication when conducting a sewage transfer.
- Reiterated the importance of always confirming the hose connection before starting the vacuum truck.

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



AGNICO EAGLE

MELIADINE



Photo 1: 20 L Sewage spill at powerplant washcar.



Photo 2: 20 L Sewage spill post remediation.