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Kyle Amsel  
Water Resource Officer  
Kivalliq Region, Field Operations Unit  
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  
Rankin Inlet, NU  
X0C 0G0

Sent via email: [Kyle.Amsel@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca](mailto:Kyle.Amsel@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca)

## **Re: Follow-up Report Spill #2023-402 – Release of 40 L of Sewage at the Meliadine Gold Mine**

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, the Nunavut Spill Line was notified by Agnico Eagle personnel via email ([spills@gov.nt.ca](mailto:spills@gov.nt.ca)) of a spill of approximately 40 L of sewage at the Meliadine Gold Mine site (spill location coordinates: 63° 2' 22"N, 92° 13' 41"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 September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at approximately 18:00, an estimated 40 L of sewage was spilled onto the industrial pad by wing 13 lift station. The pump was unplugged during routine lift station maintenance at wing 13 and was not plugged back in during the restart, causing the spill. No water bodies were impacted by this spill. The closest water body (Lake G2) is approximately 200 meters northwest, as seen in Figure 1.



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

## Response and Remediation

E&I Maintenance observed that the high-water level strobe light was on around 18:00 at wing 13. This prompted the dispatch of personnel to investigate the situation at wing 13 lift station. Upon arrival, personnel noticed the spill and closed the water source to prevent any further spillage. A vacuum truck was brought up to pump the water in the basin and the secondary containment. Spill pads were laid out to soak up any remaining wastewater on the ground. These pads were then disposed of in the incinerator. The ground surface was also hand excavated, and the recovered material was brought to Landfarm A as per the Spill Contingency Plan.

## Root Cause and Corrective Measures

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






- Investigation determined that the pumps were left unplugged after routine maintenance was completed.

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

- During the daily inspection of the lift stations, staff will verify that float pumps are plugged into the PDC-230 after any maintenance event; this has been added to the daily maintenance check list.

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



**Randy Schwandt** | Environment Coordinator  
[randy.schwandt@agnicoeagle.com](mailto: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](http://agnicoeagle.com)       
Sent from Meliadine

## **Appendix – Photos**

**Photos 1 and 2:** Sewage spill location.



**Photos 3 and 4:** Spill location post remediation.

