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## **Re: Follow-up Report Spill #2025-103 – Release of 1135 kg of emulsion at the Meliadine Gold Project**

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the Nunavut Spill Line was notified by Agnico Eagle personnel via email (spills@gov.nt.ca) of a spill of 1135 kg of emulsion at the Meliadine Gold Project site (spill location coordinates: 63° 2' 38.58"N, 92° 15' 23.74"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 2AM-MEL1631 Water Licence (the Licence), Part H, Item 8c.

### **Description of Incident**

On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at approximately 11:00AM, 1135 kg of emulsion was spilled onto the ground at the Dyno Plant laydown. A loader operator from the Underground Construction department was providing Dyno Nobel with assistance in weighing emulsion bins while their loader was down for maintenance.

While loading the first bin on the rack, the operator initially thought it was placed too deep. To adjust its position, he attempted to re-lift the bin, causing the bin to move even deeper on the rack and making it impossible to insert the forks into the bin cradle. As he lifted the bin from the ends of the fork to gain more purchase, it began to pivot, causing the base plate to press against the bottom of the forks, which resulted in the base plate breaking and the bin tipping over.

No waterbodies were impacted by the spill. The closest water body (G8) is approximately 350 meters northeast, as seen in Figure 1.



**Figure 1:** Location of the spill and proximity to waterbodies.

### **Response and Remediation**

The Dyno Nobel supervisor called the Environment coordinator to report the spill. Due to the thickness of the emulsion, cold air temperatures, and spill occurring on snow, the spill quickly gelled and was contained on the Dyno Plant pad. Dyno Nobel personnel then commenced remediation by recovering the spilled emulsion with a loader and putting the emulsion in a tote to be recirculated in the emulsion plant.

## Root Cause and Corrective Measures

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






- The Dyno Nobel loader that is usually used for this task was having its engine replaced. As such, the loader being used was not the usual equipment for the task.
- The Dyno Nobel team called the Underground Construction department's loader operator to weigh the full bins and place them on the rack. The new operator was unfamiliar with this task, which led to repeated adjustments that ultimately caused the bin to tip over.
- As the emulsion bin was tipping, the base plate of the bin broke which allowed it to tip fully over.

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

- Moving forward, in the case that the Dyno Nobel loader is unavailable to complete this task, Dyno Nobel will fill the emulsion bins with less emulsion so that their experienced operators can use their skid steer instead.
- In the case where another loader must be used, the loader will be operated by a Dyno Nobel operator.

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



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## **Appendix A – Photos**



**Photo 1:** Emulsion spill location, at the Dyno Nobel Laydown pad.



**Photo 2:** Broken base plate on the bin.



**Photo 3:** Emulsion spill location, post remediation.