Follow Up Report: #2022164
May 4th, 2022,
75 L Drilling Recirculation Water on Waterbody B38

The following information relates to spill #2022164 reported by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited on May 4th, 2022, and is being provided in accordance with:

- the Nunavut Water Board License 2BB-MEL1424 Water Licence, part H, item 4c
- the Fisheries Act subsection 38(7)

Description of Incident:

On May 4th, 2022, during an environmental inspection of the Orbit Garant drill rigs located on waterbody B38, a worker identified that 75 L of drilling recirculation water had overflowed from the decantation tank to the surface of the ice.

The coordinates of the spill are: 63° 0’ 26" N, 92°12' 35"W, which is on waterbody B38.

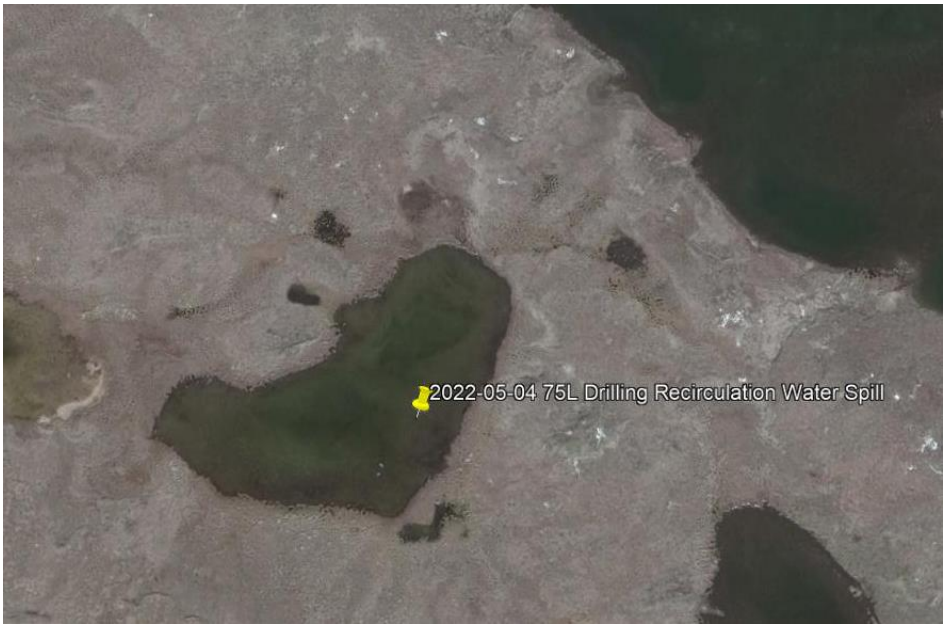

Figure 1: Drilling recirculation water spill location

Spill Response & Cleanup:

At the time of inspection, the decantation tank was no longer overflowing, and drilling recirculation water was no longer spilling onto the ice. The cleanup of the spill was completed as part of the final site cleanup as all drilling operations were complete at the site. During the drill site cleanup all impacted snow and ice was removed and sent to the drill cuttings disposal area with the remaining drill cuttings.

Figure 2: Spill location prior to clean-up. A post clean-up photo is not available. The corrective measures to follow to address this discrepancy are in the updated procedure EXP-ENV-001 as outlined below.

Cause of Incident and Corrective Measures

The release was a result of a natural cause as the borehole intersected a water vein, which caused an excess of water in the recirculation system (more water was coming out of the hole then being used for regular drilling operations). The decantation tank overflowed releasing recirculation water onto the surface of the ice. Orbit Garant stopped the flow of fresh water into the decantation tank immediately after the overflow was observed.

With respect to corrective measures, the procedure titled "**EXP-ENV-001 Brief summary for Environmental compliance during exploration activities"** has been updated to included further details on when and how the spring inspection and clean-up of previous drill sites and pump shack setups will be performed. Every inspection will be compiled in a folder accessible to Environment Department, with maps and pictures attached. The following reviews some key components of the updated procedure.

Updated Procedure EXP-ENV-001:

After the exploration activities:

- ✓ Remove the casings. Where drill casings cannot be removed, cut off the casings at ground level.
- ✓ Should a casing have to stay on site (land-based drilling only), note the coordinates and add signaling to keep the area safe. The drill casings that are left cannot stay on the field for more than 2 years after the drilling.
- ✓ Inspect each drilling site, remove all waste or material remaining and take pictures.
- ✓ If drilling on ice, take the final water samples according to the water Licence and associated procedure.

Overall spring clean-up, inspection, and final validation:

During the winter, drilling waste or materials can be covered up by wind, blizzards, or snow accumulation. A spring inspection is therefore of importance in addition to the post-drilling inspection conducted in the winter. At Agnico

Eagle Nunavut projects, a clean-up of the drilling sites is conducted every spring season (since 2008) upon snow melt. This practice was carried out even though it was not yet documented in a procedure. Agnico Eagle is proposing the following procedure items for the spring inspection and clean-up moving forward:

- ✓ Every week following the drilling campaign completion, a technician will perform a visual observation of the lake to determine if the snow melt is advanced enough to conduct the clean-up activities of material previously hidden under the snow.
- ✓ As soon as materials are observed, once every 1-3 days (depending on the weather and snow melt rate) a team will walk to every drilling setup and pick up all the remaining material. If the lake shore is accessible, they may access the lake by foot, if not then a helicopter can be used. Workers are required to wear floating PPE and always have visual contact with each other. Each worker will have a radio and make frequent radio checks with a supervisor on site. The working on ice procedure will be followed. All material is to be removed from the lake in a timely matter.
- ✓ If any petroleum hydrocarbons are observed, the quantity and nature of product will be assessed a picture will be taken and the Environment team will be contacted. Matting and other absorbents will be applied, and a GPS point taken and noted.
- ✓ A 10-foot pole with hook will be used to grab materials close to an open water hole. These holes are not to be approached closer than 6 feet by the workers, as the ice can be thinner around it.
- ✓ A map with the tracking of the areas covered by the team, with the location of all pump shacks and drill holes from the current season, will be created. All major findings and any spills observed will be noted on this map, with the date and the name of the project responsible on the field. The map will be provided to the environment team and attached in appendix of the weekly geology report. If some sectors were not accessible anymore due to health and safety considerations, they also will be noted. Drone photos taken on the lake of the old drilling setups will be attached to the environmental inspection compilation file with the map.

AGNICO EAGLE

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