# DIAMONDS NORTH RESOURCES LTD. FUEL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

# FOR DRILL SITES AND EXPLORATION CAMPS HEPBURN LAKE AREA

**NUNAVUT** 

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V.P. Operations

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#### **PREAMBLE**

This Fuel Spill Contingency Plan is effective from January 1st, 2007 to December 31, 2012 and applies to exploration programs conducted by Diamonds North Resources Ltd. in the Hepburn Lake, Nunavut Territory; Latitude 66°18.75' North Longitude 115°40'.

The Fuel Spill Contingency Plan has been prepared for internal company use and distributed to NWB for approval as part of Diamonds North's Water Licence application.

Copies and updates of this Plan may be obtained by writing to:

D. Graham Gill, P.Geo V.P. Operations Diamonds North Resources Ltd. 510-510 Burrard Street Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3A8

#### **Company Responsible for Undertaking:**

Diamonds North Resources Ltd. 510-510 Burrard Street Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3A8

#### **Company Representative (Corporate):**

D. Graham Gill V.P. Operations Ph: 604 689-2010 Fx: 604 484-7143

#### **Company Representative (On-site):**

Unknown at this time.

Phone and fax numbers for camp will be provided when communication contract is finalized.

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of Diamonds North Resources Ltd's Fuel Spill Contingency Plan is to provide a plan of action for any spill event during the Company's exploration programs in the Hepburn Lake area of Nunavut. This Plan provides the protocol for responding to spills (or potential spills) that minimizes health and safety hazards, environmental damage and clean up costs as well as defining responsibilities of response personnel. This Fuel Spill Contingency Plan details the sites that operations will be conducted upon, describes the response organization, action plans, reporting procedures and training exercises in place.

#### 2.0 SITE INFORMATION

#### 1. Campsite – (for operations in NWT only)

Capacity: 14 people

Structures: Four 14' x 16' sleep tents

One 32' x 14' kitchen tent One 14' x 16 coreshack

One 14' x 16' dry

One 14' x 16' first aid tent One 14' x 16' office tent

One outhouse

One generator shack

One heli-pad
One burn barrel

One fuel caches with Spill Kit

Spill response equipment located outside of coreshack

#### 2. Drill Sites

Map for geophysical targets has been supplied as final drill targets have not been finalized at this time.

Campsite/Esker:

Aviation and diesel fuel, gasoline to be stored in 45 gal (205 litre) drums.

(NWT)

These will be stored in quantities of up to 60 drums located a minimum of 100 metres from normal high water mark and in such a manner that no

fuel can enter any such water body.

Fuel Caches Aviation and diesel fuel to be stored in fuel caches near drilling

(Outside of Camp, operations. Once drilling is complete in one area the fuel cache will be moved to a new location proximal to the next site of drill operations. Al

moved to a new location proximal to the next site of drill operations. All fuel will be located a minimum of 31 metres from normal high water mark and in such a manner that no fuel can enter any such water body.

Drill sites: 2-3 barrels of diesel, propane and drill additives to be stored on each drill

(Nunavut) pad consecutively.

Note: Spill kits will be provided at each fuel cache, at each operational drill site and at the camp.

#### 3.0 RESPONSE ORGANIZATION

<u>Camp Technician</u> - responsible for checking fuel drum conditions and evidence of leakage daily, assuring drip trays are in place and not overflowing; keeping spill kits and absorbent mats in good repair and accessible. If spill or likelihood of a spill occurs the Technician will immediately report to the **Project Supervisor**.

Pilots and Drill Shift Boss to report spills or potential spills to the Project Supervisor.

<u>Project Supervisor</u> will report any spill to the NWT 24-Hour Spill Report Line and initiate cleanup. Project Supervisor will request additional aid from external sources if deemed necessary.

If one or more of these key personnel are absent from the site an alternative person will be named as either Camp Technician or Project Supervisor in the interim.

Names of key personnel to be responsible for activating the spill contingency plan will be made available once crew members have been hired.

#### 4.0 REPORTING PROCEDURE

Communication in the way of two-way radios will be set-up in the event that if a spill occurs outside of camp at either the drill rig or external fuel cache it can be immediately reported to the Project Supervisor.

All spill kits located at all sources of fuel will have contact information for the NWT Spill Report Line prominently displayed.

A listing of the NWT 24 Hour Spill Report Line as well as other government contacts and company officials will be displayed adjacent to the satellite phone in camp. (See Reporting Procedure and Contacts provided below).

#### SPILL REPORTING PROCEDURE

Fill, out "SPILL REPORT" form as completely as possible before making the report. Report IMMEDIATELY to Yellowknife using the 24-hour Spill Report Line

#### 24-HOUR SPILL REPORT LINE (867) 920-8130 AND TO DIAND WATER RESOURCES INSPECTOR (867) 975-4298

NOTE: Telephone calls can be made collect by informing the Operator that you wish to report a spill.

RCMP communications may be used if other means are not available.

#### **Additional Information or Assistance:**

#### **Regulatory Bodies:**

Government of Northwest Territories

Pollution Control Division

Yellowknife Phone: (867) 873-7654

Department of Indian Affairs and

Northern Development

Yellowknife Phone: (867) 920-8240

Environment Canada Phone: (867) 669-4700 Yellowknife Fax: (867) 873-8185

Environment Canada Phone: (867) 975-4639

Iqaluit

**RCMP** Detachment

Yellowknife Phone: (867) 669-5100

#### **Contractors:**

**Discovery Mining Services** 

Yellowknife Phone: (867) 920-4600

EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd.

Yellowknife Phone: (867) 873-2287

#### **Company Contact:**

Diamonds North Resources Ltd. Phone: (604) 689-2010

A detailed report on each occurrence must also be filed with the DIAND Water Resources Inspector no later than 30 days after initially reporting the event. The Spill Report Form is attached as Appendix II.

#### 5.0 INITIAL ACTION

1.0 Stay alert and consider safety first. Identify the source of leak or spill and the type of product.

2.0 Assess the hazards to persons in the vicinity of the spill.

3.0 Isolate or remove any potential ignition source.

4.0 Control danger to human life if possible.

5.0 Assess whether the spill can be readily stopped or brought under control.

6.0 If safe (and possible) try to stop the flow.

7.0 Report the spill to the Project Supervisor and to the NWT 24-hour Spill Report Line at (867) 920-8130.

8.0 Initiate or resume clean up.

#### 6.0 ACTION PLANS

The following responses are recommended for fuel spills in differing environments.

Depending on the location and size of the exploration program some of the equipment mentioned in the responses listed below will obviously not be located on site but could be transported to the

spill if deemed necessary. The most likely scenario for fuel spills in this type of exploration program would include; leaking drums, hydraulic line malfunction and re-fueling operations. It is not anticipated that a spill of more than 45 gallons will occur as no fuel container on-site will exceed this capacity.

#### 6.1 Spills on Land (gravel, rock, soil and vegetation)

Trench or ditch to intercept or contain flow of fuel or petroleum products on land where feasible (loose sand, gravel and surface layers of organic materials are amenable to trenching/ditching-trenching in rocky substrates is typically impractical and impossible.)

Construct a soil berm downslope of the spill. Use of synthetic, impervious sheeting can also be used to act as a barrier.

Where available, recover spills through manual or mechanical means including shovels, heavy equipment and pumps.

Absorb petroleum residue with synthetic sorbent pad materials.

Recover spilled and contaminated material, including soil and vegetation.

Transport contaminated material to approved disposal or recovery site. Equipment used will depend on the magnitude and location of the spill.

Land based disposal is only authorized with the approval of government authorities.

#### 6.2 Spills on Snow

Trench or ditch to intercept or contain flow of fuel or petroleum products on snow, where feasible (ice, snow, loose sand, gravel and surface layers of organic materials as amenable to trench/ditching; trenching in solid, frozen ground or rocky substrates is typically impractical and impossible).

Compact snow around the outside perimeter of the spill area.

Construct a dike or dam out of snow, either manually with shovels or with heavy equipment such a graders and dozers where available.

If feasible, use synthetic liners to provide an impervious barrier at the spill site.

Locate the low point of the spill area and clear channels in the snow, directed away from waterways, to allow non-absorbed material to flow into the low point.

Once collected in the low area, options include shoveling spilled material into containers, picking up with mobile heavy equipment, pumping liquid into tanker trucks or using vacuum truck to pick up material.

Where safe, disposal can be done through in-situ combustion with approval from government and safety consultants.

Transport contaminated material to approved disposal site. Equipment used will depend on the magnitude and location of the spill.

#### 6.3 Spills on Ice

Contain material spill using methods described above for snow, if feasible and/or mechanical recovery with heavy equipment.

Prevent fuel/petroleum products from penetrating ice and entering watercourses.

Remove contaminated material, including snow/ice as soon as possible.

Containment of fuel/petroleum products under ice surface is difficult given the ice thickness and winter conditions. However, if the materials get under ice, determine area where the fuel/petroleum product is located.

Drill holes through ice using ice auger to locate fuel/petroleum product.

Once detected, cut slots in the ice using chain saws and remove ice blocks.

Fuel/petroleum products collected in ice slots or holes can be picked up via suction hoses connected to portable pump, vacuum truck or standby tanker. Care should be taken to prevent the end of the suction hose clogging up by snow, ice or debris.

Fuel/petroleum products that have collected in ice slots may be disposed of by in-situ burning if sufficient holes are drilled in ice. Once all the holes are drilled, the oil which collects in the holes may be ignited. Consult with fire/safety consultants and government authorities to obtain approval.

#### 6.4 Spills on Water

Contain spills on open water immediately to restrict the size and extent of the spill.

Fuel/petroleum products which float on water may be contained through the use of booms, absorbent materials, skimming and the erection of culvers.

Deploy containment booms to minimize spill area, although effectiveness of booms may be limited by wind, waves and other factors.

Use sorbent booms to slowly encircle and absorb spilled material. These absorbent are hydrophobic (absorb and repel water).

Once booms are secured, use skimmers to draw in hydrocarbons and minimal amounts of water. Skimmed material can be pumped through hoses to empty fuel tanks/drums.

Culverts permit water flow while capturing and collecting fuel along the surface with absorbent materials.

Chemical methods including dispersants, emulsion - treating agents and shoreline cleaning will be considered.

#### **NOTE:**

- 1. **Material Safety Data Sheets** for all hazardous materials involved in this project are listed in Appendix III. These MSDS sheets are for all drilling muds, polymers and greases as well as for diesel, propane and gasoline. Some of the products listed are not on site but are included in case these drilling additives are required in the event of poor ground conditions.
- In-situ combustion is a disposal method available for fuels and petroleum products. In-situ burning can be initiated by using a large size portable propane torch (tiger torch) to ignite the fuel/petroleum products. Highly flammable products such as gasoline or alcohol, or combustible material such as wood, may be used to promote ignition of the spilled product. The objective is to raise the temperature for sustained combustion of the spilled product.

Precautions need to be taken to ensure safety of personnel. Also, spilled product should be confined to control burning. These include area where the spilled material has pooled naturally or been contained via dikes, trenches, depressions or ice slots. Prior to any attempts at in-situ burning, consultation with experts and approval by government authorities are required.

- Chemical response methods are also available and may include the use of dispersants,
   Emulsions-treating agents, visco-elastic agents, herding agents, solidifiers, and shoreline cleaning agents.
- 4. Biological response methods include nutrient enrichment and natural microbe seeding.
- 5. Site remediation will be completed as per the advice of government authorities.

#### 7.0 RESOURCE INVENTORY

#### Resources available on site:

Trenching/digging equipment in the form of picks and shovels.

Absorbent material (pads)

**Pumps** 

Impervious sheeting (tarps)

Plastic bags, buckets, empty drums for collection of contaminated material.

#### Resources available from other sources:

Larger pumps if necessary; Yellowknife, NT

Bobcat/excavator; Yellowknife, NT

Contact: EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd.

Phone: (867) 873-2287

Contact: Discovery Mining Services Ltd.

Phone: (867) 920-4600

#### 8.0 TRAINING/EXERCISE

Diamonds North Resources Ltd. is an established mining exploration company and has explored for minerals in several prospective diamond mining provinces and territories for over three years. The Company's record of compliance with regulations and environmental management is excellent. All contract personnel will be briefed and given a copy of the Fuel Spill Contingency Plan before field operations begin. Mock spill response exercises will be conducted early in the program to ensure response criteria, communication and reporting requirements are met and fully understood.

# Appendix I

**Spill Kit Contents** 

Appendix II

**Spill Report Form** 

# Appendix III

**Material Safety Data Sheets** 

## Appendix IV

**Hazardous Waste**