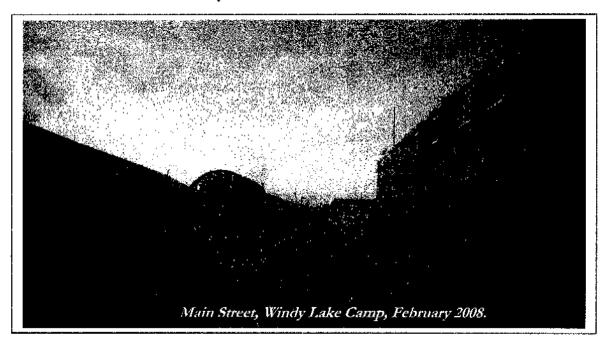


Windy Lake Camp Treated RBC Effluent Incident Report Spill Number #08-061



HOPE BAY MINING LIMITED

March 2008

Prepared by: Matthew H Kawei Senior Environmental Coordinator

In Compliance with KIA Land Use License No: KTL303C056 and NWB Water Use License No: 2BE-HOP0712 (Hope Bay Regional)

In-house Document # HBMLENV 01 2008 March 2008

Nunavut Water Board

MAR 1 9 2008

Public Registry

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Overview

On the morning of Tuesday February 19, 2008 at about 0830, a camp maintenance crew on his routine morning inspection noticed an odour in the air. Further investigation revealed that the submersible pump at the lift station had ceased and treated water was overflowing out the of the lift station onto the snow and running down the slope towards the new exploration building that is currently under construction. An estimated volume of <0.5 m³ of treated effluent from the rotating biological contractor (RBC) had overtopped the storage tank at the lift station and run the snow. The employee quickly notified his supervisor and remedial action immediately took place.

Accident reports and details of the initial remedial work were received from camp personnel and were used as the basis for preparing a report to the 24-hr NWT Spill Report Line. However, the initial report was not submitted, due to some confusion on if this was a reportable event since it was only treated water that was released. After talking with the regulators, we were informed that treated effluent spillage of more than 25 litres is classified as a spill and should be reported to the NWT Spill Report Line, An incident report was then submitted to the regulatory authorities.

1.2 Facts relating to the treated sewage effluent incident of February 19 2008

Table 1 provides summary data of the findings into the treated sewage effluent overflow incident. The root causes identified were - (i) the submersible sump pump had burnt out; and (ii) no alarm system installed to notify camp maintenance personnel of the situation.

Aspect	Impact/Activity	T
	(i) Submersible sump pump burnt out	A

Table 1 A summary table giving aspects, impacts, and root cause of the incident.

Aspect	Impact/Activity	Comments
Root Causes	(i) Submersible sump pump burnt out	Allowed to run to life span of pump
Root Causes	(ii) No alarm installed at Lift Station	Alarm is now installed at the Lift Station
Immediate Cause	Continuous pumping from RBC Unit	The pump installed inside the RBC Unit continued to pump treated RBC effluent to the Lift Station at regular intervals until it was manually switched after the discovery of the incident.
Estimated Vol (m³)	<0.5	Treated RBC effluent
Contaminated Area	Approximately 90 m ²	This includes areas between the Lift Station and the new exploration building.
Operation of Lift Station	Downtime approximately 4 hours on February 19 2008	No discharge
Submersible pump	Replaced burnt out pump with a spare submersible pump on February 19 2008	Normal Operation thereafter
Clcan-up	On February 20 2008, camp maintenance started chipping frozen treated effluent.	Co disposal with treated effluent over the ridge at designated discharge point.
Alarm	Audible alarm installed at Life Station	Installed on February 19 2008

1.3 Long-term Strategy to Prevent Future Occurrences

An alarm system has been installed on the unit to prevent any additional overflow of treated effluent at the lift station in the future. The alarm system consists of a light system in the supervisor's office, an audible alarm on the unit itself and a control valve on our main water supply, which will shut down the supply of treated water to the lift station in the event that the sump pump fails at the lift station.

The incident has highlighted the need for effective preventive maintenance (PM) protocols for sewer systems at all HBML camps. Where possible, the PM protocols should extend to other infrastructures such the fuelling systems and power generation systems.

In cases where a machine, in this case a sump pump (scaled unit) has to run to its life span, such item should be listed as a critical components and a decision should be made to have a replacement on shelf at camp. This was the case for this pump, since a second pump was at camp as a contingency measure.

The overflow of the treated sewage effluent can happen in four ways: (i) mechanical breakdown of the pump; (ii) electrical problems to the pump; (iii) float getting entangle; and (iv) frozen line between the lift station and the authorized discharge point over the ridge.

To counter the above-identified scenarios, the lift station will be designed to prevent similar incidents from occurring.

1.4 Spring Confirmation Sampling

A set of water samples will be taken along the beach at HOP-1 and from the pond just below the RBC and Clementine Units. Sampling of these water bodies will be used to confirm that remediation measures undertaken were successful.

Samples will also be obtained from sampling locations HOP-2 and HOP-3 as per conditions stipulated under the *License No. 2BE-HOP0712* for Hope Bay.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 General

This report is a follow-up to the initial incident report sent to Spill Center. It provides details on the nature of the incident, remediation work that has taken place after the incident and the proposed monitoring strategy of the impacted area during spring of 2008 and other recommendations for long-term prevention of similar incidences at Windy Lake Camp.

2.2 Site Location and Description

Located in western Nunavut, east of Bathurst Inlet within the Hope Bay Greenstone Belt, Windy Lake lies within the zone of continuous permafrost at approximately 68°03'99.1"N and 106°36'55.6"E.

The site consists of an approximate 100-person camp constructed for support services directed towards exploration activities. The camp is situated on the slope of the eastern bank of Windy Lake. The lakeshore is approximately 50 m distant toward the west and the regional gradient surrounding the camp ranges from approximately 2% to 20% towards the west. The camp is approximately 400 metres (m) in length from north to south and 100 m wide from east to west, covering an area of 40,000 m². The camp facilities are located on natural tundra underlain by a 10 cm organic layer overlying silt-sand parent material. On high traffic areas, very little organic layer is present.

The camp uses a RBC sewage treatment facility, which is located west of the camp facilities. The treated RBC effluent is pumped from this unit to a lift station located southeast of the main camp facilities. At the lift station, a sump pump pumps the treated effluent though a heat trace insulated discharge line over the ridge northeast of Windy Lake Camp and to the authorized discharge point.

Camp potable water is drawn from Windy Lake with a pump located within the main building complex through a water meter. The raw water is passed through a set of filtering units, a UV light then through the osmosis process before entering into the water distribution system.

The camp lay out is shown in Figure 1. The photography shows the locations of major facilities within the footprint of Windy Camp.

2.3 Windy Lake Camp Sewage Treatment System

BHP Limited established the current location of the RBC Unit at Windy Lake Camp and operated the camp for a number of years. Miramar Hope Bay Limited took the camp over after it purchased rights to the property from BHP. The Clementine Unit was installed in parallel with the RBC Unit in 2007 by Miramar Hope Bay Limited to allow for the increasing personnel at Windy Lake Camp. Hope Bay Mining Limited took over the camp during the takeover of Miramar Mining Corporation in December 2007.

The Sewer System is made out of a Rotating Biological Contractor (RBC) Unit, a Clementine Unit, a Lift Station and 500 meters of HDPE discharge lines. Figure 1 shows the location of each of the component of the system.

All grey water and raw sewer water from the facilities are gravity feed into chamber number 1 in the RBC Unit. After undergoing treatment processing in two chambers, the effluent is gravity feed to the Clementine Unit for further processing. The final treated effluent is then gravity feed into the pump box attached to the Clementine Unit before being pumped to the Lift Station. At the Lift Station, a second float triggered pump moves the final effluent along the 300 m insulated HDPE line over the ridge for release at the authorized point of discharge.

2,3.1 Lift Station

The lift station is actually an insulated fibreglass tank installed on the tundra at the foot of the hill cast of the camp (Appendix 1). Inside the tank is a submersible pump, which is a sealed unit. The pump that failed had been in operation for about five years. A second pump was at hand onsite as part of the contingency planning. A float is attached to the pump to initiate start-up and shut down. At a given water level, the pump kicks in and pumps treated effluent though an insulated 2-inch HDPE line.

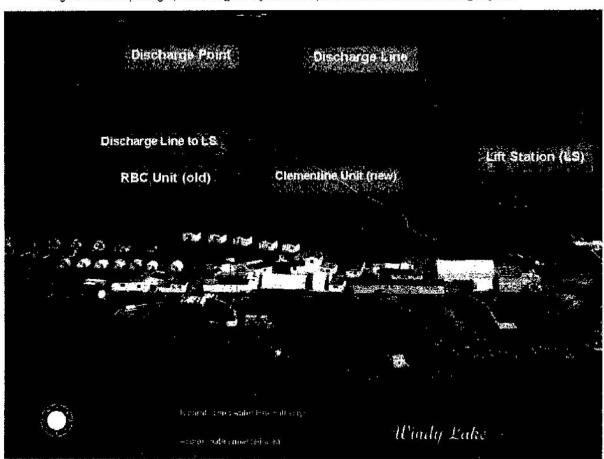


Figure 1: Aerial photograph showing Windy Lake camp sewer treatment and discharge system

2.4 February 19 2008 Treated Effluent Incident

On the morning of Tucsday February 19 2008 at about 08:30 am, a camp maintenance crew on his routine morning inspection noticed an odour in the air. Further investigation revealed that the submersible pump at the lift station had ceased and treated effluent was overflowing out the of the lift station onto the snow and running down the slope towards the new exploration building currently under construction. An estimated amount of <0.5 m³ of treated effluent had overflowed its tank and run onto the snow. The employee quickly notified his supervisor and remedial action immediately took place.

2.5 Chronology of Events

The environmental personnel derived the following from the accounts of Accident Report document, various emails from camp personnel to offsite corporate personnel and onsite investigation.

2.5.1 Discovery of Incident

On the morning of Tuesday February 19 2008 at about 08:30 am, a camp maintenance crew on his routine morning inspection noticed an odour in the air.

2.5.2 Notification of Incident

Initial in-house reporting was sent to HBML personnel on February 19 2008. A complete in-house notification report was sent on February 20 2008 as a Safety Alarm. Confusion arose as to if this was a reportable incident. This issue was sorted out after few phone calls to NWB personnel. Using a proper Nunavut Spill form, the incident report notification was then emailed and faxed to the NWT 24-hour Spill Line on February 28 2008. (Appendices A, B, & C)

2.5.3 Replacement of Pump

On February 19, the failed submersible pump was removed and replaced with a spare pump. The pump was tested and found to be working fine. The Lift Station was then returned to normal operation. The downtime was approximately 4 hours.

2.5.4 Installation of Alarm

A new audible alarm system was installed and tested at the Lift Station on the February 19 2008. The alarm is functional and can be seen and heard from the Site Supervisors Office (Appendix D).

2.5.5 Removal of Contaminated Snow

On February 20, camp crew started chipping off the frozen treated sewage effluent. This continued through the day until the weather changed and prevented further (Appendix E).

Corncobs were spread over the area influenced after chipping of the frozen treated sewage effluent was stopped. The intent is to absorb any residual water once the temperature gets warmer.

2,5.6 Environmental Personnel to Site

Arrival of Environmental personnel to Windy Lake Camp on February 26 2008 at about 5:00pm. A brief walk around the incident site started after collection of a set of treated water effluent at the Lift Station (HOP-2). Continued inspection on February 27 2008.

3.0 SITE INVESTIGATION

Environmental personnel started the investigation on the evening of February 26. The investigation was completed on the morning of February 27 2008. The delayed in getting the investigation done in a day was due to continuous bad weather at Windy Lake Camp, making ground inspection difficult at times.

3.1 Treated Sewage Effluent Sampling Lift Station (HOP-2)

A set of water samples were collected from HOP-2 on February 26 2008 and sent to an external laboratory for water analyses. This was required under the *License No. 2BE-HOP0712*. The parameters requested for testing are similar to that stipulated in the permit. The information obtained will aid in the planning process for confirmation monitoring to be completed in the spring.

3.2 Land Area Influenced by the Spill

The influenced area is estimated to be 90 m² between the Lift Station and the Erection Tent and the new Exploration building. A limited area under the new Exploration building is included in this

estimation. The treated effluent froze immediate and the remediation efforts undertaken are believed to have successfully removed the spilt material.

4.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT AND CLEAN-UP

4.1 Area Influenced

The site was surveyed on February 19 and 20 2008 by Environmental personnel to determine the surficial area influenced by the release of treated effluent.

4.1.1 Land

The surveyed boundary for the influenced area on the land was based upon Environmental personnel visual identification of treated effluent on the snow and the drainage network. The estimated surficial area of influence on snow/land was 90 m².

4.1.2 Snow

Impacted snows were shovelled into a number of skimmers. The skimmers were skidded to the final discharge point over the ridge for disposal at the normal discharge point.

4.1.3 Contaminated Snow/Ice Waste placement

On February 20 2008, camp maintenance started chipping frozen treated effluent out and hauling it inside skimmer to the final discharge point over the hill east of Windy Camp to be co-disposed together with the normal treated effluent. Chipping of frozen treated effluent stopped when it become impossible to chip any further.

5.0 LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

5.1 Rotating Biological Contractor (RBC) systems

The current location of the RBC Unit was established by BHP before Hope Bay Mining Limited took the camp over. The Clementine Unit was installed in parallel with the RBC Unit in 2007 by Miramar Hope Bay Limited to improve sewage management for the increasing personnel at Windy Lake Camp (see Figure 1).

5.1.1 RBC Unit and Clementine Unit

The planned relocation of the RBC and Clementine Units are in the planning phase. KIA and appropriate government agencies (see Part G of the License No: 2BE-HOP0712) have to give final approval for the identified site southeast of Windy Lake Camp and obtain written consent from the NWB board to carry out modifications to the waste disposal facilities to make the relocation possible. A contractor has been identified by HBML to carryout the task. To commence with the planned relocation, KIA must give approval for the use of: (i) crushed gravel from Roberts Bay quarry; and (ii) approve building of all-weather road from Roberts Bay to Windy Lake Camp. Relocation of these Units and associated facilities can only be carried out during winter months.

5.1.2 Lift Station

The Lift Station may also be relocated as part of the relocation of the treatment system, A secondary containment berm could also be used as another means of spill contingency. Section 1.3 of this report indentifies the likely scenarios for a future spill.

5.1.3 Final Discharge Point

The current final discharge point will be maintained. Additional lines will be added to increase the length of the insulated line to well over the ridge thereby preventing a build-up of frozen treated effluent on the ridge northeast of Windy Lake Camp.

5.2 Water Sampling

A set of water samples will be taken along the beach at HOP-1 and from the pond just below the RBC and Clementine Units. Sampling of these water bodies will be used to confirm that remediation efforts undertaken were effective.

Samples will be analyzed for the following parameters: total suspended solids, pH, faecal coliforms, total coliforms, E. coli, oil, grease, and biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅).

Samples will also be obtained from sampling locations HOP-2 and HOP-3 as per conditions stipulated under the *License Nov. 2BEI-HOP0712* for Hope Bay.

5.3 Reporting

A follow-up report will be written after the confirmation sampling is completed in the spring. The report will include the water quality sampling data outlined in Section 5.2 of this report.

6.0 CONCLUSION

6.1 Minimization of Impacts

Hope Bay Mining Limited will continue to look for ways to continue improving the management of the Windy Lake Camp. The following will enable HBML to minimize impacts around Windy Lake Camp facilities:

- (i) Continue with daily camp check-ups and documentation;
- (ii) Implementing where appropriate, changes to work procedures and communicating them effectively to the maintenance crew;
- (iii) Consider developing a Management of Change (MOC) protocols to ensure that procedures are followed before initiating change to a process or systems; and
- (iv) Implement a planned maintenance (PM) protocol.

6.2 Long-term Strategy

- Consider secondary containment berms for the Lift Station;
- (ii) Implement a planned maintenance (PM) protocols on the RBC sewage system;
- (iii) Install alarm systems on the RBC Units, Lift Station, and Site Supervisors Office with an alarm system that will alert maintenance crew in camp, via an audible alarm, of a rate of change in the tank levels; and
- (iv) Relocation of the RBC Unit and the Lift Station to a location southeast of the camp, continuing to use the current discharge location on the ridge northeast of the camp as the final discharge point.

6.3 Acknowledgement

This report could not be completed without information and photographs provided by Site Superintendent, Glenn Winsor.

7.0 APPENDICES

7.1 Appendix A – Site Incident Notification Form

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Appendix B - HBML Safety Alarm Notification 7.2



NEWMONT MINING CORPORATION Health, Safety and Loss Prevention

Document Page: Version: Issue date. Authar: Approval.

HSLP MS009 G02 t of 2 Nov 2007 Global HSLP Team M. Byrne

SAFETY ALERT/LOSS ANNOUNCE

This is NOT an investigation report. It is a WARNING related to an Alert of an Accident/Incident event that has taken place at a Newmont operation. The information below is a preliminary assessment and not a formal investigation.

OPERATION:	Hope Say			Granarti	Process
ISSUED BY:	Glenn Winsor	Incident	injury	Property Damage	Loss
BATE:	February 19, 2008				
TIME:	8:30 AM	Х			
LOCATION/DEPARTMENT:	Windy Camp	^			
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POTENTIAL FOR INJURY / LOSS :	Potential for a larger spill				
PROBABLE IMMEDIATE CAUSES:	Pump Failure				
PROBABLE BASIC CAUSE:	No Alarm System installed on un	it to detect	pump faile	re	
IMMEDIATE CORRECTIVE ACTION:	Cleaned up spilli. Alarm system ordered.	:			

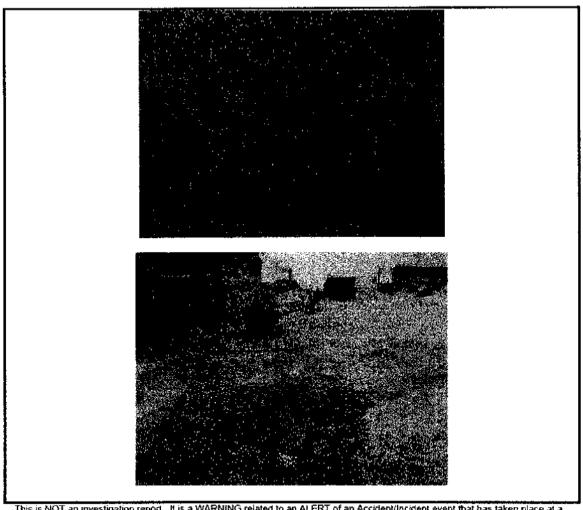


NEWMONT MINING CORPORATION

Health, Safety and Loss Prevention

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Page: 2
Version 4
Issue data N
Author G
Approval: M

HSLP MS009 G02 2 of 2 4 Nov 2007 Global HSLP Team M. Byrne



This is NOT an investigation report. It is a WARNING related to an ALERT of an Accident/Incident event that has taken place at a Newmont operation. The information above is a preliminary assessment of the event and is not a formal investigation.

THIS DOCUMENT IS UNCONTROLLED IN HARD COPY FORMAT

Date Printed: 3/5/2008

7.3 Appendix C - NWT-NU Spill Report Form





Canada

NT-NU SPILL REPORT

NT-RU 24-HOUR SPRU REPORT LINE TEL: (867) 920-0130 FAX: (867) 873-6824 EMAIL: 9pHe/28puy nt ca

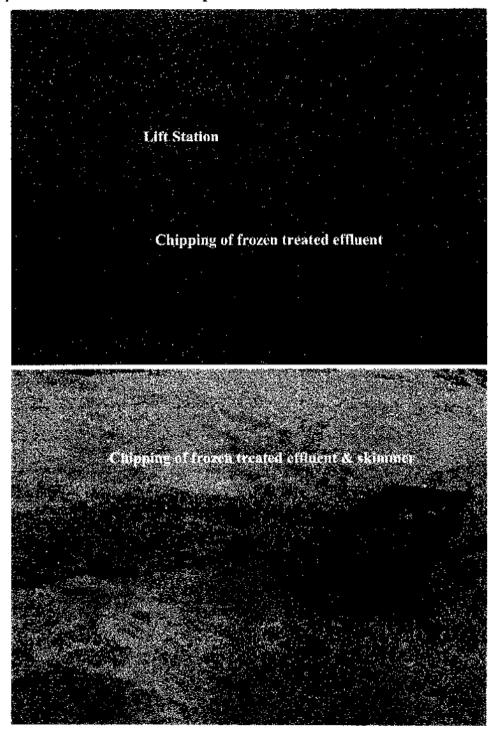
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PAGE 1 OF 1

7.4 Appendix D - Photograph of the Lift Station showing installed audible alarm



7.5 Appendix E - Pictures of Clean up









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NT-NU SPILL REPORT

OIL, GASOLINE, CHEMICALS AND OTHER HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

NT-NU 24-HOUR SPILL REPORT LINE

TEL: (867) 920-8130 FAX: (867) 873-6924 EMAIL: spills@gov.nt.ca

REPORT LINE USE ONLY

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	OCCURRENCE DATE: MONTH - DAY - YEAR OC		OCCURRENCE TIME	OR XUPDATE # 1	08 - 061
В	February 19 2008		1100 pm	TO THE ORIGINAL SPILL REPORT	00 - 001
С	LAND USE PERMIT NUMBER (IF AF KTL303C056	PPLICABLE)	WATER LICENCE NUMBER NWB 2BE-HOP		
D	GEOGRAPHIC PLACE NAME OR DI Windy Lake Camp	STANCE AND DIRECTION FROM NAMED	REGION REGION	UT □ ADJACENT JURISDICTION	OR OCEAN
Ε	LATITUDE DEGREES MIN	IUTES SEGONDS	I ONGITURE DEGREES	MINUTES S	ECONDS
F	RESPONSIBLE PARTY OR VESSEL		PARTY ADDRESS OR OFFICE LOCAT		
	Hope Bay Mining Li		Habourside Drive, No	th Vancouver, BC V7	P 3S1
G	ANY CONTRACTOR INVOLVED NA	NA CONTRACTOR	ADDRESS OR OFFICE LOCATION		
	PRODUCT SPILLED		TIRES, KILOGRAMS OR CUBIC METH	ES U.N. NUMBER	
Н	Treated RBC Effluer		oic meters	N.C. IIIN AIRBIDED	
	NA	NA	TITHES, KILOGRAMS OH CUBIC METH	BES U.N. NUMBER	
ı	SPILL SOURCE RBC Lift Station (HC	SPILL CAUSE	-4 1 :f4	AREA OF CONTAMINATION IN	
	FACTORS AFFECTING SPILL OR H	,	It Lift sump pump	90 square meters HAZARDS TO PERSONS, PRO	
J	Frozen treated efflue		d in house	No significant ha	zard
	planning phase.				
K					
K	REPORTED TO SPILL LINE BY	POSITION	EMPLOYER		[ELEPHONE
L	Matt Kawei	Snr Env Coordinator	Hope Bay Mining LT	Windy Lake	604-759-2324
L M				Windy Lake	i
L	Matt Kawei ANY ALTERNATE CONTACT Mike Meyer	Snr Env Coordinator POSITION Director, ESR	Hope Bay Mining LT EMPLOYER Newmont Mining LT HE USE ONLY	Windy Lake ALTERNATE CONTACT	604-759-2324 ALTERNATE TELEPHONE
L	Matt Kawei	POSITION POSITION POSITION REPORT LI	Hope Bay Mining LT EMPLOYER Newmont Mining LT	ALTERNATE CONTACT Denver, USA LOCATION CALLED	604-759-2324 ALTERNATE TELEPHONE
L M N	Matt Kawei ANY ALTERNATE CONTACT Mike Meyer RECEIVED AT SPILL LINE BY	Snr Env Coordinator POSITION Director, ESR REPORT LI POSITION STATION OPERATOR	Hope Bay Mining LT EMPLOYER Newmont Mining LT NE USE ONLY EMPLOYER	Windy Lake ALTERNATE CONTACT Denyer, USA LOCATION CALLED YELLOWKNIFE, NI	604-759-2324 ALTERNATE TELEPHONE 303-945-6937
L M N	Matt Kawei ANY ALTERNATE CONTACT Mike Meyer RECEIVED AT SPILL LINE BY DAGENCY DEC DCCG DGNW	Snr Env Coordinator POSITION Director, ESR REPORT LII POSITION STATION OPERATOR THE CHART CHART CHART CHART	Hope Bay Mining LT EMPLOYER Newmont Mining LT NE USE ONLY EMPLOYER SIGNIFICANCE IMINOR IMA	Windy Lake ALTERNATE CONTACT Denyer, USA LOCATION CALLED YELLOWKNIFE, NI	604-759-2324 ALTERNATE TELEPHONE 303-945-6937 REPORT LINE NUMBER
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L M N LEAG	Matt Kawei ANY ALTERNATE CONTACT Mike Meyer RECEIVED AT SPILL LINE BY DAGENCY DEC DCCG DGNW	Snr Env Coordinator POSITION Director, ESR REPORT LII POSITION STATION OPERATOR THE CHART CHART CHART CHART	Hope Bay Mining LT EMPLOYER Newmont Mining LT NE USE ONLY EMPLOYER SIGNIFICANCE IMINOR IMA	Windy Lake ALTERNATE CONTACT DENYER, USA LOCATION CALLED YELLOWKNIFE, NI JOR DUNKNOWN FILE STATE	604-759-2324 ALTERNALE TELEPHONE 303-945-6937 REPORT LINE NUMBER (867) 920-8130
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