



NWB Tools

Phyllis Beaulieu <phyllis.beaulieu@nwb-oen.ca>

Re: Attn: Christine Wilson - Northern Empire Resources Corp. Kiyuk Lake

1 message

Christine Wilson <Christine.Wilson@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca>

Tue, Nov 24, 2015 at 12:00 PM

To: Lee Ann Pugh <LeeAnn.Pugh@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca>, Phyllis Beaulieu <licensing@nwb-oen.ca>

Cc: Jim Paterson <jpaterson@northernemp.com>

Hi Phyllis and Lee Ann,

Please see the correspondence attached regarding Kiyuk Lake Project.

Christine Wilson

Water Resource Officer | Agent des ressources hydriques

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada | Affaires autochtones et

Développement du Nord Canada

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Christine.Wilson@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca>>> Jim Paterson <jpaterson@northernemp.com> 10/7/2015 12:18 PM >>>

Hello Christine,

As outlined during several conference call updates, Northern Empire conducted a field visit to Kiyuk Lake in late August, after your site stop-over and noting some damage there in July. The goal of our visit was to respond to your concerns as soon as possible and before winter. To this end, a two person crew was dispatched to Nunavut to clean-up/winterize the Kiyuk camp, inspect fuel storage and remediate two minor spills noted during your visit. However during inspections, further fuel releases were discovered. These were addressed, reported and documented, as detailed below.

The following camp clean-up issues noted during your field visit were remedied:

- Two Weatherhavens blown off their footings were dismantled and stored
- Repairs were made to tent windows, doors and structures were sealed for winter
- Garbage spread around and in tents was cleaned up and incinerated. There was evidence of both wildlife and human damage, with theft of fuel and tools likely

In addition to general clean up, removal of debris and winterization of camp facilities, all fuel use and storage sites were investigated (drums, berms, storage tanks):

- All drums used for heating (hot tanks) were removed from stands and pumped into bulk storage tanks.
- Secondary containment berms around fuel heater drums (hot tanks) were inspected for fuel sheen and/or fuel smell. If no sheen or smell found the water was drained and the drum removed. In two instances minor amounts of fuel sheen was found in the contained fluid. This water/fuel mix was pumped out of containment into a drum, which was sealed and stored for future demobilization.
- Multi-drum storage berms were inspected and drained using Rain-drain berm filtration systems. Each berm was then tarped and left with new Rain-drains attached to prevent future water accumulation. One berm that was destroyed was replaced with a new berm and tarped.
- All bulk fuel storage tanks were inspected and labelled. All of the bulk tanks were in good condition except for tank #8 where a drip leak was immediately noticed at the bottom valve cap. The bottom valve, which was found to be loose was immediately tightened and the leak stopped. The tank was pumped dry to ensure no future leaking from the valve
- In all, four separate fuel spills were documented and reported following return from the field (15-379, 15-380, 15-381, 15-382). Two of the smaller spills (15-380 & 15-381) were remediated by digging until no further contamination of soil could be seen or smelled. The dirt was stored in sealed bags for future demob from site. Two larger spills from an upset drum and dripping tank (15-379 & 15-382) were halted by fixing the leak, removing remaining fuel and excavating as much soil as time permitted.

Details of each spill occurrence are as follows:

- 15-379 – Type: Diesel - Tanked / Amount spilled: est. 700 to 2000L (unsure initial volume) / Location: Kiyuk Camp (60°27'49"N 101°23'05") Bulk tank #8 on east side of camp beside helipad / Clean up Measures: fixed valve leak, pumped out 1300L remaining fuel, further work needed
- 15-380 – Type: Diesel – Drum / Amount spilled: 10-50L / Location: Kiyuk Camp (60°27'49"N 101°23'05") Central camp, heating drum behind dome / Clean up Measures: Secondary containment and drum drained, soil excavated and stored
- 15-381 – Type: Diesel – Drum / Amount spilled: 10-50L / Location: Kiyuk Camp (60°27'49"N 101°23'05") West side camp, heating drum behind tent / Clean up Measures: ¾ full drum drained, soil excavated and stored
- 15-382 – Type: Diesel – Drum / Amount spilled : 155L / , Location: Kiyuk Camp (60°27'49"N 101°23'05") West side camp, heating drum behind tent / Clean up Measures: ¼ full drum drained, soil excavated as much as possible and stored
- The camp has recently been inactive due to uncertain market conditions causing a hiatus in exploration. The spills therefore occurred sometime between August 2013 and July 2015. All spills are in excess of 200m from the nearest water body (Kiyuk Lake)
- Remaining fuel on site (16 Tanks / 102 Drums): Diesel: 26455L / Jet A-B: 43955L / Gas: 1905L
- Operations and camp site permits are up to date (NIRB# 11EN019, AANDC# N2011C0011 and NWB#2BE-KLG1116) and include Spill Contingency Plans submitted to these agencies.

As requested, we've attached a care and maintenance plan, plus before and after photos of the site clean-up. You previously received copies of the spill reports (15-379 to 15-382) from Olivia Brown when she emailed the reports and reported by phone to the Spill Line on September 16.

Going forward, we will monitor the Kiyuk camp and spill sites until Northern Empire can determine the best course of action, conduct further remediation/excavation and investigate removal of the remaining fuel. Northern Empire will return to site in spring/summer 2016, however we will also be looking into third parties visiting the site on our behalf; using either caretakers at Ennadai Lake (40km west) or locals travelling through the area from Lac Brochet, MB.

In addition, we were contacted directly by David MacDonald from Environment Canada. We will be answering specific questions from Mr. Mac Donald in a separate reply (and cc:ing you) later this week.

Jim Paterson

CEO

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2 attachments



Kiyuk Lake Annual Care and Maintenance 20151006.pdf

1158K



Kiyuk_Summer 2015 site visit photos_report 20151006.pdf

1628K