



April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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## **Re: Follow-up Report Spill #2023-104 – Release of 1 L of Hydraulic Oil Meliadine Gold Mine Lake A8**

On March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Nunavut Spill Line was notified by Agnico Eagle personnel via email ([spills@gov.nt.ca](mailto:spills@gov.nt.ca)) of a spill of approximately 1 L of hydraulic oil at the Meliadine Gold Mine (spill location coordinates: 63° 0' 31.9" N, 92° 12' 04.1" W). This follow-up report provides supplemental information based on the results of the incident assessment 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 March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at approximately 14:00, an estimated 1 L of hydraulic oil was spilled onto the ice surface on Lake A8 as seen in Figure 1. While lowering the drill tower to relocate the drill a hydraulic line was pinched spilling hydraulic oil within the drill and into the water recovery pan. After the water recovery pan was removed and the drill relocated, remnant oil from under the drill floor was observed on the snow.



**Figure 1:** Location of the 1 L hydraulic oil spill.

## Spill Response and Remediation

Absorbent pads were deployed to absorb the free oil and disposed of in a Quatrex bag at the Meliadine mine site. The remaining impacted snow and ice was recovered with a shovel and bucket and transferred to the contaminated snow cell at the mine site, to be treated through the Oil Water Separator.

## Root Cause and Corrective Measures

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



- The length of the hydraulic line was determined to be too long and allowed excess to become pinched when the tower was lowered.

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

- A hydraulic line of suitable length was installed.
- Direction has been provided to all drilling employees to inspect hydraulic lines before a drill move begins.

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



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## Appendix – Photos



**AGNICO EAGLE**  
MELIADINE



**Photo 1:** 1 L hydraulic oil spill location.



**Photo 2:** 1 L hydraulic oil spill post remediation.