

DE BEERS

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November 16th, 2014

Tracy Covey
Resource Management Officer III
Government of the Northwest Territories
Department of Lands
140 Bristol Avenue
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2L9

Re: Follow-up Spill Report – Sewage Spill at Sewage Treatment Plant (Oct.16, 2014)

Mr. Covey -

Below, please find a summary and description of the corrective actions related to a reportable spill that occurred at the "Newterra" Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at the De Beers Canada Inc. Gahcho Kué site on October 16th, 2014.

Incident Summary

The spill occurred at the Gahcho Kué "Newterra" sewage treatment plant (STP) at approximately 19:00 on October 16, 2014. An estimated 200 litres of untreated sewage overflowed from a holding tank located inside the STP. The sewage exited the STP via an access door, and spilled onto an engineered pad constructed out of crushed mine rock (gravel) which was snow covered at the time of the spill.

The cause of the spill was determined to be a frozen transfer pipe that is intended to convey sewage to an exterior tank.

An NT-NU Spill Report was completed and submitted via email to spills@gov.nt.ca, as well as yourself, at 17:16 on October 17th. The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board was also notified, per Part H, Condition 3, of the Type A Water License (MV2005L2-0015).

Corrective Actions

Upon discovery of the spill, the STP was immediately shut down to stop the source of the spill and determine the cause. Once it was determined that the cause of the spill was a frozen pipe, the pipe was replaced and the STP was restarted.

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Concurrent with the pipe replacement, contaminated snow and gravel were cleaned up, and the spilled sewage inside the STP was vacuumed up and reintroduced into the system.

In order to prevent a reoccurrence, the affected pipe was insulated and heat traced to prevent freezing. This preventative action was completed on October 26th. Additionally, an audit was conducted to determine whether any other pipes associated with the STP were at risk of freezing, and several additional pipes, as well as the exterior overflow tank, were insulated and heat-traced.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me at your convenience.



Ryan Marshall

Environmental Coordinator

De Beers Canada Inc. – Gahcho Kué Mine

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cc: Patrick Kramers, De Beers Canada Inc.
Angela Love, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

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Attachments

The following attachments are included with this follow-up report:

1. Copy of original spill report; and
2. Photos of the spill and of the corrective actions implemented



Canada

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

A	REPORT DATE: MONTH – DAY – YEAR		REPORT TIME		<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SPILL REPORT, OR <input type="checkbox"/> UPDATE # _____ TO THE ORIGINAL SPILL REPORT	REPORT NUMBER _____	
	B		OCCURRENCE DATE: MONTH – DAY – YEAR				OCCURRENCE TIME
C	LAND USE PERMIT NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE)			WATER LICENCE NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE)			
	D				GEOGRAPHIC PLACE NAME OR DISTANCE AND DIRECTION FROM NAMED LOCATION		
E	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			
	DEGREES	MINUTES	SECONDS	DEGREES	MINUTES	SECONDS	
F	RESPONSIBLE PARTY OR VESSEL NAME		RESPONSIBLE PARTY ADDRESS OR OFFICE LOCATION				
	G		ANY CONTRACTOR INVOLVED				
H	PRODUCT SPILLED		QUANTITY IN LITRES, KILOGRAMS OR CUBIC METRES		U.N. NUMBER		
	SECOND PRODUCT SPILLED (IF APPLICABLE)		QUANTITY IN LITRES, KILOGRAMS OR CUBIC METRES		U.N. NUMBER		
I	SPILL SOURCE		SPILL CAUSE		AREA OF CONTAMINATION IN SQUARE METRES		
	J		FACTORS AFFECTING SPILL OR RECOVERY		DESCRIBE ANY ASSISTANCE REQUIRED		
K	HAZARDS TO PERSONS, PROPERTY OR ENVIRONMENT		ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, COMMENTS, ACTIONS PROPOSED OR TAKEN TO CONTAIN, RECOVER OR DISPOSE OF SPILLED PRODUCT AND CONTAMINATED MATERIALS				
	L		REPORTED TO SPILL LINE BY		POSITION		
M	EMPLOYER		LOCATION CALLING FROM		TELEPHONE		
	M		ANY ALTERNATE CONTACT		POSITION		
EMPLOYER		ALTERNATE CONTACT		ALTERNATE TELEPHONE			
LOCATION							
REPORT LINE USE ONLY							
N	RECEIVED AT SPILL LINE BY		POSITION		EMPLOYER		
	STATION OPERATOR		LOCATION CALLED		REPORT LINE NUMBER		
YELLOWKNIFE, NT		(867) 920-8130					
LEAD AGENCY <input type="checkbox"/> EC <input type="checkbox"/> CCG <input type="checkbox"/> GNWT <input type="checkbox"/> GN <input type="checkbox"/> ILA <input type="checkbox"/> INAC <input type="checkbox"/> NEB <input type="checkbox"/> TC			SIGNIFICANCE <input type="checkbox"/> MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> MAJOR <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN		FILE STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> OPEN <input type="checkbox"/> CLOSED		
AGENCY		CONTACT NAME		CONTACT TIME		REMARKS	
LEAD AGENCY							
FIRST SUPPORT AGENCY							
SECOND SUPPORT AGENCY							
THIRD SUPPORT AGENCY							



Oct. 16, 2014 – Photo of spill outside STP showing frozen pipe



Oct. 16, 2014 – Photo of spill outside STP



Oct. 16, 2014 – Photo of spill outside STP showing frozen pipe



Oct. 16, 2014 - STP



Oct. 16, 2014 – Photo of spill outside STP



Oct. 16, 2014 – Exterior hose connection



Oct. 16, 2014 – Inside STP



Oct. 16, 2014 – Inside STP



Nov. 16, 2014 – STP showing winterized pipe



Nov. 16, 2014 – Winterized pipe and heat trace



Nov. 16, 2014 – Winterized pipe and exterior tank



Nov. 16, 2014 – Winterized pipe and exterior tank



Nov. 16, 2014 – Winterized pipe and exterior tank



Nov. 16, 2014 – Winterized pipe and exterior tank



Nov. 16, 2014 – Winterized pipe and exterior tank



Nov. 16, 2014 – Winterized pipes