



Indigenous and  
Northern Affairs Canada

Affaires autochtones  
et du Nord Canada

P.O. Box 1500  
4923 52<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2R3

August 19<sup>th</sup> 2016

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada – CARD  
P.O. Box 1500  
4923 52<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2R3

Attention: Ms. Natalie Plato Giant Mine Remediation Project

**RE: Water Licence MV2012L8-0010 – NT/NU Spill 16-299 – Giant Mine – Inspection**

Dear Ms. Plato,

An inspection of the UBC Bridge stabilization project was conducted in response to NT/NU Spill # 16-299. The Inspector was accompanied by Carolina Mora (Deton'cho/Nuna – Environmental Coordinator).

Attached is a copy of the inspection report that has been sent to the MVLWB. There were two violations noted during the inspection, Part D c. #1 and Part F c.#1 . It is expected that all future releases and/or spills are reported to the NT/NU Spill Line and to the Inspector immediately without delay.

The environmental inspection report is attached along with pictures of the site that were taken during the inspection. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at (867) 669-2442.

Thank you,

Tim Morton  
Resource Management Officer (Inspector)  
Land and Resource Management Division  
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

cc. MVLWB  
AANDC/CARD – via email  
Carolina Mora – via email



## WATER LICENCE ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION REPORT

Licensee:	AANDC - CARD	Inspection Date – August 19 <sup>th</sup> 2016
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<b>Water Licence No.</b>	MV2012L8-0010	<b>Last Previous Inspection:</b>	26 July 2016
<b>Quantity of water not to be exceeded:</b>	300 Cubic Meters / Day	<b>Licence Expiry Date:</b>	31 January 2019
<b>Contractor:</b>	Deton'Cho/Nuna	<b>Subcontractor:</b>	Major Drilling

Location(s) Inspected:	UBC Bridge and Surrounding Area
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Current Stage of Operation:	Bridge Stabilization Project / NT/NU Spill Report 16-299
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Program Modifications Approved:	N/A
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Compliance with Items: “A” - Acceptable “U” - Unacceptable “N/A” - Not Applicable

Part	Licence Items	Compliance with Items	Item # and Comments
A	Scope	A	
B	General Conditions	A	#1 – Compliant #2 - Compliant #3 – N/A #4 – Compliant #5 – Compliant #6 – Compliant #7 – Compliant
C	Conditions Applying to Water Use	A	#1 – Compliant #2- Compliant #3 - Compliant
D	Conditions Applying to Waste Disposal	A	#1 – <b>Non-Compliant (Spill Report 16-299)</b> #2 – Compliant #3 – Compliant #4 – Compliant #5 – N/A



			#6 – Compliant #7 – Compliant #8 – Compliant.
E	Conditions Applying to Modifications	N/A	
F	Conditions Applying to Contingency Planning	A	#1 – <b>Non-Compliant (Reported an estimated 24 hours after discovery)</b> #2 – Compliant #3 – Compliant. No modifications to the plan have been made.
G	Conditions Applying to Abandonment and Restoration	N/A	
H	Conditions Applying to Construction	A	#1 – Compliant #2 - Compliant #3 – Compliant #4 – Compliant #5 – Compliant #6 – Compliant #7 – Compliant #8 - Compliant
I	Conditions Applying to Operation and Maintenance	N/A	



**ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION REPORT Pg. 2  
(Continued)**

Date: 19 August 2016	Licence #: MV2012L8-0010
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Explanatory Remarks	
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Resource Management Officer Tim Morton conducted an onsite inspection of the Giant Mine UBC Bridge stabilization drilling project located near Baker Creek. Accompanying the Inspector was Carolina Mora (Deton'cho/Nuna – Environmental Coordinator). This inspection was conducted in response to the NT/NU spill report 2016-299.

The Major Drilling crew was performing maintenance to the drill rig at the time of the inspection, therefore no drilling was taking place during the inspection. The Inspector noted that there was no noticeable plume in Baker Creek during the inspection (Photo's 2 & 3). The Inspector discussed the incident with the drilling crew who stated that they were drilling the second of three holes near the bridge. About 25 feet down (out of a planned 30 feet) one member of the crew observed a release from under the bank of Baker Creek. Drilling was immediately ceased and the plume was monitored. Baker Creek flow rate is very low and has reduced to almost standing water. The reduced flow rate of Baker Creek caused the plume to not spread downstream and remain in the immediate area of the bridge.

An estimated 275 gallons of water from the Polishing Pond as per condition Part C #1 of the licence was used to drill the hole. No other chemicals or additives were used in the drilling process. The crew estimated that an estimated 25 gallons was lost in the hole prior to the rig being shut down.

According to site staff the sediment plume had settled out to the bottom of the creek within the hour (Photo #5). There was no ability for the Inspector to see the plume first hand or take samples since the Inspector was notified by the spill 24 hours after the incident. The Inspector expects that all future incidents are reported to the NT/NU Spill line and to the Inspector immediately without delay.

Due to the flow rate of Baker Creek, estimated quantities of released drill water, and the fact that this borehole was not associated with the arsenic stopes it appears that the impact to Baker Creek and surrounding environment is very minor.

Completed off Site  
Representative's Signature

Tim Morton  
Inspector

Original Signed  
Inspector's Signature



**Photo 1: Overview of the final drilling location for the bridge stabilization project. (Looking west from the east side of the bridge)**



**Photo 2: Northwest view from under the bridge towards the location of the spill.**



**Photo 3: Overview of the southern portion of Baker Creek immediately downstream of the spill location.**



**Photo 4: Close up of the drill location.**





**Photo 5: View directly underneath the west side of the bridge. Note the greenish/brown area under water where the sediment settled.**