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July 5, 2024

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Government of the Northwest Territories
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Subject: Follow-Up Spill Report – Black Water – Gahcho Kué Mine – June 08, 2024 (GNWT Spill #2024216)

Pursuant to Part H Condition 3(d) of Water License MV2005L2-0015, De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) is submitting this follow-up spill report for GNWT Spill #2024216, which occurred at the Gahcho Kué Mine at 12:30 on June 08, 2024.

An NT-NU Spill Report was completed and submitted via email to the NWT Spills Hotline (spills@gov.nt.ca) at 12:26 on June 09, 2024.

Incident Summary:

Site Services personnel were replacing the lift station at camp accommodation dorm A11. This location within the camp footprint is presented in Figure 1. The sewer lines were disconnected from the old lift station and during the course of the commissioning of the new lift station a small volume (10 litres of black water) leaked from the pipe onto the ground. Environment staff were notified and a spill report was filed the following day. Due to the small volume and the area in which this event occurred, it is considered to have created an insignificant environmental risk. This spill is displayed in Figure 2

Immediate Actions:

Upon discovery of the spill, the personnel immediately contained the contaminated material and removed it to a tote. This was then taken to the waste water treatment plant for proper disposal. To contain any additional release from the exposed pipe a new check valve was placed at the A11 lift station. The impacted spill area was verified to be clean of all contaminants after remediation efforts (Figure 3).

Root Cause:

Upon investigation it was determined that organizational factors were the leading cause of the spill. The safe work plan (SWP) failed to include information about the need to install the check valve immediately after switching over line from old lift station, or installing a cap at the end of the disconnected line as a secondary safety. It was also determined that a check valve between dorms A12 & A11 had failed, which resulted in the

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backflow from black water in A12 flowing into the A11 system. This was the direct source of the blackwater which was discharged from the unprotected pipe at the A11 lift station undergoing maintenance.

Follow-Up Actions:

The following corrective actions were created by De Beers and have been actioned by the site team to ensure that a similar instance does not reoccur:

1. DeBeers has added a control valve to the end of the A11 dorm sewer pipe.
2. DeBeers has updated the SWP regarding lift station maintenance to include direct instruction adding check valve to end of reporting pipe and ensuring its completion as soon as a lift station is disconnected.
3. DeBeers will inspect and replace the failed check valve between A12 and A11 dorms.

Should you have any questions or concerns, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Michelle Burger
Environmental Coordinator / Gahcho Kué Mine
867.679.5812
Michelle.Burger@debeersgroup.com

Attachments:

- Figure 1. Location of GNWT Spill #2024216
- Figure 2. Spill at Dorm A11 Lift Station, GNWT Spill #2024216
- Figure 3. Verification of Spill Clean Up, GNWT Spill #2024216
- Figure 4. NT-NU Spill Report GNWT Spill #2024216

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Figure 1. Location of GNWT Spill #2024216

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Figure 2. Spill at Dorm A11 Lift Station, GNWT Spill #2024216

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Figure 3. Verification of spill clean up, GNWT Spill #2024216

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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 • Email: spills@gov.nt.ca

REPORT LINE USE ONLY

A	Report Date: 06 09 24	Report Time: 9:07 am	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Spill Report	Report Number:	
B	Occurrence Date: 06 08 24	Occurrence Time: 12:30 pm	OR <input type="checkbox"/> Update # _____ to the Original Spill Report		
C	Land Use Permit Number (if applicable): MV2021D0009	Water Licence Number (if applicable): MV2005L2-0015			
D	Geographic Place Name or Distance and Direction from the Named Location: De Beers Group (Canada) Gahcho Kue Mine (Kennedy Lake, NT)		Region: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NT <input type="checkbox"/> Nunavut <input type="checkbox"/> Adjacent Jurisdiction or Ocean		
E	Latitude: 63 Degrees 26 Minutes 29 Seconds		Longitude: 109 Degrees 10 Minutes 36 Seconds		
F	Responsible Party or Vessel Name: De Beers Group		Responsible Party Address or Office Location: Suite 300 - 1601 Airport Road NE, Calgary Alberta Canada T2E 6X8		
G	Any Contractor Involved:		Contractor Address or Office Location:		
H	Product Spilled: <input type="checkbox"/> Potential Spill Grey Water	Quantity in Litres, Kilograms or Cubic Metres: 10L	U.N. Number:		
I	Spill Source: Grey water from sewer line	Spill Cause: Failed check valve while installing new lift station	Area of Contamination in Square Metres: 0.25		
J	Factors Affecting Spill or Recovery: None	Describe Any Assistance Required: None	Hazards to Persons, Property or Environment: None		
K	Additional Information, Comments, Actions Proposed or Taken to Contain, Recover or Dispose of Spilled Product and Contaminated Materials: While replacing the lift station at dorm A-11, workers noticed a small amount of grey water coming from the disconnected sewer lines beneath the dorm. This resulted in an uncontrolled release of grey water onto the camp pad beneath the dorm. Once the spill was discovered, the workers noticed that the check valve (meant to control the water while the sewer line was disconnected from the old lift station) had failed. Environmental impact is considered low due to the minimal size of the spill and the nature of the area impacted (gravel camp pad). A follow up report will be submitted within 30 days detailing the root cause and corrective/preventative action of this incident.				
L	Reported to Spill Line by: Michelle Burger	Position: Env. Coordinator	Employer: De Beers	Location Calling From: Gahcho Kue Mine	Telephone: (867) 679-5812
M	Any Alternate Contact: Mason Elwood	Position: Env. Superintendant	Employer: De Beers	Alternate Contact Location: Off-Site	Alternate Telephone: (867) 679-5814

REPORT LINE USE ONLY

N	Received at Spill Line by:	Position:	Employer:	Location Called:	Report Line Number:
	Lead Agency: <input type="checkbox"/> EC <input type="checkbox"/> CCG/TCMSS <input type="checkbox"/> GNWT <input type="checkbox"/> GN <input type="checkbox"/> ILA <input type="checkbox"/> AANDC <input type="checkbox"/> NEB <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	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:				

Figure 4. NT-NU Spill Report GNWT Spill #2024216