

# DE BEERS GROUP

August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

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Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board  
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Nahum Lee  
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North Slave Regional Office  
Department of Lands  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
140 Bristol Avenue, Yellowknife, NT X1A 3T2

**Subject: Follow-Up Spill Report –Sewage – Gahcho Kué Mine – July 22, 2021 (GNWT Spill # 2021309)**

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 #2021309, which occurred at the Gahcho Kué Mine at 08:00 on July 22, 2021.

An NT-NU Spill Report was completed and submitted via email to the NWT Spills Hotline (spills@gov.nt.ca) at 17:00 on July 22, 2021.

**Incident Summary:**

At approximately 08:00 on July 22, 2021, while off-loading sewage into the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP), sewage was released from the intake overflow valve. The operator immediately turned off the discharge from the tanker truck (LV-001). Approximately 200 litres of sewage was discharged onto the gravel camp pad and was contained within close proximity of the WWTP.

**Immediate Actions:**

Clean up of the contaminated gravel was initiated immediately, with both the area supervisor and the Environment department being contacted. The contaminated gravel was disposed of in the Type 3 Waste Dump, with fresh material being placed within the affected area. The investigation as to cause of failure was completed prior to the continuing the offload of sewage from LV-001.

**Root Cause:**

Upon further investigation it was determined the sewage backup was caused by a failing of the intake grinder & circulation pump, which caused a backup of material that exited the system from the intake overflow valve.

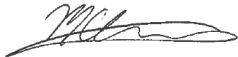
### **Follow-Up Actions:**

The following corrective actions were identified during the internal investigation:

- Review of maintenance schedule of the WWTP intake grinder/circulation pump, with focus on increasing the frequency of preventative maintenance.
- Instillation of a high level alarm at the WWTP, which would consist of a strobe that is visible to the operator while offloading sewage. This would allow the operator to cease offloading prior to a discharge from the intake overflow valve.

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

Sincerely,



Mason Elwood  
Environmental Coordinator / Gahcho Kué Mine  
867.679.5814  
mason.elwood@debeersgroup.com

### **Attachments:**

- Figure 1. Location of GNWT Spill #2021309
- Figure 2. Photo of initial spill of GNWT Spill #2021309
- Figure 3. Photo of ongoing clean-up of GNWT Spill #2021309
- Figure 4. Photo of the affected area once remediated GNWT Spill #2021309
- Figure 5. Original Spill Report (GNWT Spill #2021309)



Figure 1. Location of GNWT Spill #2021309



Figure 2. Photo of initial spill of GNWT Spill #2021309



Figure 3. Photo of ongoing clean-up of GNWT Spill #2021309



Figure 4. Photo of the affected area once remediated GNWT Spill #2021309

# 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:	07/22/21	Report Time:	5:00 pm	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Spill Report OR <input type="checkbox"/> Update # _____ to the Original Spill Report	Report Number:
	B	Occurrence Date:	07/22/21	Occurrence Time:		
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:			Region:		
	De Beers Group (Canada) Gahcho Kue Mine (Kennady Lake, NT)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NT <input type="checkbox"/> Nunavut <input type="checkbox"/> Adjacent Jurisdiction or Ocean		
E	Latitude:			Longitude:		
	63 Degrees 26 Minutes 28 Seconds			109 Degrees 10 Minutes 41 Seconds		
F	Responsible Party or Vessel Name:		Responsible Party Address or Office Location:			
	De Beers Group		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	Quantity in Litres, Kilograms or Cubic Metres:	U.N. Number:		
	Sewage		200L			
I	Spill Source:	Spill Cause:	Area of Contamination in Square Metres:			
	Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP)	Overflow	20			
J	Factors Affecting Spill or Recovery:	Describe Any Assistance Required:	Hazards to Persons, Property or Environment:			
	none	none	none			
K	Additional Information, Comments, Actions Proposed or Taken to Contain, Recover or Dispose of Spilled Product and Contaminated Materials: At approximately 08:00 on July 22, 2021 while off-loading sewage into the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP), sewage was released from the overflow pipe. The operator turned off the discharge from the tanker truck (LV-001). Approximately 200L of sewage was discharged to the gravel camp pad and was contained within close proximity of the WWTP. Clean up of the contaminated gravel was initiated immediately.  A follow up report will be provided within the next 30 days.					
L	Reported to Spill Line by:	Position:	Employer:	Location Calling From:	Telephone:	
	Allan Knight	Env. Coordinator	De Beers	Gahcho Kue Mine	(867) 679-5812	
M	Any Alternate Contact:	Position:	Employer:	Alternate Contact Location:	Alternate Telephone:	
	Mason Elwood	Env. Coordinator	De Beers	Off Site	(867) 679-5812	

REPORT LINE USE ONLY

N	Received at Spill Line by:	Position:	Employer:	Location Called:	Report Line Number:
	Lead Agency:	Significance:		File Status:	
	<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: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor <input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		<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 5. Original Spill Report (GNWT Spill #2021309)