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Mr. Joseph Heron  
Resource Management Officer III (Inspector)  
North Slave Regional Office  
Department of Lands  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
#140 Bristol Avenue  
Yellowknife NT, X1 A3T2

September 20, 2022

Our reference: DDMI Incident numbers 1000614923  
Your reference: GNWT Spill 2022427

Dear Mr. Heron,

**Subject: Follow-up to GNWT Spill Report 2022427**

**Summary:**

On August 20<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 11:00 am, approximately 30 m<sup>3</sup> of North Inlet mine contact water used for hydrostatic testing of a Processed Kimberlite to Mine Workings (PKMW) commissioning pipeline spilled in the A418 pit. The mine contact water was intercepted by the existing A418 sump pump infrastructure and was returned to the North Inlet Containment Facility. There was no release to the external receiving environment.

During the incident investigation, it was determined that a part of the pipeline was temporarily disconnected the day prior to hydrostatic testing due to haul traffic in the A418 pit. Pipeline connections were not re-verified before testing, which resulted in the uncontrolled release of water into the A418 pit.

There were no before or after pictures taken of the spill, as the water reported immediately to the A418 sump and back to the North Inlet.



Figure 1 Spill 2022427 release location.

**Immediate Action:**

The testing of the PKMW pipeline was shut down immediately upon recognition of the uncontrolled release of water (~15 minutes after commencement of testing). The water released from the PKMW pipeline was directed to the A418 sump pump and sent back to the North Inlet.

**Follow-up Action:**

DDMI began an incident investigation to determine root causes of the spill and develop recommendations to avoid recurrence of a similar spill. The cause of the spill was a

miscommunication, as haul truck traffic was in the area the day before the testing was conducted resulting in a temporary disconnection of part of the pipeline. Updates to the commissioning checklist to include verification of pipeline connections have been made.

Should you require further information or clarification on the above noted spill, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,



Kofi Boa-Antwi  
Superintendent – Environment

cc Marie-Eve Cyr, WLWB  
Anneli Jokela, WLWB