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Mr. Joseph Heron
Resource Management Officer III (Inspector)
Land & Water North Slave Regional Office
Environment and Climate Change
Government of the Northwest Territories
#140 Bristol Avenue
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3T2
Canada

April 16, 2024

Our reference: DDMI Incident number 1000650613
Your reference: GNWT Spill 2024071

Dear Mr. Heron,

Subject: Follow-up to GNWT Spill report 2024071

Summary:

On March 17th, at approximately 06:00, water was discovered running into the Process Plant building beneath a personnel door. Upon investigation, it was found that a leak had developed on the bottom of a flange (Figure 2) for the Processed Kimberlite to Mine Workings (PKMW) line #311, leading to an ice buildup outside the Process Plant in the vicinity of the impacted section of pipe. At the time of discovery, the Process Plant was down for maintenance and the line was being flushed with process water. Inspection of the ice buildup showed it to be comprised of water rather than FPK slurry, indicating that the leak started after the shutdown of the Process Plant for maintenance on March 15th. It is estimated that 12 m³ of process water was released from the line. All spilled material is currently frozen in place in the immediate vicinity of the Process Plant (Figure 3) and not safely accessible to heavy equipment due to the risk of icefall; however, all spilled material will report to the Drainage Control and Collection (DCC) System at freshet. No material will be released to the receiving environment.



Figure 2 Leaking valve on PKMW line #311



Figure 3 Ice buildup outside Process Plant.

Immediate Action:

Flow was immediately shut off to line #311 in preparation for repair

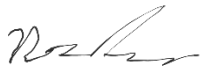
Follow-up Actions:

DDMI reported the spill to the GNWT spill report line and notified the Lands Inspector of the incident.

All PKMW line drain valves were temporarily removed and capped to pre-empt additional valve failures. New valves are being sourced and replacement is scheduled in summer 2024. Additionally, a comprehensive assessment of the entire PKMW line is underway, identifying areas where the pipeline can be realigned to eliminate joints, bends, and elbows to reduce failure risk. Identified realignment work will be completed summer 2024.

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

Yours sincerely,



Nicole Goodman
Superintendent, Environment & Closure
Cross Shift: Mark Nelson

CC: Marie-Eve Cyr, WLWB
Anneli Jokela, WLWB