



Tłjchq Government  
Department of Culture and Lands Protection

# Spill Contingency Plan



for the  
Whatì Falls Improvement Project

Prepared for the  
Wek'èzhì Land and Water Board

Version 1.0

March 16, 2022



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## Introduction

This Spill Contingency Plan (SCP) has been developed by the Tłıchq Government Department of Culture and Lands Protection (DCLP) for use by Tłıchq Investment Corporation (TIC) and Kiewit personal and contractors during the construction activities involved with the phase 1 of the Whatì Falls Improvement project. Namely, the creation of a new access road to the Whatì Falls (which closely aligns with the previous access road), and the establishment of an expanded and improved day use area near the Falls, where a lookout and clearing for viewing the Falls currently exists. A key motivation for this project is to address the safety of this area, given that it is likely to be a significant tourist draw-card, now that the community of Whatì is connected to the rest of the NWT year-round by the Tłıchq All Season Road (HW9). This project is led by Tłıchq Government, and is entirely located on Tłıchq Government lands. A Water License is not required.

This SPC has been developed in accordance with the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INIC) *Guidelines for Spill Contingency Planning (2007)*, and will be implemented by TIC/Kiewit personnel for all activities undertaken for duration of the land use activity and will be revised as required. The purpose of the SCP is to provide a guide to all on-site personnel in the event of an accidental release of fuel or other waste. Although the SPC is to be used in an emergency, it is important that all persons involved with on-site activities read and be familiar with the SCP before an emergency occurs, in order to know the right steps in a spill scenario, and to be able to reduce the risks of a spill occurring in the first place.

## Site Description

The Whatì waterfalls, located on the La Martre River, are approximately 20 Kilometers from the Community of Whatì and are accessible by a 5km access road road, which branches off the Tłıchq All Season Road (HW9). All activities proposed under this land use activity will take place adjacent to this existing access road (the new access road closely follows existing alignment), and proximate to the Falls themselves (predominantly in the existing day-use and lookout areas where brush-cutting has already occurred). The attached maps in this Land Use Permit application provide a visual overview of the subject site.



## Potential Contaminants

Potential Contaminants Over the course of the Project, several contaminants may be used by equipment and crews working within or near the project footprint. These potential contaminants are listed below and may be involved in a spill:

- Gasoline
- Diesel
- Hydraulic oil
- Motor oil
- Lubricating oils and grease
- Antifreeze and other coolants
- Contaminated soil, snow, ice and water

Spills may be caused by a number of factors, including, but not limited to:

- Valve or line failure in systems, vehicles or heavy equipment;
- Spill of lubricants during routine maintenance of equipment;
- Vandalism;

## Response Organization

Whenever a spill is identified, the the TIC/Kiewit representative will be contacted as soon as possible. If a Contractor is engaged, the Contractor is responsible for initiating the SCP. Contact information for the TIC/Kiewit representative is provided in Table 1 below; the table will be updated following selection of the Contractor.

<b>TIC / Kiewit Contact</b>
Mark Brajer CEO, Tłicho Investment Corporation (TIC) Phone   867-766-4909 ext 222 Email   mbrajer@tlichcoic.com



## Initial Response in a Spill Scenario

The following actions should be taken by the first person(s) who identifies a spill:

1. Be alert and considerate of your safety and of those around you. If possible, identify the spilled contaminant. Notify your supervisor immediately.
2. Assess the hazard to persons in the area of the spill, including yourself.
3. Assess whether the spill can be readily stopped or brought under control.
4. If safe to do so, and if possible, stop the spillage of contaminant
5. Gather information about the status of the situation and the direction of flow.
6. Consult the workplace Spill Contingency Plan and implement measures Provided therein.
7. Report the spill immediately to the 24-Hour Emergency Spill Report Line (867)920-8130.

## Reporting Procedure

All spills or potential spills of contaminants must be reported to the 24-hour Spill Report Line to ensure that an investigation may be undertaken by the appropriate authority. Reporting of any spills associated with the project will be completed by the Contractor or the TIC/Kiewit site representative.

To report a spill:

1. Fill out the Northwest Territories Spill Report Form (found in Attachment A of this SCP) as completely as possible before calling in the spill report.
2. Contact the Government of the Northwest Territories 24-hour Emergency Spill Report Line

**24-HOUR EMERGENCY SPILL REPORT LINE 867-920-8130**

3. If email is available, email the completed Northwest Territories Spill Report Form to [spills@gov.nt.ca](mailto:spills@gov.nt.ca)



Any person reporting a spill is required to give as much information as possible. However, reporting of a spill should not be delayed if all of the necessary information is not known. Additional information can be provided later.

From the *Consolidation of Spill Contingency Planning and Reporting Regulations* (1998), as much of the following information should be reported during the initial spill report as possible:

- Date and time of spill
- Location of spill
- Direction spill is moving
- Name and phone number of a contact person close to the location of the spill
- Type of contaminant spilled and quantity
- Cause of spill
- Whether spill is continuing or has stopped
- Description of existing contaminant
- Action taken to contain, recover, clean up, and dispose of spilled contaminant
- Name, address and phone number of person reporting the spill
- Name of owner or person in charge, management or control of contaminants at the time of the spill

## Action Plans

### Spill Prevention, transfer, and transportation

The most likely spill possibilities during the project would be leakage or line failure from heavy equipment or other vehicles, or vehicular accident. No contaminants will be stored onsite. Fuel transfer is not expected on site, but if required will be transferred via a fuel truck. Fuel for equipment will be transported to the site by fuel trucks on the TASR / HW9. Fuel transfer will occur by trained Personnel. Drip trays will be used during fuel transfer. Where drips or spills occur, they will be cleaned up immediately.

The risk of spills will be further reduced through regular inspection and maintenance of all heavy equipment and vehicles associated with the permitted activities. These activities may include, but not be limited to:

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- Inspection of fuel and oil lines on all equipment;
  - Completing on-site fuel transfer over spill pads/trays
  - Monitoring of tank volume during fuel transfer;
  - Cleaning up drips and minor spills immediately; and,
  - Ensuring the quick repair of any identified deficiencies on heavy equipment
  - or other vehicles.

### Spill Response

The following steps outline the general spill response procedures for initial actions to be taken to contain and clean up a contaminant spill, as well as disposing of contaminated materials.

1. Once a spill is identified, all sources of ignition should be turned off (e.g., no smoking, shut off engines).
2. The spilled material (e.g., gasoline, diesel, antifreeze, etc.) should be identified, if possible.
3. The affected area should be secured, ensuring the area is safe for entry and does not represent a threat to human health and safety of the spill responders. Public access of the area should be restricted.
4. If possible, identify where the spill is coming from (the source). Determine if the spill is still occurring (i.e., still leaking) or if the spillage has stopped. If the spill has not stopped, determine if it is safe to stop or control the spill (e.g., plug hole, close valve, upright container), or contain the spill (e.g., place a container or tarp with built up edges under the spill source to contain the spill).
5. If the spill is too large to be controlled with the spill materials at hand, contact the Contractor or the TIC/Kiewit site representative and report the spill immediately and request assistance (see section above for contact information). Use materials on hand to attempt to control the spill.
6. If the spill is small enough to be controlled with the spill response materials at hand, prevent spilled contaminants from spreading or entering waterways by using sorbent (oil-absorbing) materials or a soil dyke down slope from the spill. This is especially the case with liquid contaminants (e.g. gasoline,



diesel).

7. Once the spill has been controlled and further spreading prevented, contact the Contractor or the TIC/Kiewit site representative and report the spill (see section above for contact information). The Contractor or the TIC/Kiewit site representative is responsible to report the spill to the 24-Hour Emergency Spill Report Line.
8. If possible with spill response materials at hand, clean up the remaining spilled contaminant and store contaminated materials in a secure container for proper disposal. Do not flush the affected area with water.
9. If possible, remove any contained liquid by pumping into secure drums.

### Communication Plan

In the unlikely event of a large spill that might affect public safety, The Community of Whatì Emergency Services will be notified. In these circumstances the TIC/Kiewit contacts listed above will have primary responsibility for ensuring communication follows the Department's policy.

Fire: 867-573-2222

Police: 867-573-1111

## Resource inventory

### Spill Kits

The following outlines the recommended minimum requirements for contents of spill kits to be used during the project; TIC/Kiewit is responsible for supplying the spill kits. Each spill kit will be regularly inspected to ensure it always contains the following, at a minimum (in part from INAC 2007):

- 1 – 205 L open top steel drum with lid, bolting ring and gasket (spill kit container)
- 10 disposable large 5 mil polyethylene bags (dimensions 65 cm x 100cm) with ties
- 4 – 12.5 cm x 3 m (5 in. X 10 ft.) sorbent booms
- 10 kg bag of sorbent particulate

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- 100 sheets (1 bail) of 50 cm x 50 cm sorbent sheets
  - 2 large (5 m x 5 m) plastic tarps
  - 1 roll duct tape
  - 1 utility knife
  - 1 field notebook and pencil
  - 1 rake
  - 1 pick-axe
  - 3 spark-proof shovels
  - 4 Tyvex® splash suits
  - 4 pairs chemical resistant gloves
  - 4 pairs of splash protective goggles
  - Instruction binder, including Spill Contingency Plan.

The entire spill kit contents, with the exception of the spark-proof shovels, can be stored within the 205 L steel drum that will be located in an identified service truck on site. The drum will be sealed securely to protect the spill kit contents, though should always be accessible without the use of tools (i.e., finger tight bolt ring). The drum's bolt ring should be inspected regularly during inspections to ensure it turns freely and is lubricated. Extra spill response materials should also be available for use, in addition to the spill kit contents all of which will be located in an identified service truck on site. All spill kits will be located in an open and easily identifiable area for efficient use in spill circumstances.

## Training

TIC/Kiewit will be responsible for providing a qualified supervisor and training site workers in spill response. All individuals hired to work on the project should be familiar with spill response, basic first aid and WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Materials and Information System) training before working on site.