

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

September 03, 2023

Our reference: DDMI Incident number 1000643554

Your reference: GNWT Spill 2023356

Dear Mr. Heron,

Subject: Follow-up to GNWT Spill report 2023356

Summary:

At approximately 6:30 pm on August 19th a loader was cleaning up the face of an overbuilt berm in the Backfill Plant yard (Fig). The operator did not realise that there was a buried HDPE pipe inside the berm. They made contact with the pipe, breaking it. The pipeline conveys mine contact water from the sumps in the underground of the A418 mine. It took approximately 30 minutes to locate the isolation valve and stop the flow through the pipe. The pipeline break resulted in approximately 75 m³ of underground dewatering water to be spilled into the laydown. The laydown is mostly coarse crushed gravel and the spill seeped into the laydown saturating it. No seepage was seen downslope of the laydown and no water reported to the receiving environment.

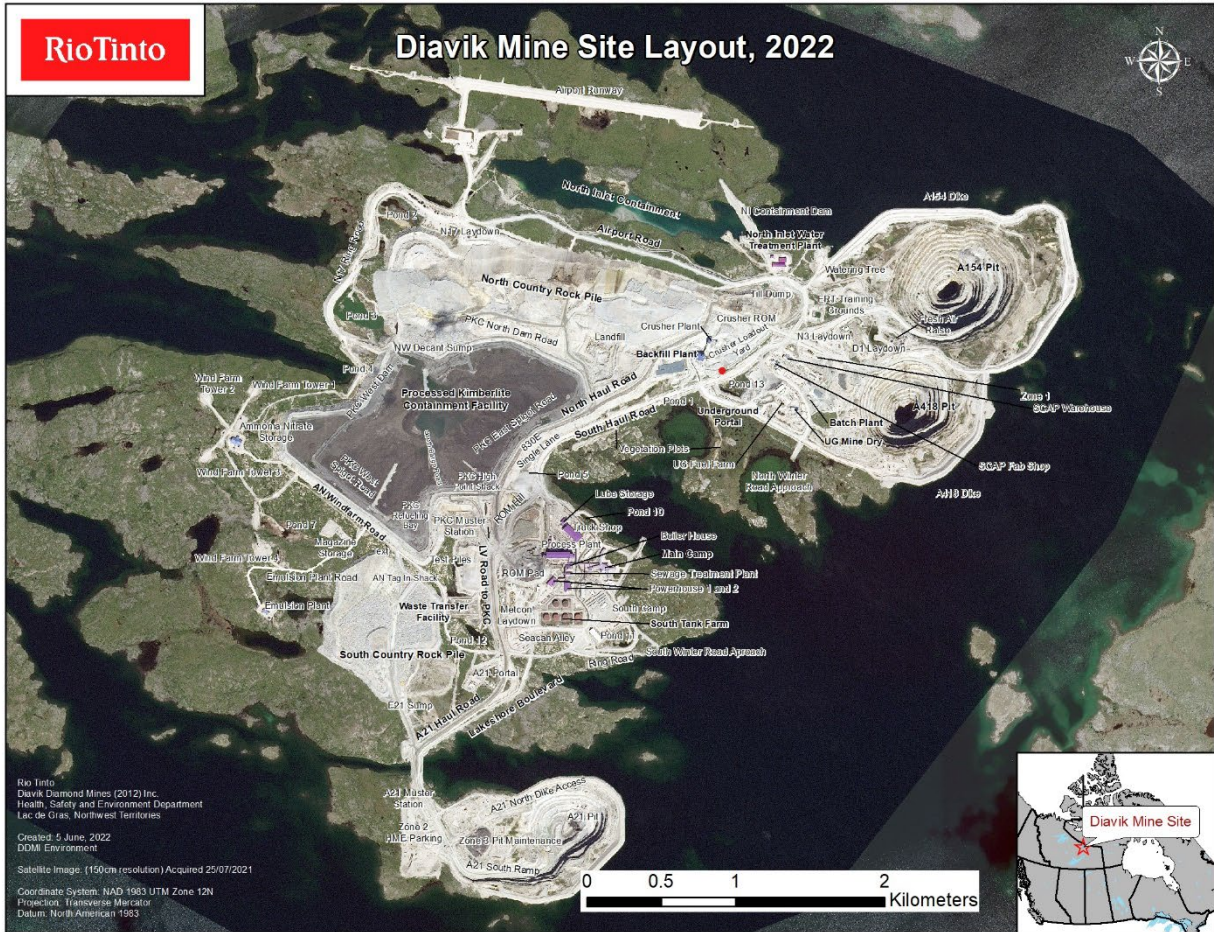


Figure 1 Spill 2023356 Location indicated by the red dot.



Figure 2 Broken pipeline and eroded berm inside containment



Figure 3 Spill contained inside Backfill Plant laydown

Immediate Action:

- Loader operator contacted supervisor.
- The scene was frozen and photographs of the area captured.
- The Site Services supervisor was contacted and they isolated the line, stopping the flow.
- Senior management and Environment department were notified

Follow-up Action:

Diavik reported the spill to the online spill report line and notified the GNWT-ECC Inspector. The pipeline has been repaired, and work is underway to ensure that all buried pipelines are demarcated.

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