

Rio Algom Mining Corp.
Smith Ranch Uranium Facility

Docket NO. 40-8964

Certified Mail - P 560 606 484
Return Receipt Requested

January 07, 2000

Ms. Georgia Cash
WDEQ/LQD
Herschler Building, 4th Floor West
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Smith Ranch Project
Permit to Mine 633
Notification of Spill

Dear Ms. Cash:

Please find enclosed Spill Report for the incident that occurred on December 31, 1999. The spill was reported by telephone to the proper agencies as required.

If you need any further information, please feel free to contact me at (307) 358-3744 ext. 62.

Sincerely,



John W. Cash
Supervisor, Environmental &
Regulatory Affairs

xc: B. Ferdinand (RAMC/SRP)
M. Freeman (RAMC/OKC)
P. Goranson (RAMC/OKC)
J. Lusher (NRC/Rockville) **Certified Mail - P 560 606 485**
file

RIO ALGOM MINING CORP.
SPILL NOTIFICATION

On December 31, 1999 at 4:30 p.m., an unplanned release occurred from header house 5 in wellfield 1, SE quarter of the NE quarter of Section 36, T. 36 N., R. 74 W. An estimated 3,000 gallons of injection fluid was released. The spill did not leave the permit area but did enter an ephemeral drainage adjacent to the header house.

The spill was caused by a failed joint holding pvc pipe together. Rio Algom, due to this failure and to assure prevention of similar spills, halted production from header houses 4 and 5 until similar glue joints were visually inspected. Bleed solutions however, were continued in the wellfield to maintain hydrologic control of the wellfield mining solutions.

Environmental impact was limited to minor erosion near the header house. The minor rills will be graded and re-seeded as the seasons allow.

The natural uranium content of the injection fluid was approximately 4.5 mg/l.

After a review and determination of the facts, telephone calls were made to the DEQ/LQD Spill Hotline and the NRC. The report was given by telephone to DEQ after-hours representative Officer Aaron Foy at 6:38 p.m., on December 31, 1999. Mr. John Lusher, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, was notified by telephone voice mail at 6:45 p.m. on December 31, 1999.

Department of Environmental Quality
Initial Pollution Incident Report

Incident number: 991231-1838
Date and Time (YYMMDD-0000)

Report taken by: Aaron Foy

Report Date: <u>12/31/99</u>	Time of Report: <u>18:38</u>
Reported by Name: <u>John Cash</u>	Responsible Party Name: <u>Rio Algom Mining Corp.</u>
Title: <u>Sup, Environmental & Reg. Affairs</u>	Title:
Company: <u>Rio Algom Mining Corp.</u>	Company:
Address: <u>P.O. Box 1390</u>	Address:
<u>C, S & Z</u> <u>Glenrock, WY 82637</u>	<u>C, S & Z</u>
Phone: <u>307-358-3744</u>	Phone:
Date of release: <u>12/31/99</u>	Time of release: <u>4:30 pm</u>
Location of release: County <u>Converse</u>	Legal <u>1/4, 1/4 SE NE S 36 T 36 R 74</u>
Mile post, highway, county road <u>Ross Rd</u>	Street address: <u>762 Ross Rd, Douglas WY 82633</u>
Tank battery, well #, etc. <u>Header House 1-5</u>	Additional info:
Source: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation ----- <input type="checkbox"/> Refinery <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> O&G <input type="checkbox"/> Train <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mine <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Industry <input type="checkbox"/> LAUST - FAC ID _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Cause: <input type="checkbox"/> Accident <input type="checkbox"/> Pipeline incident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equipment failure <input type="checkbox"/> Human error <input type="checkbox"/> Dumping <input type="checkbox"/> Other Additional info on cause: <u>Bad glue joint</u>
Substance: <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel <input type="checkbox"/> Crude oil <input type="checkbox"/> Condensate <input type="checkbox"/> Oil <input type="checkbox"/> Haz waste <input type="checkbox"/> Gasoline <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Produced water <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Quantity: <u>3,000</u> UoM: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gallons <input type="checkbox"/> barrels Other _____
Media affected: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land <input type="checkbox"/> Air <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Storm sewer <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary sewer <input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater <input type="checkbox"/> Surface water Name of water _____	Sara Title III release: <input type="checkbox"/> If marked, contact the State Emergency Response Commission at 777-4900

If water is affected, notify the WQD district supervisor immediately. Contact Game and Fish. If storm sewer, sanitary sewer or surface water is affected, copy the Watershed section. If air is affected, contact AQD. If UST, contact LAUST district supervisor.

Agencies contacted by caller: ☒ LQD ☐ G&F ☒ NRC ☐ Highway Patrol ☐ Oil & Gas Comm ☐ WEMA
☐ BLM ☐ EPA ☐ Local fire department/haz mat

Agency	Date	Person	Phone
WQD/WDEQ	12/31/99	Aaron Foy	307-777-7781
NRC	12/31/99	John Lusher	301-415-7694

Containment, removal or disposal actions: Soaked into soil

Follow up written report must be sent to the district office within seven (7) days.

Referral: ☒ WQD District Supervisor Georgia Cash
Copies to: ☐ Emergency Response Coordinator (Palmer)
☐ Watershed ☐ AUST/LAUST
☐ SHWM ☐ WEMA
☐ AQD ☐ LQD
☐ Other _____

Additional information:

This incident has been resolved by: Shutting down the header house until all glue joints are inspected.

Georgia Cash
Signature

12/31/99
Date