



# Rio Algom

Rio Algom Mining Corp.  
P.O. Box 1390  
Glenrock, Wyoming 82637 307.358.3744 tel  
762 Ross Road 307.266.2449 tel  
Douglas, Wyoming 82633 307.358.9201 fax

*Docket No. 40-8964*  
*SUA-1548*

Certified Mail - P560 605 505  
Return Receipt Requested

March 3, 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 a Spill Report for the incident that occurred on February 26, 2000. The spill has been 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.D. Freeman (RAMC/OKC)  
W.P. Goranson (RAMC/OKC)  
J. Lusher (NRC/Rockville) Certified Mail - P560 605 506  
file

*JE72*

**RIO ALGOM MINING CORP.  
SPILL NOTIFICATION**

On February 26, 4:30 a.m., an unplanned release occurred from well 4-P-13 in wellfield 4, SE quarter of the NE quarter of Section 34, T. 36 N., R. 74 W. An estimated 3,780 gallons of production fluid was released. The spill stayed within the permit area and did not threaten any waters of the state.

The spill was caused by a failed manufacturer's crimp fitting connecting a flexible "red" hose coming out of the wellhead to poly pipe which runs to the header house. RAMC is currently replacing all "red" hoses in the Header House 4-2 area with a higher quality product called Gorilla Hose or "yellow" hose. Gorilla Hose is electronically crimped and is rated at 500 psi as opposed to the current hose which is manually crimped and rated at 200 psi. In the future all new construction will utilize the superior Gorilla Hose. In addition to these corrective actions, all crimped hoses in all wellfields will be inspected and any suspect hoses replaced.

Environmental impact was limited to minor erosion near the wellhead. Areas adversely affected by the spill will be reseeded as the seasons permit.

The natural uranium content of the production fluid was approximately 36 ppm.

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 Foy at 6:08 p.m. on February 26, 2000. Mr. John Lusher, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, was notified by telephone voice mail at 6:15 p.m. on February 26, 2000.

Department of Environmental Quality  
Initial Pollution Incident Report

Incident number: 00226-1808  
Date and Time (YYMMDD-0000)

Report taken by: Officer Foy

Report Date: <u>2-26-00</u>	Time of Report:
Reported by Name: <u>John Cash</u>	Responsible Party Name: <u>Rio Algom Mining Corp.</u>
Title: <u>Supervisor, Env. &amp; Reg. Affairs</u>	Title:
Company: <u>Rio Algom Mining Corp.</u>	Company:
Address: <u>P.O. Box 1390</u>	Address:
<u>C, S &amp; Z</u> <u>Glenrock WY 82637</u>	<u>C, S &amp; Z</u>
Phone: <u>307-358-3744 ext. 62</u>	Phone:
Date of release: <u>2-26-00</u>	Time of release: <u>4:30 am.</u>
Location of release: County <u>Converse</u>	Legal <u>1/4, 1/4 SE NE S 34 T 36N R 74W</u>
Mile post, highway, county road <u>Co. Rd 31</u>	Street address: <u>762 Ross Rd. Douglas WY 82633</u>
Tank battery, well #, etc. <u>4P-13</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 <u>Have failed on wellhead</u> Additional info on cause:
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>3,780</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.

