

40-8964



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

Certified Mail - 7099 3220 0008 5206 1439
Return Receipt Requested

October 24, 2000

Mr. Joe Hunter
WDEQ
Emergency Response Coordinator
Herschler Building, 4th Floor West
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002

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

Dear Mr. Hunter:

Please find enclosed a Spill Report for an incident that occurred on October 22, 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
Manager EHS and Regulatory

xc: B. Ferdinand (RAMC/SRP)
M. Freeman (RAMC/OKC)
P. Goranson (RAMC/OKC)
J. Lusher (NRC/Rockville) **Certified Mail - 7099 3220 0008 5206 1446**
file

NMSSOIRB/K

RIO ALGOM MINING CORP.
SPILL NOTIFICATION

On October 22, 2000 at approximately 6:00 p.m., an unplanned release occurred from well 4-1-39 in wellfield 4, SE quarter of the NE quarter of Section 34, T. 36 N., R. 74 W. An estimated 1,100 gallons of injection fluid was released. The spill stayed within the permit area and did not threaten any waters of the state.

The spill resulted from the failure of an employee to re-insert a plug in the gas trap after routine servicing. Upon discovering the leak, the well was shut off and the plug was installed. RAMC is reviewing its training program and protocols to see if improvements can be made in order to prevent similar occurrences in the future. The minor surface erosion resulting from the spill will be smoothed and seeded in the spring.

The U_3O_8 concentration of the production fluid was approximately 3.3 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 Emergency Response Coordinator Joe Hunter at 2:00 p.m. on October 23, 2000. Mr. John Lusher, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, was notified by telephone voice mail at 2:05 p.m. on October 23, 2000.

WQD Initial Pollution Incident Report

 Complaint
 Release

 Incident number: 001023-1400
 Date and Time (YYMMDD-0000)

 Report taken by: Joe Hunter

Report Date: <u>October 23, 2000</u>	Time of Report: <u>2:00 p.m.</u>
Reported by Name: <u>John Cash</u>	Responsible Party Name: <u>John Cash</u>
Title: <u>Manager EHS & Regulatory</u>	Title: <u>Manager EHS & Reg.</u>
Company: <u>Rio Algom Mining Corp.</u>	Company: <u>Rio Algom Mining Corp.</u>
Address: <u>P.O. Box 1390</u>	Address: <u>P.O. Box 1390</u>
C, S & Z <u>Glenrock, WY 82637</u>	C, S & Z <u>Glenrock, WY 82637</u>
Phone: <u>(307) 358-3744</u>	Phone: <u>(307) 358-3744</u>
Date of incident: <u>Oct. 22, 2000</u>	Time of incident: <u>~ 6:00 p.m.</u>
Nature of Incident: <u>An air vent plug was not replaced after routine well maintenance</u>	
Location of incident: County <u>Converse</u> Legal <u>1/4, 1/4 SE NE S 34 T 36 R 74</u>	
Street address: <u>762 Ross Rd, Douglas WY 82633</u>	
Additional location info (mile post, highway, county road, tank battery, well #, etc.): <u>well 4-I-39</u>	
Source: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <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 type="checkbox"/> Equipment failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human error <input type="checkbox"/> Dumping <input type="checkbox"/> Other

