



# Rio Algom

Rio Algom Mining Corp.  
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**Certified Mail - 7099 3220 0008 5206 1675**  
**Return Receipt Requested**

December 19, 2001

Mr. Steve Ingle  
WDEQ/LQD  
Herschler Building  
122 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

**RE: Corrective Action Report 5, West Evaporation Pond Leak**  
**Permit to Mine 633, License SUA-1548, Docket 40-8964**

Dear Mr. Ingle:

On September 14, 2000, during a routine inspection, it was discovered that the west evaporation pond sump contained greater than 6 inches of water. The water level in the pond, four feet six inches at the time of the discovery, was immediately lowered in order to stop the leak. The sump water was analyzed for chloride, specific conductance, bicarbonate, U<sub>nat</sub>, and sulfate with the results shown below:

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Concentration</b>
Chloride	8,510 mg/l
Specific Conductance @ 25 °C	32.95 m Siemens
Bicarbonate	283.1 mg/l
U <sub>nat</sub> as U <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	22.6 mg/l
Sulfate	7,429 mg/l

Upon receipt of the confirming analysis, both Steve Ingle of WDEQ and John Lusher of NRC were notified via telephone on September 22, 2000.

After patching the suspect locations, the water level was slowly raised beginning on October 30<sup>th</sup>. On November 6<sup>th</sup>, with the pond level at four feet six inches, the sump began collecting water. The water level of the pond was dropped to three feet eight inches in order to stop the leakage.

*NMS&S&P Public*

**Steve Ingle**  
**January 19, 2001**  
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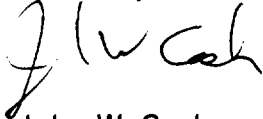
The pond did not leak again until January 6, 2001. A sample was taken on the same day with the following results:

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Concentration</b>
Chloride	9,428 mg/l
Specific Conductance @ 25 °C	41.39 m Siemens
Bicarbonate	448 mg/l
U <sub>nat</sub> as U <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	25.0 mg/l
Sulfate	11,212 mg/l

A weekly sample taken on January 19, 2001 contained 8,300 mg/l chloride and had a specific conductance of 22.22 m Siemens. The pond level will be lowered until the leak stops. Due to snow cover and extremely cold temperatures, no additional repair work has been performed.

Additional monthly reports will be submitted until correction of the situation is confirmed. If you have any questions or comments regarding the submittal, please feel free to contact me at (307) 358-3744, ext. 62.

Sincerely,



John W. Cash  
Manager EHS and Regulatory Affairs

xc: J. Lusher-U.S. NRC (Div. of Low Level Waste Mgt. & Dec.) Rockville, MD  
**Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested 7099 3220 0008 5206 1682**  
B. Ferdinand (RAMC-Smith Ranch Facility)  
M. Freeman (RAMC-OKC Office)  
P. Goranson (RAMC-OKC Office)  
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