

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 0002 1632 0301
Return Receipt Requested

June 25, 2001

Mr. Joe Hunter
WDEQ/WQD
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, pursuant to Wyoming DEQ requirements, for an incident that occurred on June 18, 2001. 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 Affairs

xc: B. Ferdinand (RAMC/SRP)
M. Freeman (RAMC/OKC)
W. Goranson (RAMC/OKC)
J. Lusher (NRC/Rockville) **Certified Mail - 7099 3220 0002 1632 0318**
Document Control Desk (NRC/Washington) **Cert. Mail 7099 3220 0002**
1632 0325
Region IV Uranium Recovery Chief (NRC/Arlington) **Cert. Mail 7099 3220**
0002 1632 0332
file

NMSSo1 Public

RIO ALGOM MINING CORP.
SPILL NOTIFICATION

On June 18, 2000 at approximately 10:15 p.m., an unplanned release occurred from Deep Disposal Well #1 in the NE quarter of the NE quarter of Section 35, T. 36 N., R. 74 W. An estimated 1,100 gallons of water 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 3/8" diameter stainless steel tubing leading to the flow meter at the deep disposal well pump. The tubing sheared due to excessive vibration caused by failed bearings in the pump. Upon discovering the leak, the well was immediately shut off. In order to prevent similar occurrences in the future, the pump will be fitted with a device capable of shutting down the pump if excessive vibration is detected.

The U_3O_8 concentration of the injection fluid was approximately 3 ppm.

After a review and determination of the facts, telephone calls were made to the DEQ/WQD Spill Hotline and the NRC. The report was given by telephone to DEQ representative Connie Osborne at 14:39 on June 19, 2001. Mr. John Lusher, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, was notified by voice mail at 14:41 on June 19, 2001. Mr. Charles Cain of NRC was notified by e-mail on June 20, 2001.

WQD Initial Pollution Incident Report

☐ Complaint

☒ Release

Incident number: 6/19/01 010619-0236
Date and Time (YYMMDD-0000)

Report taken by: John McCarthy

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Report Date: <u>6/19/01</u> | | Time of Report: <u>1439</u> <u>Connie Osborne</u> | |
| Reported by Name: <u>John McCarthy</u> | | Responsible Party Name: | |
| Title: <u>RSO</u> | | Title: | |
| Company: <u>Rio Algom Mining Corp.</u> | | Company: | |
| Address: <u>P.O. Box 139D Glenrock WY</u> | | Address: | |
| C, S & Z <u>Converse Co 82637</u> | | C, S & Z | |
| Phone: <u>307-358-3744 ext. 14</u> | | Phone: | |
| Date of incident: <u>6/18/01</u> | | Time of incident: <u>1015 pm</u> | |
| Nature of Incident: <u>See report to J. Cash from J. Clay</u> <u>The spill occurred when a 3/8" stainless steel tube running from the</u> <u>deep disposal well to the meter was sheared.</u> | | | |
| Location of incident: County <u>Converse</u> | | Legal <u>1/4, 1/4 NE NE S 35 T 36 N R 74 W</u> | |
| Street address: <u>762 Ross Rd. Douglas WY 82633</u> | | | |
| Additional location info (mile post, highway, county road, tank battery, well #, etc.): | | | |
| Source: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <hr/> <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 | |

If a release, a follow up written report must be sent to the district office within seven (7) days.

Additional information (i.e., other agencies contacted, etc.):

John Lusher of FVRC was contacted at
Charles Cain was contacted via e-mail at 1:10 on 6/20/01

Referred to: (Mark appropriate box and give contact name(s))

- ☐ W&WW District Supervisor ☐ Emergency Response Coord
☐ Watershed ☐ SHWD ☐ WEMA
☐ GPC ☐ AQD
☐ UIC ☐ LQD
☐ AUST/LAUST ☐ AML ☐ Other _____

Contact: _____

Date of referral: _____

This incident has been referred or resolved by:

Signature _____

Date _____