



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 - 7001 2510 0008 1945 4135
Return Receipt Requested

March 11, 2002

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

RE: Corrective Action Report 2, West & East Evaporation Pond Leak
Permit to Mine 633, License SUA-1548, Docket 40-8964

Dear Mr. Ingle:

On January 4, 2002, during a routine inspection, it was discovered that the water level in the west evaporation pond sump exceeded six (6) inches. The water level in the pond, three feet two inches at the time of the discovery, was lowered to two feet ten inches in order to stop the leak. The sump water was analyzed for chloride, specific conductance, bicarbonate, U_{nat} , and sulfate with the results shown below:

Chemical	Concentration
Chloride	5,100 mg/l
Specific Conductance @ 25 °C	3,941 u Siemens
Bicarbonate	396 mg/l
U_{nat} as U_3O_8	36 mg/l
Sulfate	4,700 mg/l

Upon receipt of the confirming analysis, both Steve Ingle of WDEQ and John Lusher of NRC were notified via telephone on January 11, 2002.

During this report period the water level in the pond ranged from 2' 8" to 3' 2". On February 18th the water level in the west pond was raised by 1" to 3' 0". The west pond sump began collecting water on February 21st. A monthly sample taken on March 4th showed the chloride was at 5,432 mg/l and the conductivity was 12.55 mS. At the time of this report the west sump is not collecting water.

NMSSOI Public

The cause of the leak is still being sought.

On January 9, 2002, during a routine inspection, it was discovered that the water level in the east evaporation pond sump exceeded six (6) inches. The water level in the pond, four feet seven inches at the time of the discovery, was lowered to three feet six inches in order to stop the leak. The sump water was analyzed for chloride, specific conductance, bicarbonate, U_{nat} , and sulfate with the results shown below:

Chemical	Concentration
Chloride	2,900 mg/l
Specific Conductance @ 25 °C	2,857 u Siemens
Bicarbonate	244 mg/l
U_{nat} as U_3O_8	23 mg/l
Sulfate	5,300 mg/l

Upon receipt of the confirming analysis, both Steve Ingle of WDEQ and John Lusher of NRC were notified via telephone on January 11, 2002.

The water level in the east pond was raised from 3' 11" to 5' 0" on February 18th. The east sump started collecting water on February 25th. A sample was taken on March 6th with the results below:

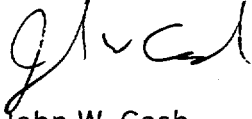
Chemical	Concentration
Chloride	3,144 mg/l
Specific Conductance @ 25 °C	9.56 mSiemens
Bicarbonate	691 mg/l
U_{nat} as U_3O_8	87 mg/l
Sulfate	3,984 mg/l

At the time of this report the sump is not collecting water. The cause of the leak is still being sought.

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.

Steve Ingle
March 11, 2002
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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 - 7001 2510 0008 1945 4128, return receipt requested
B. Ferdinand (RAMC-Smith Ranch Facility)
M. Freeman (RAMC-OKC Office)
P. Goranson (RAMC-OKC Office)
file