



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 4173
Return Receipt Requested

May 2, 2002

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
License Number SUA 1548, Docket 40-8964
Notification of Spills

Dear Mr. Hunter:

Please find enclosed a Spill Report, pursuant to Wyoming DEQ requirements, for incidents that occurred on April 24 and 25, 2002. The spills were reported by telephone and e-mail 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)
W. Goranson (RAMC/OKC)
S. Ingle (WDEQ/Cheyenne)
J. Lusher (NRC/Rockville) **Certified Mail - 7001 2510 0008 1945 4166**
✓ Document Control Desk (NRC/Washington) **Cert. Mail-7001 2510 0008 1945 4159**
Region IV Uranium Recovery Chief (NRC/Arlington)
Cert. 7001 2510 0008 1945 4142
file

*NMSS01
Public*

**RIO ALGOM MINING LLC.
SPILL NOTIFICATION**

On April 24, 2002 at approximately 12:10 p.m., an unplanned release occurred from header house 4-7 in the NW quarter of the SW quarter of Section 35, T. 36 N., R. 74 W. An estimated 18,000 gallons of water was released. The spill stayed within the permit area and did not threaten any waters of the state.

The spill resulted when a glue joint connecting a 6" PVC Schedule 40 pipe on the injection circuit to a 6" PVC Schedule 80 fitting failed. The cause of the spill is thought to be due to the use of bad glue or the application of glue to the joint after the primer had dried. The operating pressure of the system is well within the pressure rating of the piping and glue joint.

The failed line was replaced with new parts assembled using a new can of glue and allowed to cure as per manufacturer specifications. The next day, April 25th at approximately 5:47 p.m., the same line failed again at a different fitting. Approximately 3,500 gallons of fluid was spilled. The spill stayed within the permit area and did not threaten any waters of the state. An investigation determined that the failure may have been due to using PVC piping that had been damaged by UV radiation from the sun or from improper gluing techniques. Additional destructive testing is underway to assist in determining the possible cause of the failures. Employees will be retrained on the proper techniques of PVC gluing.

The natural uranium concentration of the injection fluid for both spills was about 1.2 ppm. The minor erosion resulting from the spills will be repaired.

After a review and determination of the facts, notifications were made to the DEQ/WQD Spill Hotline via telephone conversations with Jodi Ness on April 25th and 26th. NRC Project Manager John Lusher, NRC Uranium Recovery Chief Chuck Cain, and WDEQ Project Manager Steve Ingle were notified via e-mail on April 25th and 26th.

WQD Initial Pollution Incident Report

☐ Complaint

☒ Release

Incident number:

042502-1155

Date and Time (YYMMDD-0000)

Report taken by:

Connie Osborn
Jodi Nuss

Report Date: <u>4/25/02</u>		Time of Report: <u>11:55</u>	
Reported by Name: <u>John Cash</u>		Responsible Party Name:	
Title: <u>Manager EHS & Reg. Affairs</u>		Title:	
Company: <u>Rio Algom Mining</u>		Company:	
Address: <u>P.O. Box 1390</u>		Address:	
<u>C, S & Z</u> <u>Glenrock, WY 82637</u>		<u>C, S & Z</u>	
Phone: <u>(307) 358-3744</u>		Phone:	
Date of incident: <u>4/24/02</u>		Time of incident: <u>12:10</u>	
Nature of Incident: <u>Glue joint on 6" PVC line failed</u>			
Location of incident: County <u>Converse</u>		Legal <u>1/4, 1/4 NW SW S 35 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>HH 4-7</u>			
Source: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation		Cause: <input type="checkbox"/> Accident	
<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 _____		<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.

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

- Contact: _____ Date of referral: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

WQD Initial Pollution Incident Report

☐ Complaint

☒ Release

Incident number: 020426-1400
Date and Time (YYMMDD-0000)

Report taken by: Joe Hunter

Report Date: <u>4/26/02</u>		Time of Report:	
Reported by Name: <u>John Cash</u>		Responsible Party Name:	
Title: <u>Manager EHS & Reg. Affairs</u>		Title:	
Company: <u>Rio Algom Mining LLC.</u>		Company:	
Address: <u>P.O. Box 1390</u>		Address:	
<u>C, S & Z</u> <u>Glenrock, WY 82637</u>		<u>C, S & Z</u>	
Phone: <u>(307) 358-3744</u>		Phone:	
Date of incident: <u>4/25/02</u>		Time of incident: <u>5:47 P.M.</u>	
Nature of Incident: <u>Glue joint on 6" PVC SCH 40 line failed</u>			
Location of incident: County <u>Converse</u>		Legal <u>1/4, 1/4 NW SW S 35 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>HH 4-7</u>			
Source: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation		Cause: <input type="checkbox"/> Accident	
<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 _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Pipeline incident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equipment failure <input type="checkbox"/> Human error <input type="checkbox"/> Dumping <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

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>3,500</u> UoM: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gallons <input type="checkbox"/> barrels Other _____
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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
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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.

Containment, removal, disposal or other actions: <u>Allowed to evaporate</u> <u>NRC Project Manager - John Lusher</u> <u>NRC Uranium Recovery Chief - Chuck Cain</u>

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.):

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

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> W&WW District Supervisor | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Response Coord | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed | <input type="checkbox"/> SHWD | <input type="checkbox"/> WEMA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GPC | <input type="checkbox"/> AQD | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UIC | <input type="checkbox"/> LQD | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUST/LAUST | <input type="checkbox"/> AML | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Contact: _____

Date of referral: _____

This incident has been referred or resolved by:

Signature _____

Date _____