



## **Sent by Email**

February 16, 2025

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## **Spill 2025-092 - Reportable Spill at Doris Madrid Project (Hope Bay, NU) – 4 Feb 2025 – Drill Cuttings Water – Follow-up report**

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On February 5, 2025 Agnico Eagle – Hope Bay reported a spill of 300 L of Drill cutting on the exploration gravel track. On the initial report the Occurrence Date was incorrectly stated as January 4, 2025 and the Report Date was incorrectly reported as April 5, 2025. An verbal update was provided on February 9, 2025 stating the correct Occurrence Date of February 4, 2025 and Report Date of February 5, 2025.

On February 4th at 11:35, while transporting drill cuttings from Drill #11 to the Madrid Waste Rock storage facility, approximately 300 liters of drill cuttings were spilled on the exploration track. Due to the frozen conditions, the spill was contained on the gravel track. Patch Lake, the nearest water body, is approximately 225 meters east of the spill area, and there is no indication that drill water migrated to the tundra. The coordinates of the spill are WGS 84, 68° 03' 21.41" N, 106° 35' 16.61" W.

## **Response**

During the transportation of drill cuttings using a loader equipped with forks, the aluminum plate supporting the totes failed. This failure caused one of the totes to fall through the cutting rack support beam and tip over, resulting in the release of approximately 300 liters of drill cuttings.

The loader operator promptly notified the drilling supervisor, the Environment Department, and the Exploration Department. Upon arrival at the spill location, the team observed that the spill was frozen and contained on the surface of the gravel track.

The failed aluminum plate and the damaged tote were removed. The remaining two totes were secured to the cuttings rack and subsequently disposed of in the Madrid waste rock pile. A loader was utilized to scrape up the frozen material, which was also disposed of in the Madrid waste rock pile.

The incident was effectively contained and managed, with all spilled material properly disposed of.

## Root cause

At the scene, a multi-disciplinary team investigated the spill and identified the direct cause as a failed aluminum plate due to excessive use. The root cause was an inadequate pre-use inspection of the cuttings rack system.

## Corrective Actions

To prevent future incidents, the drill crew has replaced the aluminum plate with a more robust plywood base. They will continue to conduct pre-use inspections of the cuttings rack system to ensure the equipment's integrity. Additionally, all drills onsite are being retrofitted with centrifuge technology to reduce and solidify the volume of cuttings. This will allow each drill to eliminate the use of the cuttings rack system and transition to a single steel containment bin for storing and transporting drill cuttings.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this submission, please do not hesitate to contact me at [brett.fairbairn@agnicoeagle.com](mailto:brett.fairbairn@agnicoeagle.com).

Sincerely,



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Photo 1: Frozen spill on gravel track (South)



Photo 2: Final Cleanup (South)

