

→ File 14745-40/MTPD/01

Carr, Chris EM:EX

MP00123

From: Carr, Chris EM:EX
Sent: May 25, 2001 9:40 AM
To: McBride, Brian EM:EX
Cc: Beswick, Ed EM:EX
Subject: RE: Weekly Report 22 May to 25 May

Brian, you may want to stress on Mt. Polley the importance of moving the tailings line, if they have not already done so, due to the added risk now that the pipeline is leaking.
I have not received any reports for QR.
I will try and remember to copy you on future geotechnical inspection reports issued from this office.
Chris.

-----Original Message-----

From: McBride, Brian EM:EX
Sent: May 25, 2001 9:32 AM
To: Carr, Chris EM:EX
Subject: Weekly Report 22 May to 25 May

I didn't see your report prior to heading out and now I wish I had. I'll have it tracked down in the office and have a look at it. I'm not sure if the tailings line was relocated and Greg Smyth didn't mention it. I'll be in contact with Greg on a regular basis and will make sure that I call him next week. The other concern I have is the lack of storage volume in the containment structure itself. If there was a major rupture, the sands would fill that narrow containment structure quickly and there are no dump ponds along the way.

I'm doing a Gibraltar inspection, hopefully next Friday and will go over your report prior to that.

I was to do a QR inspection today but Brian Miller called and said he couldn't make it, but I'm going down there anyway to check the level in the main zone pit and to see if there is any new equipment on site. Has Brian submitted his underground report? I'm positioning to refuse approval NoW's for exploration until we get compliance with the permit and I know they want to get started on exploration.

BMcB

-----Original Message-----

From: Carr, Chris EM:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2001 4:48 PM
To: McBride, Brian EM:EX
Subject: RE: Weekly Report 22 May to 25 May

Brian, at Mt. Polley have they moved the tailings line to the upstream crest along the east perimeter embankment ? Did you see my inspection report from a few weeks ago and my comment regarding relocation of the tailings line because of risk if line breaks ?
Have you read my recent inspection report for Gibraltar ?
Chris.

-----Original Message-----

From: McBride, Brian EM:EX
Sent: May 24, 2001 2:21 PM
To: Lane, Bob EM:EX; McGrath, Brian EM:EX; Morgan, David EM:EX; Beswick, Ed EM:EX; Pittman, Ed EM:EX; Errington, John EM:EX; MacDonald, Ken EM:EX; McIntyre, Ken EM:EX; Rosentreter, Rieva EM:EX
Cc: Carr, Chris EM:EX
Subject: Weekly Report 22 May to 25 May

Mount Polley:

- completed field inspection of the mine-site and sent out the report,
- clearing for Springer Pit and access and haul road constructed,
- actively mining the 1720 Bench in the Bell Pit,
- sampling in the Bell pit consists of:
 - composites of six blast holes cuttings,
 - where pyrite is elevated, each blast hole will be sampled,
 - the fines from the blast wall are being sampled.

- the tailings line has sprung several leaks,
- all tails held within containment structures,
- at the upper end of the tailings line, the back eddy caused from the inside bead at the joints has eroded the inside of the pipe causing the rupture,
- the lower end has flat spots in the line the result of the raising of the tailings line with the increasing level of the tailings in the impoundment,
- large air bubbles are trapped in the line reduce the cross-sectional flow area, increases pressure and causes leaks at the joints,
- vacuum breaks will be installed when the line is reconstructed during the June shut-down to eliminate the air bubbles.

QR Mine:

- to be inspected 25 May in a continued effort stay after the mine manager to bring the mine into compliance with the permit,
- areas of concern will be the discharge of the north lobe pit and check for new machinery on the property.

Next Weeks Objectives:

- 1.) Sustut Copper Project Meeting
- 2.) Inspection of Gibraltar,
- 3.) Response to USWA, re Quintette reclamation,
- 4.) Stanley Cup Play-offs.