



Newmont Mining Corporation
Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mine
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SENT CERTIFIED, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
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August 17, 2017

Mr. Timothy Cazier, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist
Colorado Department of Natural Resources
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
Office of Mined Land Reclamation
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Permit No. M-1980-244; Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company ("CC&V"); Cresson Project – Written Spill Notification – Processed Ore Thickener Overflow Tank Spill – August 10, 2017

Dear Mr. Cazier:

In accordance with Rule 8, Section 8.2.3 of the Mineral Rules And Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board For Hard Rock, Metal, And Designated Mining Operations (Rules), the Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mining Company (CC&V) hereby provides the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) with a formal report regarding the spill of neutral pH water from the Processed Ore Thickener Overflow Tank at the High Grade Mill (HGM), which occurred late morning August 10, 2017.

The following points address the requirements of Rule 8, section 8.2.3:

a. Actions taken to respond to and correct the emergency situation or condition

- The Spill was observed by mill operators and electricians performing ground checks on the Processed Ore Thickener Tank pumps.
- Electricians shut down pump 46-A to perform a ground check on the motor and failed to restart pump 46-A prior to shutting down pump 46-B to perform a ground check. The pumps are parallel to one another, only one pump is needed to control flow from the processed ore thickener tank. The other pump is a redundant backup. With both pumps shut down the processed ore thickener tank quickly over flowed, and neutral pH water went into the processed ore thickener overflow tank. Once the capacity of the processed ore thickener overflow tank was exceeded, neutral pH water flowed down the overflow pipe into secondary containment. The overflow pipe slightly points towards the secondary containment stem wall. When the neutral pH water came out of the overflow pipe the water hit the stem wall; the water splashed out of containment, thus spilling approximately 250 gallons of neutral pH water. The secondary containment structure only filled to about 5% (visual estimate) its capacity and did not over top.
- Pump 46-A was immediately restarted, when the overflow was observed. It took a few minutes for the pump to catch up. The entire event occurred over the course of approximately 10 minutes.

- To prevent neutral pH water from splashing out of containment structure in the future CC&V is looking at either construct a splash guard or rotate the elbow on the bottom of the overflow to point towards the center of the secondary containment.

b. Any known or adverse impacts to human health, property or the environment

No impacts to human health or the environment were observed or are expected to occur due to the chemical composition of the neutral pH water and the low volume that was spilled.

c. CC&V Contact

For any further information regarding this event please contact;

Meg Burt

Senior Environmental Manager

PO Box 191,

100 N 3rd St,

Victor, Colorado, 80860

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d. Monitoring and analyses that are necessary to evaluate the situation and corrective actions

Sampling is not necessary because the chemical composition of the neutral pH water is well known. The neutral pH water consists of a mixture of water that has been recirculated from the float circuit and raw feed water that is added to the mill as make up water. The float reagent is generally consumed in the float circuit, the float reagent bonds with the gold bearing float concentrate, thus leaving trace amounts of float reagent in the neutral pH water.

e. Results of the Operator's investigation

The root cause of the spill was an oversight while shutting down pumps to conduct ground checks. The mill was subject to an unexpected audit of the electrical systems. The control system has safe guards in place to prevent mistakes like this from occurring; however, the system was overridden and placed in manual mode to accommodate ground checks throughout the mill. Several pumps and electrical systems were being ground checked at once which lead to confusion and oversight in managing the flow throughout the float circuit.

Should you require further information please do not hesitate to contact Tyler O'Donnell at 719.689.4056 or Tyler.O'Donnell@newmont.com or myself at 719.689.4055 or Meg.Burt@newmont.com.

Sincerely,



Meg Burt

Senior Environmental Manager

Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mine

MB/tvo

ec: Tim Cazier – DRMS
Wally Erickson - DRMS