



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Prevention and Emergency Response Program
SITUATION REPORT



Fort Knox
Gold Mine

CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SITREPS ARE DENOTED IN RED

Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc. Cyanide Water Spill

SITREP # 2 and Final

SPILL #: 12309923602

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 12:00 p.m. July 8, 2014

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc.

INCIDENT LOCATION: Fort Knox Gold Mine, Fairbanks, Alaska

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: Fort Knox reported the spill to ADEC at 9:51 p.m. on August 23, 2012.

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED: The spill was discovered by a heavy equipment operator at approximately 9:00 p.m. on August 23.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc. estimate a spill volume of 45,000 gallons of cyanide water solution were released onto a mine roadway.

CAUSE OF SPILL: A heavy-equipment operator working in the area of a buried cyanide solution pipeline inadvertently damaged a 12-inch supply line with a bulldozer ripper blade.

SOURCE CONTROL: Operators turned off pumps supplying solution to the pipeline and isolated the damaged section by closing off valves.

RESPONSE ACTION: On August 24, 2012, operators used heavy equipment to remove contaminated soil from the roadway and transported it to the heap leach pile for processing. The area was surveyed and approximately 12,000 square feet of the spill site was found outside the containment area. This material was removed and the area was sampled to confirm cleanup end points were achieved. One ADEC responder provided sampling oversight.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: Gravel mine roads within the heap leach tailings impoundment.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The cleanup is complete. No further action is required.

WEATHER: Today: scattered clouds; 75°F; calm winds.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Mark Huffington, Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc.
SOSC: Tom DeRuyter, ADEC

TIME/DATE OF NEXT SITUATION REPORT: This is a final report.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Ashley Anderson, ADEC (907) 451-2124

This sitrep and additional photos are available at the following website:
http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/response/sum_fy13/120823301/120823301_index.htm

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST: Please refer to the first sitrep, distribute August 24, 2012, for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The link to the first sitrep can be found in the **Additional Information** box.