



Ministry of Environment
Inspection Record

Environmental
 Protection
 Division

Inspection Number: 26347		Inspection Status: FINAL	
EP System: <u>AMS</u>		Inspection Date: 2016-03-04	
EP System Number: 11678		EP System Status: <u>Active</u>	
Region: <u>Cariboo</u>		Office: <u>Williams Lake</u>	
Trigger: <u>Incident</u>		Incidents of Non-Compliance Observed: <u>Yes</u>	
Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Level: <u>Level 1</u>		Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Category: <u>Category B</u>	
Inspector Name(s): Jack Green		CPIX: <u>Over 2 = High</u>	
Audit:		Total Non-Compliance(s): 2	
Regulated Party: Mount Polley Mining Corporation			
Regulated Party Contact(s): Colleen Hughes			
Legal Address: P.O. BOX 12 LIKELY, BC V0L 1N0			
Phone No: (250)790-2617		Fax No:	
Contact Email: chughes@mountpolley.com			
Location Description or Site Address: Mount Polley is an open pit copper/gold mine located near Likely, BC.			
Latitude: 52.54547 N		Longitude: 121.63433 W	
Receiving Environment(s): <u>Surfacewater</u>			

Summary

MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	
Inspection Period: From: 2016-01-12 To: 2016-02-28	
Requirement Source: Permit	
Activity: <u>Office Review</u>	Waste Type: <u>Effluent</u>
<p>Inspection Summary:</p> <p>Mount Polley Mining Corporation (MPMC) experienced a Total Suspended Solids (TSS) exceedance at the outlet of Veolia Water Treatment System (HAD 03) on 12 January 2016.</p> <p>An Office Review was conducted and the following reports were reviewed: 1) 18 January 2016 exceedance report; and 2) 28 February 2016 final incident investigation report.</p> <p>MPMC was found to be out of compliance with sections 1.3.7 and 3.11 of its EMA discharge permit, PE11678 (Permit).</p>	<p>Response: <u>Advisory</u></p>
<i>ACTIONS REQUIRED BY REGULATED PARTY:</i>	
Please confirm what actions will be taken regarding the discharge from the water treatment plant, following an exceedance of permit limits in the future.	
<i>ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:</i>	
MPMC have installed a lab at the site of the water treatment plant to analyse TSS results. The lab is not accredited/qualified. In order for sample results from this facility to be recognized, for the purposes of reinstating the discharge following an exceedance, MPMC have the following options:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gain accreditation/qualification for the new lab facilities; or 2. Request an amendment application to Permit PE11678 to accept on-site test results from an unaccredited/unqualified lab. 	

Compliance Summary	In	Out	N/A	N/D
Operations	0	1	0	0
Reporting	0	1	0	0

Inspection Details

Requirement Type: <u>Operations</u>
Requirement Description:
1.3.7 The Permittee must cease discharging immediately if the effluent fails to meet the characteristics in Section 1.3.3. The discharge may resume only if a subsequent re-test demonstrates that the effluent meets the characteristics in section 1.3.3. The Permittee must follow-up with a second sample within

the same week, suitably set apart from the first pass result, following any failure related to this subsection.

Details/Findings:

The permittee became aware of the TSS exceedance (sample result = 20.0 mg/L, permit limit = 15 mg/L) of 12 January 2016 when preliminary results from their accredited lab (Analytical Lab Services - ALS) became available on 18 January 2016. At that point, the sample was retested by ALS and a further sample was collected and sent to ALS for "rush" analysis. The result of the re-test confirmed the preliminary result. The "rush" sample result was received on 20 January 2016 and was recorded as 7.0 mg/L.

On 18 January, MPMC staff notified Hubert Bunce (MOE Acting Director for Mount Polley) of the TSS exceedance.

The permittee failed to cease the discharge of effluent following discovery of the exceedance. During a site inspection of 28 January 2016, MPMC staff confirmed that the discharge had not been ceased following discovery of the TSS exceedance on 18 January, because the TSS reading on the water treatment plant at the time the sample of 12 January was taken was checked and recorded as 10 mg/L and within permit limits (15 mg/L).

Neither the readings recorded at the water treatment plant or the samples analyzed at the new lab facilities at the water treatment plant site are found to meet the requirements of s 1.3.7 and are not considered as a "subsequent re-test" referenced in s 1.3.7.

Section 3.7 of the Permit requires analyses to be carried out in accordance with procedures described in the "British Columbia Environmental Laboratory Manual 2103 Edition", or the most recent edition, or by suitable alternative procedures as authorized by the Director. Referenced is s 2(1)(a) of the Environmental Data Quality Assurance Regulation 2 (1), which requires samples collected under a Permit to be analyzed by a qualified laboratory for the analytes specified.

The discharge should have been abated upon discovery of the exceedance on 18 January, until the results from the subsequent retest were received from the accredited lab and confirmed to be within permit limits.

Compliance: Out

Requirement Type: Reporting

Requirement Description:

3.11 NON-COMPLIANCE REPORTING

The Permittee must immediately notify the Director or designate of any noncompliance with the requirements of this Permit and take appropriate remedial action. Written confirmation of all non-compliance events, including available test results is required within 24 hours of the original notification unless otherwise directed by the Director.

Within 30 days of any non-compliant event, the Permittee must submit to the Director a written report including, but not necessarily limited to, the following:

- a) all relevant test results related to the noncompliance,
- b) an explanation of the most probable cause(s) of the noncompliance, and
- c) Remedial action planned and/or taken to prevent similar noncompliance(s) in the future.

Each data submission must include a statement outlining the number of exceedances of permitted levels and targets that occurred during the reporting period. The dates of the exceedances must be clearly identified in the data submission and an explanation as to the cause of the exceedances and a description of the measures taken to rectify the situation must be provided. Should no exceedance(s) have occurred over the reporting period, a statement to that effect must be included in the data submission.

Details/Findings:

The Permittee failed to provide written confirmation and available test results regarding the TSS exceedance within 24 hours of the original notification.

The Permittee provided the initial incident investigation report on 25 January 2016. Following review by Environmental Protection Officer Brian Yamelst, an additional follow-up report was submitted on 26 February 2016.

Compliance: Out

Were the following collected during inspection:

Samples? Photos? EMS Number

Other (please specify)

Is the Inspection related to an EA Project? EA Project Certificate Number:

INSPECTION CONDUCTED BY:

Signature	Date Signed
Jack Green	2016-03-29

ENCLOSURE(S) TO REGULATED PARTY & DESCRIPTION:

CVIS Archives

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS:**DISCLAIMER:**

Please note that sections of the permit, regulation or code of practice referenced in this inspection record are for guidance and are not the official version. Please refer to the original permit, regulation or code of practice.

To see the most up to date version of regulations and codes of practices please visit:
<http://www.bclaws.ca/>

If you require a copy of the original permit, please contact the inspector noted on this inspection record or visit: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=DF89089126D042FD96DF5D8C1D8B1E41&title=Publicly%20Viewable%20Authorizations>

It is also important to note that this inspection record does not necessarily reflect each requirement or condition of the authorization therefore compliance is noted only for the requirements or conditions listed in the inspection record.

Ministry of Environment	Cariboo Region	Mailing Address:	Phone: (250) 398-4530
	Environmental Protection Division	400-640 Borland St Williams Lake, BC V2G 4T1	Fax: (250) 398-4214 Website: http://www.gov.bc.ca/env