



Ministry of Environment  
Inspection Record

Environmental  
 Protection  
 Division

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Inspection Number:</b><br>24325  |  | <b>Inspection Status:</b><br>FINAL                            |  |
| EP System: <u>AMS</u>   |  | Inspection Date: 2015-12-03                                   |  |
| EP System Number:<br>11678  |  | EP System Status: <u>Active</u>                               |  |
| <b>Region:</b><br><u>Cariboo</u>  |  | Office: <u>Williams Lake</u>                                  |  |
| Trigger: <u>Planned</u>   |  | <b>Incidents of Non-Compliance Observed: <u>Yes</u></b>       |  |
| Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Level:<br><u>Level 1</u>   |  | Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Category:<br><u>Category A</u> |  |
| Inspector Name(s):<br>Jack Green  |  | CPIX:<br><u>Over 2 = High</u>                                 |  |
| Audit:  |  | Total Non-Compliance(s):<br>1                                 |  |
| <b>Regulated Party:</b><br>Mount Polley Mining Corporation  |  |   |  |
| Regulated Party Contact(s):<br>Colleen Hughes   |  |   |  |
| <b>Legal Address:</b><br>P.O. BOX 12 LIKELY, BC V0L 1N0   |  |   |  |
| Phone No: (250)790-2617   |  | Fax No:   |  |
| Contact Email: chughes@mountpolley.com  |  |   |  |
| <b>Location Description or Site Address:</b><br>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

| <b>MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS</b>  |  |                             |   |
|---|--|-----------------------------|---|
| Inspection Period:<br><b>From:</b> 2015-12-03 <b>To:</b> 2015-12-03   |  |                             |   |
| <b>Requirement Source:</b><br>Permit  |  |                             |   |
| Activity: <u>On Site</u>  |  | Waste Type: <u>Effluent</u> |   |
| <p><b>Inspection Summary:</b></p> <p>Site inspection carried out by Environmental Protection Officer Jack Green, accompanied by Chris Swan (MOE Impact Assessment Biologist), Carla Grimson (MOE Water Quality Technician), Alyssa Boivin (Junior Impact Assessment Biologist) and Shauna Litke (MPMC Metallurgist/Environmental Technician).</p> <p>Weather was overcast with approximately 4 inches of old snow on the ground.</p> <p>Scope of inspection was to assess compliance of reinstated Hazeltine discharge and associated water treatment infrastructure with the recently amended permit.</p> <p>The weir below Polley Lake was closed, abating the flow down Hazeltine Creek. Since the last inspection a new improved fish/debris barrier has been installed just upstream of the weir. This consists of three fences across the creek with graduated mesh.</p> <p>The Veolia Water Treatment Plant consists of 3 stages of treatment - Coagulation, flocculation and settlement/polishing. The discharge is continuously monitored and in the event of a permit discharge exceedance, a shut off valve is automatically activated, recirculating the discharge back to the Till Borrow Pit.</p> <p>The waste sludge from water treatment plant process is discharged to the sludge pond (Upper Till Borrow Pit), where solids settle out, leaving the process water to flow back to the Till Borrow Pit for recirculation in the treatment process.</p> <p>The outfall from Settling Pond 1 discharges to Quesnel Lake. Settling Pond 2 is effectively emergency storage in the event of the Quesnel Lake discharge being abated.</p> |  |                             | <p><b>Response:</b><br/><u>Advisory</u></p> |
| <b>ACTIONS REQUIRED BY REGULATED PARTY:</b>   |  |                             |   |
| Please provide photographic evidence once the signage required by subsection 2.4.7 has been installed.  |  |                             |   |
| <b>ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:</b>   |  |                             |   |
|   |  |                             |   |
|   |  |                             |   |

| <b>Compliance Summary</b> | <b>In</b> | <b>Out</b> | <b>N/A</b> | <b>N/D</b> |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| Discharge                 | 1         | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| Operations                | 3         | 1          | 0          | 0          |

## Inspection Details

|  |
|--|
| <b>Requirement Type:</b> <u>Discharge</u>  |
| <b>Requirement Description:</b><br>1.3.1 The authorized maximum discharge rate is 0.3 cubic meters per second.   |
| <b>Details/Findings:</b><br>At the time of the inspection, the discharge rate was approximately 0.22 m3/sec.   |
| <b>Compliance:</b> <u>In</u>   |
| <b>Requirement Type:</b> <u>Operations</u>   |
| <b>Requirement Description:</b><br>1.3.5 The Permittee must maintain a diversion and two settling ponds in lower Hazeltine Creek and an associated submerged discharge into Quesnel Lake. The Permittee must cease discharging to Hazeltine Creek immediately if this settling pond is overflowing.  |
| <b>Details/Findings:</b><br>There is in excess of 0.5 metres of freeboard on Settling Pond 1 at the overflow to Settling Pond 2, which is dry (primarily for use as emergency storage if Quesnel Lake discharge is abated).<br><br>Diversion channel and Settling ponds all appeared well maintained.  |
| <b>Compliance:</b> <u>In</u>   |
| <b>Requirement Type:</b> <u>Operations</u>   |
| <b>Requirement Description:</b><br>1.3.9 The authorized works are the Springer Pit, mine contact water collection system, mine tailings effluent, Perimeter Embankment Till Borrow pond, Veolia treatment system, pipeline, flow control valve, continuous flow meter and outlet structure, settling ponds, and submerged diffuser discharge structures.<br><br>1.3.10 The authorized works must be complete and in operation when the discharge commences.  |
| <b>Details/Findings:</b><br>All authorized works were complete and in operation.   |
| <b>Compliance:</b> <u>In</u>   |
| <b>Requirement Type:</b> <u>Operations</u>   |
| <b>Requirement Description:</b><br>2.4.4 The tailings impoundment must provide 1.0 meter of freeboard plus storage for the Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP), and all other effluent storage ponds, seepage ponds, and surface runoff ponds must provide at least 0.5 meter of freeboard, up to a 1 in 200 year 24-hour storm event. If at any time the freeboard in the tailings impoundment is reduced to less than 1.0 meters plus the PMP, or less than 0.5 meters in any other pond, the Permittee must notify Environmental Protection following procedures in Section 2.1 of this permit. After initially reporting such an occurrence, the Permittee must report the freeboard weekly until such time as the required freeboard is re-established. Freeboard is defined as the difference in elevation between the contained liquid level and |

the top of the berm structure at its lowest point. The lowest point does not include a spillway where a discharge is authorized or where the supernatant over flows to a downstream collection pond that is part of the authorized works.

**Details/Findings:**

Central Collection Sump, Till Borrow Pits and Settling Ponds all had in excess of 0.5 metres of freeboard.

**Compliance:** In

**Requirement Type:** Operations

**Requirement Description:**

2.4.7 A sign must be erected along the alignment of the outfall above the high water mark. The sign must identify the nature of works. The wording and size of the sign must be acceptable to the Director. Signs must be posted along the effluent pipeline right-of-way at points of public access that identifies the right-of-way and provides emergency contact information.

**Details/Findings:**

No sign has been erected.

**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 | 2016-01-11  |

**ENCLOSURE(S) TO REGULATED PARTY & DESCRIPTION:**

Photo Record 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>

[id=DF89089126D042FD96DF5D8C1D8B1E41&title=Publicly%20Viewable%20Authorizations](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**

Environmental Protection  
Division

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