



Ministry of Environment
Inspection Record

Environmental
 Protection
 Division

Inspection Number: 21685		Inspection Status: FINAL	
EP System: <u>AMS</u>		Inspection Date: 2015-08-19	
EP System Number: 11678		EP System Status: <u>Active</u>	
Region: <u>Cariboo</u>		Office: <u>Williams Lake</u>	
Trigger: <u>Planned</u>		Incidents of Non-Compliance Observed: <u>No</u>	
Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Level: <u>Level 0</u>		Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Category: <u>Category 0</u>	
Inspector Name(s): Jack Green		CPIX: <u>Over 2 = High</u>	
Audit:		Total Non-Compliance(s): 0	
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: 2015-08-19 To: 2015-08-19	
Requirement Source: <u>Permit</u>	
Activity: <u>On Site</u>	Waste Type: <u>Effluent</u>
<p>Inspection Summary:</p> <p>Site inspection with Chris Swan (MOE Impact Assessment Bio), accompanied on site by Colleen Hughes (MPMC Environmental Coordinator).</p> <p>Areas of site visited included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central Collection Sump (CCS) and Till Borrow Pit; - Polley Lake plug and new river channel, including weir; - Settling ponds and Edney Creek channel reconstruction project, on Quesnel Lake; - Tailings Storage Facility (TSF); - Seepage ponds below TSF; - Mine drainage control; - Springer Pit. <p>Construction activities were underway on the new Edney Creek channel, lining the new channel with rock material. Edney Creek was being diverted through the sediment control ponds along with the flow from Hazeltine Creek. Samples were collected by Chris Swan of the discharge from the ponds.</p> <p>Extensive reclamation work has gone into the reconstructed Hazeltine Creek channel, including lining of the channel with riprap (rock material), seeding of the banks and planting of native trees/bushes along the riparian zone. Large numbers of trees along the edge of the channel are dying off. Apparently this is the result of suffocation of the roots where material released by the breach has settled around the base of the trees. These trees will have to be removed.</p> <p>MPMC are in the process of buttressing the Perimeter Embankment and Main Embankment. The Till Borrow Pit has not been affected by the buttressing of the Perimeter Embankment, i.e. no reduction in size. Plans for the buttressing of the Main Embankment and specifically what will happen to the Main Embankment Seepage Ponds have yet to be finalized. The material for this construction has been taken from the SERD dump and the berm within the TSF.</p> <p>Under the MEM permit the mill is permitted to operate at 50% production, so MPMC are running the mill at 7 days on, 7 days off. The mill was operational during the inspection and was discharging into the Springer Pit. Chris Swan collected samples from the Springer Pit.</p> <p>Sewage from the site is pumped to the Mill Site Sump, then to the Springer Pit.</p> <p>There were 3 pumps in the Springer Pit pumping water via the West Ditch, down to the Central Collection Sump. Process water for the mill is pumped up from the CCS. The filling station for the water truck also draws from the CCS.</p>	<p>Response: <u>Notice</u></p>

Outfall from the tailings impoundment flows into the breach sump, which then flows to the CCS. The CCS flows into the Till Borrow Pit. A water treatment plant is due to be built at the Till Borrow Pit in preparation for the reinstatement of the Hazeltine discharge, which is due to commence on 31 October 2015.

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY REGULATED PARTY:

None.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Compliance Summary	In	Out	N/A	N/D
Operations	3	0	0	0

Inspection Details

Requirement Type: Operations

Requirement Description:

2.4.1 To the maximum extent possible, seepage and runoff from the open pits, rock disposal sites, and from down gradient of the tailings impoundment must be collected and conveyed to the tailings impoundment, mill or open pits. Recycling of on-site water and evaporation enhancing techniques must be practised to the maximum extent practicable. Inactive open pits may be used for storage of mine water, tailings impoundment supernatant or mill site runoff provided records of volumes transferred to any pit are maintained.

Details/Findings:

Mine run-off is currently being conveyed either directly to the Springer Pit or to the CCS.

Water in the CCS is utilized as process water in the mill and in the water truck to suppress dust on the haul roads around the site. Evaporation techniques (mistlers) were in effect at the main embankment seepage pond.

The Till Borrow Pit is currently used for additional water storage. The CCS flows into the Till Borrow Pit.

Records of water balance around the site were made available upon request.

Compliance: In

Requirement Type: Operations

Requirement Description:

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:

All water storage ponds inspected had adequate freeboard.

Compliance: In

Requirement Type: Operations

Requirement Description:

2.4.6 All ponds, ditching, and other runoff or seepage collection and diversion works must be inspected at least twice per year, once in the spring after freshet and once in the fall before freeze-up.

Details/Findings:

Records of bi-annual inspections of required works were provided upon request.

Compliance: In

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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