

Ministry of the Environment and
Climate Change
Timmins District Office

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Ministère de l'Environnement et de l'Action
en matière de changement climatique
Bureau du district de Timmins

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5520 Route 101 Est
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February 6, 2017

Annie Kmyta
CAO-Clerk-Treasurer
The Corporation of the Township of Matachewan
P.O. Box 177, 1 Moyneur Avenue
Matachewan, Ontario
P0K 1M0

Cathy Yandea
Lands and Resources Coordinator
Matachewan First Nation
P.O. Box 160
Matachewan, Ontario
P0K 1M0

Re: Seepage at the Young-Davidson Mine

Dear Ms. Kmyta and Ms. Yandea:

Thank you for contacting the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, Timmins District (ministry) with your concerns and questions regarding seepage from the tailings management area at the Alamos Gold Inc. (Alamos), Young-Davidson Mine. Further to your discussion with my staff, I wish to provide you with information on the ministry's involvement with this issue.

As you are aware, on January 9, 2017, Alamos reported a spill of seepage from the approved containment system at the base of the west dam of the tailings management area. The seepage had overflowed a downstream forestry access road and entered a natural drainage channel leading to Mistinikon Lake which ultimately flows into the Montreal River. Typical of these types of structures, the dam was designed with a system to collect, contain, and treat seepage because it contains contaminants of concern, such as ammonia and heavy metals.

Ministry staff attended the site to ensure Alamos was taking appropriate and timely action to contain and stop the overflow and direct it back to the tailings management area through the approved seepage containment and collection system. Following the incident, Alamos completed an engineering inspection of the dam and confirmed that it remains stable and at no time was there a risk of a tailings breach.

Alamos is preparing a detailed report for submission to the ministry that will identify the cause of the seepage release and needed actions to prevent a similar occurrence from happening in the future. Although we do not expect the seepage impacted Mistinikon

Lake, the report will also provide the results and interpretation of all samples collected to assess potential impacts.

Please note that the ministry takes these types of events very seriously and we will continue to monitor this site closely. Should you have any questions or concerns related to this event, please feel free to contact Jean Guindon, District Supervisor at 705-235-1521 or alternatively at jean.guindon@ontario.ca.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carroll Leith".

Carroll Leith
District Manager