



Ministry of Environment
Inspection Record

Environmental
 Protection
 Division

Inspection Number: 27427		Inspection Status: FINAL	
EP System: <u>AMS</u>		Inspection Date: 2016-08-12	
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 2</u>		Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Category: <u>Category A</u>	
Inspector Name(s): Leslie Payette		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: 2016-02-09 To: 2016-08-04						
Requirement Source: Permit						
Activity: <u>Office Review</u>			Waste Type: <u>Effluent</u>			
Inspection Summary: <p>On August 12, 2016, Leslie Payette conducted an office review of Mount Polley Mining Corporation's (MPMC) non-compliances reported for a Total Suspended Solids (TSS) exceedance at the HAD-03 (E304230) effluent discharge location on 9 February & 24 May 2016 and a Total Copper exceedance at the HAD-03 (E304230) effluent discharge location on 4, 11, 13 & 19 April 2016 & 27 June 2016.</p> <p>An Office Review was conducted of the following reports for the TSS exceedance at the HAD-03 (E304230) effluent discharge location on 9 February & 24 May 2016 :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 15 Feb 2016 non-compliance report 2) 25 Feb 2016 non-compliance follow-up email 3) 7 June 2016 non-compliance report 4) 8 June 2016 follow-up email <p>An Office Review was conducted of the following reports for the Total Copper exceedance at the HAD-03 (E304230) effluent discharge location on 4, 11, 13 & 19 April 2016 & 27 June 2016.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5) 20 April 2016 non-compliance report 6) 19 May 2016 follow-up report 7) 27 June 2016 non-compliance report 8) 4 August 2016 follow-up report <p>MPMC was found to be out of compliance with sections 1.3.3 and 1.3.7 of its EMA discharge permit, PE11678 (Permit).</p>				Response: <u>Advisory</u>		
<i>ACTIONS REQUIRED BY REGULATED PARTY:</i>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Continue to source water directly from Springer Pit to the extent practicable -Reduce the overall volume of water being stored on site -Complete review of treatment potential from Springer pit -Complete bench-scale testing for water treatment plant optimization for Total Copper removal and implement optimization if feasible 						
<i>ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:</i>						
Previous Inspection History: 2016-06-14 IR28467 - Notice 2016-03-04 IR26347 - Advisory 2016-01-28 IR25206 - Advisory						
Compliance Summary			In	Out	N/A	N/D

Discharge	0	1	0	0
Operations	1	1	0	0
Reporting	1	0	0	0

Inspection Details

Requirement Type: Discharge

Requirement Description:

1.3.3 The characteristics of the discharge must be equivalent to or better than:

Total Suspended Solids
Maximum: 15 mg/L

Total Copper
Maximum: 0.0012 mg/L

Details/Findings:

The water sampled at the outlet of the Water Treatment Plant (HAD-03, E304230) exceeded TSS on the following instances:

9 February 2016 - sample results = 16.5 mg/L
24 May 2016 - sample results = 16.5 mg/L

The water sampled at the outlet of the Water Treatment Plant (HAD-03, E304230) exceeded Total Copper on the following instances:

4 April 2016 - sample results = 0.0229 mg/L
11 April 2016 - sample results = 0.0144 mg/L
14 April 2016 - sample results = 0.0166 mg/L
19 April 2016 - sample results = 0.0132 mg/L
27 June 2016 - sample results = 0.0151 mg/L

Compliance: Out

Requirement Type: Operations

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 on 15 February 2016 & 07 June 2016.

The Permittee did not immediately cease the discharge of effluent following discovery of the exceedance.

Compliance: Out

Requirement Type: Operations

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 Total Copper exceedance (sample results = 0.0229 mg/L (4 April 2016) and 0.0144 mg/L (11 April 2016), permit limit = 0.012 mg/L) when preliminary results became available from their accredited lab (Analytical Lab Services - ALS) on 20 April 2016. On 20 April 2016, MPMC staff notified the Environmental Non-compliance Reporting Inbox of the Total Copper exceedance. Samples collected 14 April 2016 and 19 April 2016 were rushed for analysis. The rush sample results were received on 21 April 2016 and were recorded as 0.0166 mg/L and 0.0132 mg/L respectively. The Permittee immediately ceased the discharge of effluent following discovery of the exceedance.

The Permittee became aware of the Total Copper exceedance (sample results = 0.0151 mg/L (27 June 2016) when preliminary results became available from their accredited lab (Analytical Lab Services - ALS) on 5 July 2016. On 5 July 2016, MPMC staff notified the Environmental Non-compliance Reporting Inbox of the Total Copper exceedance. The Permittee immediately ceased the discharge of effluent following discovery of the exceedance.

Compliance: In

Requirement Type: Reporting

Requirement Description:

3.11 NON-COMPLIANCE REPORTING

The Permittee must immediately notify the Director or designate of any noncompliance [Should these all be non-compliance instead of non-compliance even though permit wording is '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 immediately notified the Environmental Non-compliance Reporting Inbox (written confirmation) and submitted all available test results regarding the exceedances within 24 hours of the original notification.

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

Leslie Payette

Date Signed

2016-11-17

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>

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