

June 2014 Faro Mine Complex Groundwater Sampling

Prepared for:
Yukon Government

Prepared by:
Hemmera Envirochem Inc.
230 – 2237 2nd Avenue
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 0K7

File: 1343-005.02
December 2014



20
YEARS
1994 – 2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1	SITE LOCATION	1
1.2	SCOPE OF WORK	1
1.3	SAMPLE SITES	2
2.0	METHODOLOGY.....	8
2.1	PROTOCOLS.....	8
2.2	WELL MEASUREMENTS AND PURGING	8
2.3	FIELD PARAMETERS	9
2.4	GROUNDWATER QUALITY SAMPLE COLLECTION.....	9
2.5	DATA ANALYSIS.....	10
2.6	QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY CONTROL (QA/QC)	10
2.6.1	Field QA/QC.....	10
2.6.2	QA/QC.....	10
3.0	RESULTS	12
3.1	GROUNDWATER SAMPLING SUMMARY	12
3.2	ANALYTICAL RESULTS	15
3.2.1	Cross Valley Dam	15
3.2.2	Down Gradient of Cross Valley Dam	15
3.2.3	ETA Area.....	15
3.2.4	Intermediate Dam.....	16
3.2.5	Intermediate Dump	16
3.2.6	Main Dump.....	16
3.2.7	Mill Area	17
3.2.8	Northeast Dumps	17
3.2.9	Second Impoundment.....	17
3.2.10	S-Wells Area	18
3.2.11	Groundwater Vangorda/Grum.....	18
3.3	QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY CONTROL RESULTS	19
4.0	RECOMMENDATIONS.....	20
5.0	CLOSURE.....	21
6.0	REFERENCES.....	22

7.0 STATEMENT OF LIMITATIONS 23

List of Tables (*within text*)

Table 1-1	Summary of Groundwater Sample Sites Identified for 2014 Spring Program	3
Table 2-1	Groundwater Sampling – Field Parameter Purging Criteria	9
Table 2-2	Groundwater Sampling – Preservation and Intended Analysis	9
Table 3-1	Groundwater Field Parameters and Well Measurements for 2014 Spring Sampling Program	13

List of Tables (*following text*)

Table 3-2	Groundwater Sampling Analytical Results and CCME Guideline Exceedances for June 2014 Sampling Program	
Table 3-3	Quality Assurance and Quality Control Analytical Results for June 2014 Groundwater Sampling Program	

List of Figures

Figure 1-1	Site Location – Faro Mine Complex.....	5
Figure 1-2	Groundwater Sampling Locations – Faro Mine Area.....	6
Figure 1-3	Groundwater Sampling Locations – Vangorda/Grum Area	7

List of Appendices

Appendix A	Laboratory Reports	
Appendix B	Site Photos	
Appendix C	Field Forms	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Hemmera Envirochem Inc. ("Hemmera") and Ecological Logistics & Research Ltd. (ELR) were retained by the Government of Yukon (GY), Assessment and Abandoned Mines (AAM) to conduct a groundwater sampling program at the Faro Mine Complex (FMC) during 2014. The program consists of two sampling events: spring (May/June) and fall (September). This report summarizes the activities completed and analytical results from the spring sampling event.

1.1 SITE LOCATION

The FMC is located approximately 13 km northeast of the Town of Faro, Yukon (20 km by road). The FMC consists of two distinct areas, the Faro Mine Area and the Vangorda/Grum Area (**Figure 1-1**), which are connected by a 14 km roadway (the Haul Road; **Figure 1-1**). Groundwater sampling stations exist throughout the FMC and surrounding area, a subset of which were sampled during the spring 2014 program. Specific sampling locations and general sample site distribution are described in **Sections 1.2** and **1.3**.

1.2 SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work included the coordination and execution of the spring groundwater sampling program and the preparation of this report. The report provides a summary of the sampling activities, methodologies (including any deviations), laboratory analytical results, concentrations of contaminants exceeding the applicable guidelines, and recommendations relating to sample procedures and monitoring well condition. This report does not provide an interpretation of the analytical results or provide recommendations relating to contaminated groundwater. The spring groundwater sampling event at the FMC was conducted over an eight (8) day period, between June 17 and 24, 2014. The majority of sampling was completed between June 17 and June 21, 2014, and additionally a single day site visit was conducted on June 24, 2014. Sampling was conducted by a team of four (4) field staff from Hemmera and ELR. A total of 65 groundwater wells were included in the spring sampling event (**Table 1-1**), which is a subset of the 100 wells included in the fall sampling event.

At each well (sampling station) the water level and depth to bottom of the well were measured, groundwater was purged, and field parameters were measured (pH, water temperature, and conductivity). Groundwater samples were collected after well measurements and purging, and were analysed for general water quality chemistry (major anions/cations and physical parameters), total metals, and dissolved metals. A detailed description of the sampling methods is provided in **Section 2**, below.

1.3 SAMPLE SITES

Groundwater sampling during the spring sampling event targeted 65 wells across 11 different areas of the FMC (**Table 1-1**). The majority of spring sample sites were located in the Faro Mine Area (45 wells), with the remaining wells located in the Vangorda/Grum Area (20 wells). A large portion of the wells sampled in the Faro Mine Area were located in the S-Wells Area (17 wells; **Figure 1-2**), with additional wells in the surrounding areas. Wells in the Vangorda/Grum Area were primarily located in the vicinity of the Grum Sulphide Cell (**Figure 1-3**). **Table 1-1** summarizes sample sites included in the spring sampling program, **Figures 1-2** and 1-3 show locations and general distribution of the sites. Photographs of each sample site are included as **Appendix B**.

Table 1-1 Summary of Groundwater Sample Sites Identified for 2014 Spring Program

Area	Well Name	UTM (Zone 8N)		Well Status	Sample Successfully Collected	QA/QC Sample Collected
		Easting	Northing			
Northeast Dumps	BH13B	585748	6914495	Good	✓	
	BH14A	585582	6914012	Good	✓	
	BH14B	585582	6914012	Good	✓	
Mill Area	SRK08-10A	582719	6914051	Good	✓	
	SRK08-11A	582582	6914571	Good	✓	
	SRK08-11B	582585	6914572	Good	✓	
Main Dump	SRK08-P9	583688	6913622	Good	✓	Duplicate
Intermediate Dump	P96-6	584900	6913312	Good	✓	
ETA Area	P96-8A	583222	6914073	Good	✓	Duplicate
	P96-8B	583222	6914073	Good	✓	
	P09-ETA-2	582699	6913811	Good	✓	Duplicate
S-Wells Area	S1A	584433	6913114	Good	✓	
	S1B	584433	6913114	Good	✓	
	S2A	584470	6913117	Good	✓	
	S2B	584470	6913117	Good	✓	
	P96-7	584123	6913285	Good	✓	
	SRK05-SP-4A	584503	6913117	Good	✓	
	SRK05-SP-4B	584503	6913110	Frozen	-	
	SRK05-SP-5	584468	6913129	Damaged	✓	
	SRK08-SP-7A	584438	6913098	Good	✓	
	SRK08-SP-7B	584439	6913099	Good		

Area	Well Name	UTM (Zone 8N)		Well Status	Sample Successfully Collected	QA/QC Sample Collected
		Easting	Northing			
Intermediate Dam	P01-04B	580372	6914074	Frozen	-	
	X24-96D	580544	6914298	Good	✓	
	X25-96A	580544	6914298	Good	✓	
	X25-96B	580407	6914119	Good	✓	
Cross Valley Dam	P05-01-03	580407	6914119	Good	✓	
	P05-01-05	580056	6914508	Good	✓	
	P01-11	580093	6914486	Good	✓	
	P09-C2	580014	6914400	Good	✓	
	P09-C3	579973	6914319	Good	✓	Duplicate
Downgradient of CVD	P01-01A	579701	6914854	Good	✓	
	P01-01B	579701	6914854	Good	✓	
Vangorda/Grum	P2001-02A	593132	6902864	Good	✓	
	P2001-02B	593132	6902864	Good	✓	
	P2001-3	593095	6902880	Good	✓	
	P96-9A	592647	6903345	Good	✓	
	BH05-9B-R	592639	6903344	Good	✓	
	SRK05-5C	592766	6903382	Good	✓	
	SRK05-07	592371	6903187	Good	✓	
	SRK05-08	592583	6903238	Good	✓	
	SRK05-9	592951	6903165	Good	✓	
	V34	593428	6902474	Good	✓	
	V35	593177	6902553	Good	✓	
	V36	593133				

RPD is not calculated if either the sample or the field duplicate concentration is less than five times the detection limit. QA/QC analytical results including RPD values are presented in **Table 3-3**.

Laboratory replicates and additional quality control measures (i.e. measures against lab standards) were conducted by ALS. Laboratory QA/QC analytical results are included as **Appendix A** and discussed in **Section 3.3**.

3.0 RESULTS

Summary tables of the laboratory analytical results are presented in **Table 3-2** of this report, including comparisons of results to CCME FAL guidelines. A summary of the QA/QC sampling results is also attached, including analytical data for duplicates, field blank, and travel blank (**Table 3-3**). Laboratory analytical reports are provided as **Appendix A**.

3.1 GROUNDWATER SAMPLING SUMMARY

The majority of spring 2014 groundwater sampling was completed between June 17 and 21, 2014, with an additional four (4) wells (P03-06-1, P03-06-2, P03-06-6, and P03-06-7) visited on June 24, 2014. A return trip to sample wells in the second impoundment area was necessary due to requirement of specialized small diameter footvalves, as discussed with AAM. Weather conditions varied throughout the time of sampling with ambient air temperature ranging from 8 to 12°C. Weather conditions were predominantly overcast with periods of precipitation and clear sunny conditions. All 65 groundwater wells specified for the spring sampling event were visited by Hemmera/ELR during the sampling event. Groundwater samples were successfully collected at 61 of the 65 sampling locations as outlined in **Table 1-1**. Three (3) wells were found frozen (SRK05-SP-4B, P01-03, and P01-04B) and one (1) well was found dry (P03-06-06) during the time of sampling. A summary of groundwater wells sampled during the 2014 spring sampling event, including field parameters and well measurements, is provided in **Table 3-1**. All samples were received by the laboratory within the required holding times and temperature limits.

A summary of the sampling results and guideline exceedances is provided in the following sections, organized by area.

6.0 REFERENCES

ASTM Standard D4448-01. 2013. Standard Guide for Sampling Groundwater Monitoring Wells. ASTM International, West Conshohocken, PA, 2013, www.astm.org.

ASTM Standard D6452-99 2012 Guide for Purging Methods for Wells used for Groundwater Quality investigations. ASTM International, West Conshohocken, PA, 2012, www.astm.org.

Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME). 2014. Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life. Accessed online at <http://st-ts.ccme.ca/>, July 2014.

Rice, E.W., Baird, R.B., Eaton, A.D., and Clesceri, L.S. 2006. Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater. 22nd Edition. American Water Works Association.

Yukon Government. 2002. Environment Act O.I.C. 2002/171 Contaminated Sites Regulation.

TABLES

APPENDIX A

Laboratory Reports

