# **APPENDIX 22B: EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN**



## APPENDIX 22B: EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

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## 1 – INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance towards the future development of Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) for the Casino Mining Project. The plans presented herein are conceptual in nature. They are designed to provide general information and procedures for emergency response that are consistent with regulatory and industry standards in accordance with the requirements of Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA) and Quartz Mining License application. A series of detailed ERPs will be developed for the Casino Project prior to initiation of the construction phase.

This conceptual ERP outlines the general response protocol in the event of an emergency or incident, and has been prepared for the Project Proposal to address potential incidents, accidents and malfunctions that may occur at the mine site during construction, operation or closure. The procedures outlined in this document will apply to all staff and contractors working on the Casino site and are meant to prepare personnel to avoid, mitigate or respond to emergencies to minimize the adverse effects to the natural environment, mine infrastructure, and staff health and safety should an emergency or incident occur.

Based on the Project Description of the Casino Mine Project (provided in Section 4 of the Proposal), ERPs will need to be designed to address potential incidents that could occur for each major mine infrastructure component and activity. In particular, this would include the: Open Pit, processing facilities, heap leach facility, TMF, camp and operational facilities, LNG facility, and the Freegold Road and Road upgrade.

## 1.1 POLICY STATEMENT

CMC is committed to protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of all staff, contractors, public, and the natural environmental in all endeavors. CMC will ensure that all staff and contractors are familiar with the ERP and emergency response procedures that are relevant to their responsibilities on site. All personnel will be made aware of who is responsible for emergency response, the location of emergency response equipment, and the policies and procedures surrounding incident response actions.

#### 1.2 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of the conceptual ERP is to ensure that a necessary level of emergency preparedness is available in the Project Proposal to be used as a guidance document for the construction and operation of the Project. The ERP will be based on an assessment undertaken to identify the type of reasonably foreseeable emergencies and a comprehensive plan will be developed. The ERP outlines the internal emergency response procedures and procedures for notifying external agencies. The ERP also defines and outlines the roles and responsibilities of site personal, agencies and CMC.

The following emergency situations have been identified for the Casino Project and will ultimately have comprehensive response plans prepared:

- Spills Response
- Fire or Explosion
- Mine Infrastructure Failures
- Medical Emergencies
- Natural Disasters and Extreme Weather

- Missing Persons
- Bear Encounters
- Traffic Emergencies

Pre-emergency planning to identify the potential on-site and off-site hazards is a key element of the ERP. Risk analysis is used to determine the potential for incidents to occur related to each hazard or emergency situation. Defining these incidents and the terms used in the ERP creates clear meaning and understanding of the process. The next section provides a list of common definitions for elements of the ERP.

## 1.3 DEFINITIONS

The following provides definitions for commonly used terms and situations in emergency response planning. Each of the following definitions is excerpted from the Yukon *Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA), 2002* or from the British Columbia Ministry of the Environment Environmental Emergency Program (British Columbia Ministry of Environment 2013a)

- **Emergency** An occurrence meeting one or more of the following criteria:
  - Any "serious injury" or "serious accident" as defined in Section 30(1) of the OHSA
  - Any incident requiring first aid or rescue response to the scene;
  - Any fire requiring discharge of a fire extinguisher;
  - o Any release of mill process solution outside of containment;
  - Any release of a hazardous product where there is potential for that product to enter a waterway;
  - Landslide, earthquake, avalanche or flooding where injury or property damage results or may result;
  - Major power failure;
  - Missing person;
  - An alarm of unknown origin;
  - o Motor vehicle accident; and
  - Loss of life.
- Serious Injury means:
  - An injury that results in death;
  - Fracture of a major bone, including the skull, the spine, the pelvis, or the thighbone;
  - $\circ$  Amputation other than of a finger or toe;
  - Loss of sight of an eye;
  - o Internal bleeding;
  - Full thickness (third degree) burns;
  - o Dysfunction that results from concussion, electrical contact, lack of oxygen, or poisoning; and
  - o An injury that results in paralysis (permanent loss of function).
- Serious Accident means:
  - An uncontrolled explosion;
  - Failure of a safety device on a hoist, hoist mechanism, or hoist rope;
  - Collapse or upset of a crane;
  - Collapse or failure of a load-bearing component of a building or structure regardless of whether the building or structure is complete or under construction;
  - o Collapse or failure of a temporary support structure;
  - Accidental release of a controlled product;

- Brake failure on mobile equipment that causes a runaway; and
- Any accident that likely would have caused serious injury but for safety precautions, rescue measures, or chance.
- **Emergency Response Coordinator** The individual in charge of the overall response to an emergency.
- Emergency Response Team A group of individuals who are trained and equipped to respond to an emergency situation or incident.
- Emergency Response Team Captain The leader of the Emergency Response Team.
- **Medical Responder** Leads and administers medical response to both serious and non-serious medical emergencies. Responsible for contacting outside medical resources, if required.
- **Environmental Manager** Responsible for overseeing the environmental performance and developing, implementing, and monitoring environmental management strategies to protect the natural environment.
- Incident An occurrence either human caused or by natural phenomenon, that requires action by emergency service personnel to prevent or minimize loss of life or damage to property and/or natural resources.
- Incident Action Plan Contains objectives reflecting the overall incident strategy and specific tactical actions and supporting information for the next operational period. The Plan may be oral or written. When written, the Plan may have a number of forms as attachments (e.g., traffic plan, safety plan, communications plan, map, etc.).
- Incident Management Team The Incident Commander and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident. Incident Management Team is also generally referred to as an Emergency Response Team.
- Incident Command Post The location at which the primary command functions are executed.
- Incident Commander The individual responsible for the management of all operations at the incident site.
- **Safety Officer** A member of the Incident Management Team responsible for monitoring and assessing safety hazards or unsafe situations, and for developing measures for ensuring personnel safety. The Safety Officer may have assistants.
- **Injury** An injury can be serious or non-serious. It is defined as damage to the body caused by external force. For example this damage can cause:
  - o Cuts;
  - o Broken bones;
  - o Burns; and
  - o Wounds.
- **Medical Emergency** An injury or illness that is acute (serious) and poses an immediate risk to a person's life or long term health.
- **Mutual Aid Agreement** Written agreement between agencies and/or jurisdictions in which they agree to assist one another upon request, by furnishing personnel and equipment.

## 1.4 DOCUMENT LOCATION, UPDATING AND CONTROL

Each of the ERPs produced for the Casino Project will be controlled by Casino Mining Corporation. Casino Mining Corporation will be responsible for training staff on methods and procedures, and implementing the ERP in accordance with relevant legislation and permits, and will be responsible for regular review and updating of the ERPs to ensure that they are up-to-date with current practices and legislation.

As many ERPs are specific to a particular mine activity or situation, a copy of the appropriate ERP plan must be kept at the location where the mine activity or situation is occurring. Copies of the ERP will also be kept at the following mine locations:

- Project Office;
- Safety Office;
- Emergency Response Coordinator's Office;
- Environmental Manager's Office;
- First Aid room(s);
- Common areas and near telephones; and
- CMC corporate office.

#### 1.5 EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM ORGANIZATION

The Emergency Response Team will be made up of CMC personnel who will be responsible for managing emergency situations. Casino Mining Corporation will ensure that sufficient trained emergency response personnel are on site at all times.

The Incident Commander or designate will assume responsibility for each incident in consultation with senior management, the Emergency Response Coordinator, and relevant Governmental Agencies. The Incident Commander is the primary decision-maker for assessing and responding to incidents at the Project site. The incident response organizational structure is depicted in Figure 22.1-1.



Figure 22.1-1 Emergency Response Organizational Chart

# 1.6 PERSONNEL TRAINING

CMC will ensure that its staff and contractors have basic emergency training as appropriate, such as standard first aid and Workplace Hazardous Material Information System (WHMIS), and are aware of CMC health and safety policies. Members of the Emergency Response Team require more vigorous and continual training. This training will focus specific elements of the Casino mine site and will cover but not be limited to:

- Advanced First Aid and CPR;
- Surface Mine Rescue;
- Fire Response;
- Spill Response;
- Hazardous Materials Handling; and
- WHMIS.

Routine practice drills will occur to maintain Emergency Response Team member skills and test the ERP system and process

# 1.7 EXTERNAL EMERGENCY CONTACTS

The ERP will detail the available resources of equipment, personnel, technology, and expertise that will be provided by the company, federal and territorial government, and the conditions under which they will be utilized. An example of key external emergency contacts is provided in Table 22.1-1. This list is not intended to be all inclusive at this stage of the Proposal and will be updated prior to beginning the construction phase of the Project. An emergency response responsibility matrix will also be created for definition and quick reference.

Contact Name	Contact Number					
Health Care Providers						
Whitehorse Regional Hospital	867–393–8700					
Carmacks Health Centre	867-863-4444					
Pelly Crossing Health Centre	867-537-4444					
Emergency Responders						
Yukon EMS, Dispatch	867–667–3333					
Poisonous Substance Ingestion	867–633–8477					
Yukon Territory Government Contacts						
Yukon Dept. of Conservation	867–667–5317					
Yukon Dept. of Fish & Game	867–393–6722					
Yukon Spill Report Center	867–667–7244					
Yukon Energy (afterhours)	1-800-676-2843					
Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board	867–667–5450					
Yukon Occupational Health and Safety Mine Inspector	1-800-661-0443					
Yukon Coroner's Office	867–667–5317					
Helicopter Service Providers						
TBD						
Fixed Wing Service Providers						
TBD						
TBD						

Table 22.1-1 Externa	I Emergency	<b>Contact List</b>
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#### 1.8 Emergency Response Procedures

#### 1.8.1 Response Action Decision

An ERP defines the severity and potential impact of an emergency. The three levels of emergencies are identified as follows:

- LEVEL I: includes minor spills requiring an on-site worker to respond and take necessary corrective actions.
- LEVEL II: includes intermediate level spills requiring response by on-site or off-site trained staff but posing no danger to the public.
- LEVEL III: includes a major incident beyond the resources of a single facility, where there are subsidiary problems to complicate the situation such as fire, explosion, toxic compounds, and threat to life, property and the environment. Assistance will be required from local, regional, and/or territorial organizations.

Incident detection, information gathering and action decisions are the first steps in responding to an emergency incident. All these steps may occur over a short or extended time period depending on the circumstances and

magnitude of the incident. The plan will detail the responsibility of the personnel having on-scene authority to evaluate the situation, assess the magnitude of the problem and activate the ERP.

## 1.8.2 General Emergency Response

Every emergency situation will be different depending upon the nature, location and cause of the incident. The following general course of action should be taken in all situations in combination with the incident-specific emergency response procedures described in each ERP:

- 1. Ensure your own safety as you approach the scene by making sure there is no hazard to you.
- 2. Where it is safe to do so, remove all personnel from the dangers posed by the emergency.
- 3. Contact the Emergency Response Coordinator. Describe the incident and take steps as instructed by the Emergency Response Coordinator to stop, slow or reduce the severity of the incident.
- 4. Report the details of the incident to the appropriate CMC staff and government agencies.

## 1.8.3 Spills Response Plan

A spill is defined under Section 132 of the Yukon Environment Act as:

"a release of a substance into the natural environment; from or out of a structure, vehicle or other container; and that is abnormal in quantity or quality in light of all the circumstances of the release; or in excess of an amount specified in the regulations".

Where a substance is defined as:

"a hazardous substance, pesticide, contaminant or special waste".

The Casino Mine will use large volumes of diesel fuel, gasoline, oils, LNG, and hazardous chemical substances, that all have the potential to spill. Additionally, the Project will produce sewage, mine contact water and sediment laden water that will also have the potential to spill. Mitigation measures as implemented though design and planning for the Project, as described in Section 4, will minimize the risk of a spill occurring and limit the extent of the environmental impact. However, these measures cannot completely prevent all risks from spills.

The purpose of the Spills Response Plan is to provide background planning and operational procedures for spills response to minimize:

- Danger to persons;
- Pollution of land and water;
- Size of the affected area;
- Degree of disturbance to plants, fish and animals; and
- Degree of disturbance during cleanup.

The Spills Reponses Plan will identify the types of spills that may occur, and provides procedures to respond to such emergencies. The purpose of the plan is to initiate an immediate response with trained personnel and equipment to clean any accidental spill and ensure minimal impact to the land or aquatic environment in the immediate and surrounding area. The plan will include procedures for cleanup, containment, disposal, and monitoring, including details regarding equipment and personnel allocations. The plan will be amended or updated as required, to accommodate change in construction, operational procedures, regulations and guidelines.

In the event of a spill, the following priority sequence of spills response will be followed:

- Ensure Safety The implementation of spill containment measures and site cleanup and remediation will only be undertaken when it is safe to do so. If the nature of the spill hazard cannot be determined, it is to be assumed dangerous. Use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). If the substance is flammable, remove all ignition sources.
- 2. Administer First Aid If the spill has resulted in injured persons, and it is safe to do so, first aid should be administered through following the steps of the Medical Emergency ERP.
- 3. **Stop the Source** Turn off valves, pumps or plug holes to stop to reduce flow from the source.
- 4. **Notify the Emergency Response Coordinator** The Emergency Response Coordinator will be responsible for mobilizing the Emergency Response Team and notifying the appropriate CMC personnel and external agencies.
- 5. Secure the Area Take steps to limit access to the spill area.
- 6. **Contain the Release** Limit the extent of the spill through the use of spill response equipment (e.g., sorbent pads, socks or pillows) and by blocking drains and accesses to waterways through the use of dams, dykes, or drain covers.
- 7. Clean-Up the Spill Clean-up and restore the affected area under direction of the Environmental Manager.
- 8. **Report the Spill** The Emergency Response Coordinator will be responsible for reporting the details of the spill and the response actions to CMC and regulatory agencies.
- 9. **Conduct an Incident Investigation** Understand the events that caused the spill and make modifications to site procedures, training, or emergency response planning to minimize the chance of a reoccurrence.

The Spills Response Plan will contain specific actions for the different types of spills that can occur, including:

- Spills to land;
- Spills to water;
- Spills to ice or snow;
- Chemical spills;
- Cyanide Release; and
- Gaseous releases.

## 1.8.4 Fire and Explosion Response Plan

Fires or explosions have the potential to occur at the Casino site, particularly where flammable or reactive chemical agents are used or stored. The purpose of the Fire and Explosion Response Plan is to outline the response required in the event of a fire or explosion at the Casino mine site. The location of fire extinguishers, emergency exit routes, and muster points will be posted in each building and communicated to all staff and contractors on site.

The following are the general emergency response procedures to be implemented if a fire is discovered:

- 1. If it is safe to do so, the individual on scene should attempt to extinguish the fire. The Emergency Response Coordinator will be contacted.
- 2. All other individuals should immediately evacuate the building or area using the closest and safest route and alert others as they leave.
- 3. The Emergency Response Team will take control of the scene when they arrive and take a head count of all staff and contractors on site.
- 4. If the fire or explosion is large, the Emergency Response Team will initiate firefighting procedures

5. The Incident Commander may request support from the Carmacks or Whitehorse fire department, however it must be recognized that the response time may be in excess of 60 minutes.

Fresh water for firefighting will be provided from the Yukon River Pipeline. As described in Section 4, the total Casino Project water requirement for firefighting is  $341 \text{ m}^3$ /h for two hours. This water requirement is satisfied by ensuring a reserve capacity of  $682 \text{ m}^3$  in the lower portion of the freshwater pond that is unavailable for other uses.

## 1.8.5 Mine Infrastructure Failures Response Plan

The Casino Open Pit and waste rock storage piles will be designed to appropriate geotechnical and engineering standards in order to prevent slope failures, with due consideration of the geotechnical characteristic of the host rock. Nevertheless, the risk of potential slope failures exists. As part of the Mine Infrastructure Failure Response Plan, details on mine pit slope failure emergency response will be prepared to protect worker safety and reduce the potential for serious injuries. This plan will involve pit evacuation procedures, Emergency Response Coordinator contact procedures, stabilization procedures, and notification steps.

The HLF will be designed to ensure environmental protection during extreme weather events, power failures, fire or other emergencies that may cause the loss of pumping capacity of leaching solutions. The Mine Infrastructure Failure Response Plan will provide details on the designs, operations, and response procedures should an incident involving any Project infrastructure (e.g., TSF embankments, stockpiles) occur.

## 1.8.6 Medical Emergencies Response Plan

Medical emergencies can be classified as either "serious" or "non-serious" (For serious medical emergencies, the following general steps should be undertaken:

- 1. The first person on the scene must assess the situation to ensure that there is no danger to themselves or others prior to responding to the emergency.
- 2. Contact the Emergency Response Coordinator who will contact the Medical Responder and the Emergency Response Team.
- 3. Administer first aid until they arrive, if qualified.
- 4. Once the Medical Responder or the Emergency Response Team arrives on scene, they will take over first aid responsibilities. The first person on scene will remain to provide details of the incident.
- 5. If possible, transfer the patient to the first aid station.
- 6. The Medical Responder will determine if further actions such as a medevac to a hospital is required.
- 7. If the patient cannot be moved from the site, the Medical Responder may request medical support be brought to the site.

For non-serious injuries, the following general steps should be undertaken:

- 1. The first person on the scene must assess the situation to ensure that there is no danger to themselves or others prior to responding to the emergency.
- 2. Administer first aid if qualified
- 3. Contact the Emergency Response Coordinator to provide details on the incident and receive additional instructions.

The Casino site will have a first aid room located near the main camp facilities and a number of first aid stations located around the site. These areas will be regularly stocked and inspected in accordance with Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board requirements. In the event of a fatality, the RCMP will be notified and the scene secured to allow for a proper investigation.

## 1.8.7 Extreme Weather or Natural Disaster Response Plan

Working in the Yukon during winter months can be dangerous and incidents of extreme weather can affect the health and safety of workers and other personnel on the Casino site. During extreme cold weather, workers will be required to wear appropriate cold weather PPE, take frequent breaks, and be monitored for signs of frostbite or hypothermia. Although there are no maximum exposure limits for cold working environments in Canada, the Threshold Limit Values for cold stress will be adopted at the Casino site; according to this guideline, non-emergency work should cease when temperatures are below -43°C with no noticeable wind (Government of Canada 2008). All individuals working outside at the Casino site will receive cold weather safety training prior to beginning work.

A natural disaster or extreme weather may also include events such as earthquakes, floods, blizzards, and whiteouts. In the event of such an event, the Emergency Response Coordinator will be informed of the situation and coordinate the appropriate response with the Incident Commander. The Emergency Response Coordinator will provide instructions to all staff and contractors on the Casino site, which may include site evacuation.

## 1.8.8 Missing Persons Response Plan

The Casino mine site is located in a remote area and the potential exists for a person to become lost or missing. Not all missing persons are lost, as they may be temporarily out of radio contact or may have misplaced their radio and are unable to check in at the scheduled time. The key to reducing the occurrence of missing person incidents is to have a plan in place for staff working in remote areas that includes: radio check-in times, back-up satellite phone communications, work plans detailing the location of the report work available at camp, and avoiding working alone in remote areas, where feasible.

In the event that a person is determined to be missing, either by missing radio check-in or return times, or by being out of contact, the Emergency Response Coordinator will be notified immediately. The Emergency Response Coordinator will determine the level of response required and will notify the appropriate CMC staff.

## 1.8.9 Bear Encounters Response Plan

The Casino Project is located in bear country where the potential to encounter both black bears and grizzly bears exists. A bear encounter differs from a bear observation, in that a:

- **Bear Encounter:** includes interactions of aggressive, unusual or erratic behaviour; vehicle collisions and near misses; damage of equipment by wildlife; and injured or dead bears.
- **Bear Observation:** when a bear is observed without incident and is further than 1 km from the camp perimeter, and more than 100 m from any human use area.

All staff working on the Casino mine site will undertake bear training to learn to identify the appearance, mannerisms and habitat for both black and grizzly bears. A key element of this training will involve learning to avoid bear encounters and how to respond should a bear encounter occur. All bear observations and encounters will be reported to the Camp Manager or the Environmental Manager.

Bear deterrents (e.g., bear spray and bear bangers) will be made available to all staff and contractors working on the Casino mine site. Training will be provided on the proper use of the equipment. When working in the field, this equipment will be kept in an accessible place.

The Waste Management Plan (Section 22) is another key element to reduce the risk of a bear encounter. In accordance with this plan, all waste generated on site will be managed in a way to dissuade bears or other wildlife entering the Casino mine site in search of food.

#### 1.8.10 Traffic Emergencies Response Plan

The Casino Project includes a 203km long access road (Freegold Road Extension and Road Upgrade), an airstrip access road and numerous haul roads around the mine site. The roads will be used to transport personnel, equipment, ore and waste, fuels, and hazardous materials. As a result, the potential exists for vehicle collisions, malfunctions, spills, or wildlife encounters that could adversely affect the natural environment or cause an injury.

To reduce the likelihood of an incident, all traffic associated with the Casino Project will be managed in accordance with the Road Use Plan (outlined in Section 22). All roadways will be constructed with safe alignments, grades, lines-of-sight and signage, and will be monitored frequently to ensure that the road is safe and well kept. Radio communication will be available along all roads to allow for rapid communication with drivers and reporting of incidents.

Staff transporting goods to and from the Casino mine site will be trained according to Yukon Department of Transportation requirements, and also have training in spills response, hazardous materials safety, and CMC's environmental and transportation policies.

#### 1.8.11 Site Evacuation Plan

A general Site Evacuation Plan will be prepared for the Casino mine site for emergency situations where the Emergency Response Coordinator and/or the Incident Commander deem that an evacuation is necessary. A site wide notification either by radio, phone, or alarm system will be established and all staff and contractors on the site will be made aware of its use. A muster station(s) will be set up at the Casino mine site and all personnel will be made aware of its location. The key element of the mine evacuation plan will be to ensure that all staff, contractors and visitors are accounted for and that all personnel are evacuated in a rapid and safe manner.

#### 1.8.12 Appendices and Operational Guides

In an emergency situation, immediate access to response information is vital. For this purpose the bulk of the information will be organized in easy-to-follow tables in appendices. The ERP for the Casino Project will include the following elements, as appropriate:

- Organization, roles and responsibilities;
- Response team and key company personnel call out list;
- Territorial, federal and local government agencies, news media and medical services telephone list;
- Community residents contact list;
- Mutual aid contacts;
- Cleanup contractors;
- Weather information contacts;
- Facility maps, drawings and product hazard list;
- Emergency response manual distribution list;

- Statutes/laws/regulations (e.g., Spill Reporting Regulation);
- Material safety data sheets;
- Emergency incident report forms;
- On-site mobile and emergency equipment list by location;
- Off-site mobile and emergency equipment list by location;
- Emergency evacuation plan and escape routes;
- Decontamination procedure;
- Emergency shutdown procedures; and
- Return to work policy and procedure.

## 1.9 REFERENCES

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