Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

SECTION 14 INCIDENT REPORT (*Waste Management and Pollution Control Act*)

Date and Time of Notification:	29/01/2019, 15:13pm.
Person / Company:	McArthur River Mining Pty Ltd (MRM)
Incident:	The rear trailer of a road train carrying bulk zinc-lead concentrate from the MRM Mine Concentrator to the Bing Bong Loading Facility (BBLF) detached and overturned on the roadside.
(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution	The overturned trailer contained 15 tonnes of zinc-lead bulk concentrate, the majority of which was spilled over an area of approximately 372 square metres (62 metres long by 6 metres wide).
(b) the place where the incident occurred	The incident occurred on Bing Bong Road approximately 12km south of the BBLF. Incident Location: MDGA Zone 53 (GDA94): Spill start: Easting 644,725; Northing 8,260,103. Spill end: Easting 644,717; Northing 8,260,165.
(c) the date and time of the incident	26/01/2019, at approximately 15:55.
(d) how the pollution has occurred, is occurring or may occur	Wheel ruts on the inside corner of the road bend caused the rear trailer to sway and swing out from the rest of the trailers. As a result, the bolts connecting the turntable to the dolly failed. The trailer continued towards the roadside where it overturned. The bulk zinc-lead concentrate was spilled to the ground on the roadside.
(e) the attempts made to prevent, reduce, control, rectify or clean up the pollution or resultant environmental harm caused or threatening to be caused by the incident	Initial efforts to begin remediation were made on the evening of the incident. A front-end loader and small excavation equipment were trammed from the BBLF to the incident site. To prevent runoff leaving the incident site in the event of rainfall, bund walls were constructed adjacent the roadside at either end of the spill.

	Remediation was undertaken using an excavator to remove the majority of spilt concentrate. Excavated material was trucked to the concentrate shed at the Mine. The reclaimed concentrate and clay were separated inside the enclosed shed. The contaminated clay was disposed at the Tailings Storage Facility. Remediation of the Site continued on 28/01/2019, with further excavation of the majority of the remaining contaminated soil. A street sweeper was used on the road surface to recover any residual material. Final remediation works were completed on 30/01/2019. This included manual removal of all remaining soil that was suspected to be contaminated with bulk concentrate, further clean-up of the road surface and use of clean fill material to reinstate the roadside gradient. Extensive soil sampling was undertaken on 30/01/2019 following completion of the clean-up, to determine effectiveness the of remediation works. This included: - 2 control samples; - 13 potentially impacted samples; - 2 samples of replacement fill for the roadside; and - QA/QC samples. Samples have been dispatched to an off-site laboratory for analysis of lead and zinc levels. Upon receipt, all results will be assessed and further monitoring determined.
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	Ryan Pascoe Manager – Environment, Safety and People