



# Mount Polley Mining Corporation

an Imperial Metals company

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Via Email: Douglas Hill, P.Eng.  
BC Ministry of Environment  
Regional Operations Director – Mining  
Environmental Protection

RE: Pollution Abatement Order 107461

## **2017 QUARTER 3 UPDATE REPORT**

Mount Polley Mining Corporation (MPMC) received an amendment to Pollution Abatement Order (PAO) 107461 from the Ministry of Environment, and Climate Change Strategy (ENV) on June 9, 2017 requiring the submission of an update report on a quarterly basis, rather than monthly, that focusses on the requirements of the PAO. The reporting frequency was amended to reflect the stability of conditions and monitoring results. The information and content that is provided in this report has also been updated, focussing solely on the PAO.

This report satisfies the requirement of Section 6.0 of the amended PAO. In general, this report will include a summary of activities undertaken in the previous three months as well as a forecast of planned activities for the upcoming three months pertaining to:

- Implementation status of the requirements of this order;
- Summary of communications with stakeholders and the public relating to the TSF breach and its impacts; and
- Activities undertaken by MPMC towards the restoration and remediation efforts in the spill-impacted area of Hazeltine Creek, Polley Lake and Quesnel Lake.

For previous information, see the Quarter 2 Update Report, available on the Imperial Metals website [here](#).

## Implementation Status of PAO Requirements

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The final Human Health Risk Assessment was submitted to ENV on May 29, 2017 and was accepted by ENV on June 28, 2017. The draft Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) was submitted to ENV on June 30, 2017 and the final ERA was submitted on October 2, 2017.

The deadline for the submission of the Conceptual Remediation Plan has been extended to November 30, 2017.

The draft Discharge Management Plan was submitted on July 15, 2017. The final version of the plan was due for submission on October 9, 2017.

## Communications

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The Community Update Newsletter was published at the end of the August on the MPMC [website](#) and distributed to the surrounding communities.

On September 7, 2017, MPMC held a site tour open to members of the public. The original date for this tour was July 13, 2017 but was postponed due to wildfire activity. Sixteen (16) people attended this tour which included the Cariboo Pit, the Tailings Storage Facility, Hazeltine Creek, Edney Creek, and Quesnel Lake shore at the mouth of Edney Creek.

Due to ongoing wildfires affecting the Cariboo region, the annual Technical Research Committee on Reclamation (TRCR) Symposium and Mount Polley Mine site tour that was scheduled for September 18-21, 2017, was postponed until 2018.

On September 14, 2017 an invitation was emailed to Likely Community members and on September 18, 2017 the same invitation was posted on the Likely Community [website](#) and Facebook page, to review and discuss our Communication Plan for *Environmental Management Act* Permit 11678. On September 29, 2017, Lyn Anglin, (Imperial Metals), and Colleen Hughes, (Mount Polley) were at the Likely Lodge from 7 pm to 9 pm to discuss the Communication Plan with any interested parties. The one individual who sat down and discussed the plan, did not have any issues with the plan nor did they request any changes be made.

## **Upcoming communications/meetings:**

MPMC met with the Public Liaison Committee (PLC) to discuss the ongoing remediation activities, site, monitoring updates, Communications Plan, and Terms of Reference for the PLC on October 5, 2017.

Another Community Update will be published during the fourth quarter of 2017.

MPMC will be holding community meetings in Likely and in Williams Lake in November 2017.

## **Rehabilitation Work**

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### **Hazeltine Creek Rehabilitation**

Amphibian exclusion fences remained in place and salvage continued until late September to facilitate construction activities in the Polley Flats areas and Hazeltine Creek Reach 2. A preliminary count revealed that 449 amphibians were salvaged from the work area.

Work continued in Hazeltine Creek on channel re-orientation and habitat installation with guidance from Steve Hocquard (Golder) and Envirowest. The 2017 work extends from Reach 1 (completed in 2016) to immediately upstream of the Gavin Lake Road bridge (Reach 2) for a distance of approximately 1.25 kilometers. Fish habitat restoration and rehabilitation of the lower flood plain in Reach 1 and 2 is now complete.

Upland areas in Reach 2 have been site-prepared for planting. The work included removal of tailings residues, placement of coarse woody debris, and installation of habitat features (avian perching and small mammal denning sites).

Fall planting and seeding commenced on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Native seeds have been collected for direct seeding and seedling production for future upland and lower floodplain planting.

An invasive plant inventory survey was completed and this data will be used to develop future invasive plant management strategies.

### **Polley Flats Tailings Removal**

In the Polley Flats area, Lake Excavating Ltd. removed tailings from ~13.9 Ha. Tailings materials were removed down to native soils exposing underlying topsoil, peat and subsoils. Additional stockpiled tailings material was removed from the Plug Access Road as well.

Total tonnage of materials removed from the Polley Flats area in 2017 was approximately 350, 000 tonnes. Once the tailings were removed the site was prepared for planting. The site preparation included surficial roughening, mounding, application of soils, application of coarse woody debris and installation of habitat features (avian perching and small mammal denning sites).

The majority of the stockpiled tailings material from 2016 remediation work was removed from the Polley Flats. Much of this material was used for construction of the buttress for the tailings dam and the remainder was stored within the mine area for potential future use. There is approximately 50, 000 tonnes of stockpiled material remaining and MPMC has requested an extension to the October 31, 2017 deadline for removal of this material.

### **Quesnel and Polley Lake**

Limited (minor) remediation work is expected to be completed around Quesnel and Polley Lake in Fall of 2017.