



Transport Canada    Transports  
Canada                    Canada

Environmental Affairs – Programs  
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Your File                    Votre référence  
MVEIRB 1011-001  
Our file                      Notre référence  
7075-70-2-50

October 11, 2012

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**Subject: Avalon Rare Metals Inc., Thor Lake Project - Transport Canada Response to MVEIRB Information Requests**

Transport Canada is responsible for transportation policies and programs that ensure air, marine, road and rail transportation are safe, secure, efficient and environmentally responsible. Transport Canada is pleased to provide the following response to the second round of Information Requests conveyed by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB), dated September 22, 2012.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Chris Aguirre via email at [christopher.aguirre@tc.gc.ca](mailto:christopher.aguirre@tc.gc.ca) or by phone at (204) 984-2615.

Regards,

Meighan Andrews  
Transport Canada  
Superintendent, Environmental Affairs North | Surintendant, Affaires Environnementales Nord  
Prairie and Northern Region | Région des Prairies et du Nord

**IR Number:** MVRB #2.07  
**To:** Transport Canada  
**Subject:** Barge Incidents  
**Source:** Avalon Day 3 Technical Session Transcripts

**Preamble**

Several potential barge accident or malfunction scenarios other than sinkings could have negative impacts on water quality or other valued components. To assess the likelihood of such scenarios, a review of the past record of barge incidents is warranted.

**MVRB Request**

Please provide statistical information on past barge incidents in Great Slave Lake or other representative areas, including but not necessarily limited to cargo spills, fuel spills, collisions, groundings, and hull leaks.

**Transport Canada's Response:**

Transport Canada does not collect statistical information or maintain a database on the number of incidents in marine waters. The Canadian Coast Guard and the Transportation Safety Board amass data on past incidences related to marine shipping.

The Canadian Coast Guard's Regional Marine Information Centers manage and collect information regarding past environmental incidents in arctic marine waters. The Regional Marine Information Centers are the collector and disseminator of marine pollutant spills reports, or land/air based spills that affect the coast.

Detailed statistical information on past fuel spill incidents in arctic marine waters can be provided by the Canadian Coast Guard. Please contact the following for more information:

**Joanne Munroe**

Environmental Response | Intervention environnementale  
Canadian Coast Guard | Garde côtière canadienne  
Central & Arctic Region | Région du Centre et de l'Arctique  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada | 520 Exmouth St, Sarnia, Ontario N7T 8B1  
Pêches et Océans Canada | 520, rue Exmouth, Sarnia (Ontario) N7T 8B1  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada  
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[joanne.munroe@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:joanne.munroe@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

The Transportation Safety Board is an independent agency that investigates transportation occurrences anywhere in the country. They provide statistical information on marine occurrences and marine investigation reports, which are available on the Transportation Safety Board website. Please contact the following for more information:

**Captain Wendy Jolliffe**

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