

Teck Metals Ltd. Pine Point Tailings Impoundment Area

# Waste Management Plan – V5.0

Water Licence: MV2017L2-0007

Land Use Permit: MV2019X0006

Effective Date: June 30, 2019

Revised Date: November 15, 2024

Legacy  
Properties

/ **Teck**

## Plain Language Summary

The Teck Metals Ltd. (Teck) Pine Point Tailings Impoundment Area (TIA) is located approximately 50 km southwest of Fort Resolution, NT and approximately 75 km east of Hay River, NT. The TIA is associated with the former Pine Point lead-zinc mine that operated from 1964 to 1988. In 1996, most of the lands leased to Teck's predecessor, Cominco, were released back to the Government of Northwest Territories (GNWT). The remaining lease (#85B/16-9-11) at closure includes the north portion of the TIA and some surrounding area. In 2020, an additional surface lease was acquired (L-2000009T) that incorporates the southern portion of the TIA for purposes of dyke inspection and maintenance and reclamation research and implementation.

Current activities on site are those associated with the "Closure Active Care Phase" of the TIA, which includes active treatment of water that collects in the TIA according to Water Licence MV2017L2-0007 and Land Use Permit MV2019X0006. Surface water runoff from the tailings area is collected and treated onsite with lime to precipitate zinc before discharge to the environment from June to October (approximately). In addition to water treatment, intermittent research activities are done to inform final reclamation and closure planning.

This waste management plan describes the types of waste generated on site and how the waste is handled and disposed. The waste generated on site is minimal since occupation is limited to the water treatment team, which is on site for approximately 4 to 6 weeks annually, and intermittent site investigations. Most waste is domestic waste that is packed out daily by contractors. Hazardous waste is limited to batteries for hand-held equipment, chemical wastes from calibration solutions, and occasionally hydrocarbon-impacted materials (e.g., oily rags and spill remediation materials). Since the volumes of hazardous wastes are minimal, they are transported off site by contractors for disposal at commercial facilities outside of the territory (e.g., municipal battery recycling programs).

## Version History Table

Version No.	Date	Revision(s) Made
1.0	22-Aug-2017	Original submitted with Type B Water Licence renewal
2.0	26-Mar-2019	Submitted with the Land Use Permit application.
2.1	30-Jun-2019	Addressed comments from the MVLWB.
3.0	7-May 2020	Clarification of wastes taken to Hay River, added photographs, and added section of use and management of flocculants.
3.1	21-Aug-2020	Included flocculants as a product used in the water treatment process
4.0	21-Jun-2021	Included the surface lease obtained in 2020, introduction of the mechanical evaporator system, and general updates as per the amended Land Use Permit.
4.1	13-Sep-2021	Updated to address comments from the MVLWB related to describe how untreated water could be released if mechanical evaporator operational criteria are not maintained, prevention and release response.
5.0	15-Nov-2024	General administrative updates including updated role definitions for the Site Manager, Manager, Environmental Performance, and Legacy Dispatch and notification process and updates to improve clarity. Updated the water licence reference for the Hay River Landfill and accordingly updated the documentation from the Director of Public Works. Added section 4.4 Waste Tracking.

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## 1.0 Introduction

The Teck Metals Ltd. (Teck) Pine Point Tailings Impoundment Area (TIA) is located in the Northwest Territories (NWT), approximately 50 km southwest of Fort Resolution (Denínu Kúᖃ) and approximately 75 km east of Hay River (Xátt'odehchee) (Figure 1.1). The TIA is associated with the former Pine Point lead-zinc mine that was in operation from 1964 to 1988. In 1996, most of the lands leased to Teck's predecessor, Cominco, were released back to the Government of Northwest Territories. The remaining lease (#85B/16-9-9) at closure includes the north portion of the TIA and some surrounding area. In 2020, an additional surface lease was acquired (L-2000009) that incorporates the southern portion of the TIA for purposes of dyke inspection and maintenance and reclamation research and implementation (Figure 1.2).

The TIA is the area of approximately 640 ha that is bordered by the perimeter dykes and is located to the north of the former Pine Point mill site on terrain that slopes gently downward towards the northwest (Figure 1.2). The earthfill perimeter dyke system retains the tailings and ponded water (Main Pond). The dyke system extends fully along the north and west sides of the TIA but is required along only a portion of the south and east sides. The TIA is covered with 10 to 20 cm of coarse sandy gravel overlaying fine, sandy tailings. Typical native soil for the area is gravelly clay. No historic waste management locations are known.

Current activities at the facility are those associated with the "Closure Active Care Phase" of the TIA. The Active Care Phase of the Pine Point Facility includes the active treatment of water that collects in the Main Pond according to Water Licence [MV2017L2-0007](#) and Land Use Permit [MV2019X0006](#). Surface water runoff from the tailings area is collected and treated onsite with lime to precipitate zinc. The treated water is discharged into a constructed channel that conveys water naturally to a series of former borrow areas and then to the surrounding peatland environment.

In summer/fall months (approximately June to October) contractors are on site to run the water treatment program and occupy recreational vehicles onsite. During these months, additional workers may also commute from Hay River and Fort Resolution, NT, to conduct maintenance activities or to undertake investigations to support reclamation research. Fewer daily commuters are expected in winter months. The maximum daily occupancy of the site is expected at 20 people, which would only be expected to occur rarely for short periods of time.

## 2.0 Company Name and Contact

Teck Metals Ltd.  
601 Knighton Road, Bag 2000  
Kimberley, BC  
V1A 3E1

Contact: Michelle Unger, Manager Environmental Performance  
Pine Point Coordinates (associated with decant area at TIA):  
60°53'41.3"N 114°25'30.7"W

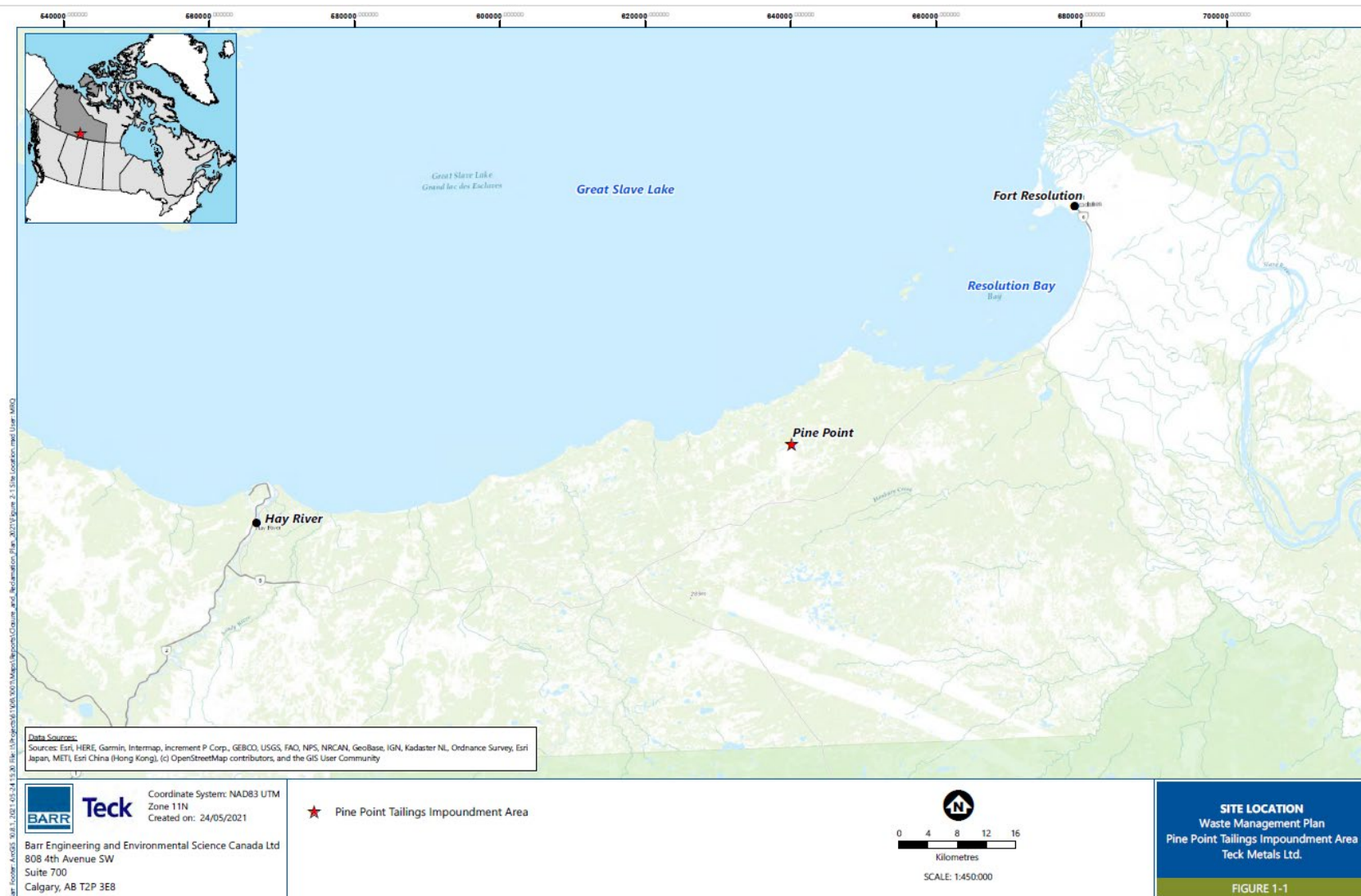


Figure 2.1 Surface Lease

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Figure 2.2 Tailings Impoundment Area

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### **3.0 Environmental Policy**

As part of Teck’s Code of Sustainable Conduct, Teck implements “practices to ensure the safe operation and closure of tailings storage facilities” and promotes “the efficient and responsible use of energy, water and other resources throughout our business.” This waste management plan was completed according to Teck’s Code of Sustainable Conduct in that it outlines the practice for handling waste during the current phase of the facility. The objective of this waste management plan is to identify the methods by which Teck will handle and remove solid waste, with specific focus on environmental protection and avoiding wildlife encounters.

## 4.0 Waste Types

### 4.1 Potentially Hazardous Wastes

Potentially hazardous waste that might be produced at the Pine Point TIA include batteries, chemical waste from the on-site laboratory and meteorological station, hydrocarbons, and contaminated soils, which are described in the following subsections below. The amount of hazardous waste produced per month in each of these categories is expected to be less than the “Small Quantity Threshold” defined in Schedule V of the Guideline for Hazardous Waste Management (Government of Northwest Territories, 2017) (Table 1). Therefore, Teck is not registered in the NWT as a hazardous waste generator. However, if the amount of hazardous waste is expected to reach or exceed the threshold amount outlined in Schedule V, Teck will register as a hazardous waste generator.

Table 4.1 Schedule V - Small Quantity Threshold for Types of Hazardous Waste

Column I: Hazardous Waste Type	Column II: Amount
1. All hazardous waste unless otherwise specified	5 kg or L
2. Dangerous Goods Class 6.1, Packing Group I	1 kg or L
3. Waste batteries	50 kg
4. Contaminated snow/water	20 kg or L
5. Contaminated soil	500 kg
6. Waste Glycol	20 L
7. Incinerator ash	20 kg
8. Waste paint	20 kg or L
9. Used Oil	20 L
10. Leachable waste containing Severely Toxic Contaminants	1 kg or L
11. Severely Toxic Contaminants in pure form	hazardous waste in any quantity

#### 4.1.1 Batteries

Batteries are used for hand-held monitoring and sampling devices. Typically, lithium ion and alkaline batteries are used. Batteries of this type are considered Household Hazardous Wastes (HHW) and are therefore collected/segregated in a clearly labeled container housed at the mobile laboratory currently onsite. Approximately 1 kg of batteries are estimated to be generated per year. Batteries are removed from site by a Teck Representative who will dispose batteries at a municipal recycling program, likely outside of the territory. Source reduction may be possible if rechargeable batteries are used. Batteries will not be co-disposed with non-hazardous wastes.

#### 4.1.2 Chemical Wastes

Chemicals wastes such as acid and base solutions are used at the on-site laboratory for zinc analyses. When the analyses are completed a small volume of residual chemical remains. Approximately 4 L of total chemicals are estimated to be consumed / generated per treatment season.

The meteorological station includes a small tank with a 10-L mixture of 1:1 propylene glycol (antifreeze) and methanol, with a small volume of baby oil to prevent evaporation. This mixture is used to melt snow to measure annual precipitation. The tank is removed in the spring and re-installed in the winter. In the spring, the mixture is drained and transported by the maintenance consultant for disposal by a municipal fire department or chemical disposal facility, typically outside of the territory.

No chemical wastes are released to the environment.

#### 4.1.3 Hydrocarbons

Hydrocarbons are required for operation of vehicles and machinery. This includes gasoline and diesel fuel, engine/other oils, lubricants, and greases. Storage tanks and machinery will have secondary containment to collect hydrocarbons in the event of leaks or releases. Collapsible heavy-duty plastic berms have been placed around site machinery to collect spills as shown in the photos below.



Figure 4.1 Example of Secondary Containment Used with Equipment

Appropriately sized spill kits will be stationed near fuel storage and handling areas. The spill kit(s) will include absorbent pads, pillows and socks to contain and recover spilled fuel promptly, and a leak proof container appropriate for hydrocarbon contaminated materials. If a large spill were to occur that requires external assistance for excavating contaminated materials, then resources should be contacted immediately upon discovery of the spill and include appropriate waste bins for containment of contaminated materials. All hydrocarbon waste must be properly disposed at a licensed facility.

Materials laden with hydrocarbons (e.g., oil filters) and spill containment tools (e.g., drip trays) are also included the category of hydrocarbon waste. These types/volumes of hydrocarbon wastes are considered HHW. All major vehicles service will be conducted off-site and hydrocarbon waste is not typically generated on-site. During reclamation activities, there may be circumstances where more equipment is on-site for short periods of time that might generate hydrocarbon waste. The hydrocarbon waste that might be expected during reclamation activities includes rags or absorbents to clean out drip trays.

Hydrocarbon-laden material generated during reclamation research or at the water treatment facility is expected to be minimal and will be stored in a dedicated, labelled, and sealed 20 L pail so as not to contaminate inert/non-hazardous wastes (separate from contaminated soils) for offsite disposal (see photos below). The water treatment facility is proximate (within 25 to 50 m) to the main pond and polishing pond. Storage of the hydrocarbon waste 20L pails will be within a bermed area as far away from the water's edge as feasible, approximately over 50 m. If there any hydrocarbon material present in the 20L pails the area around the pails will be inspected regularly to detect leaks.



Figure 4.2 Photos of Containers for Hydrocarbon-Contaminated Materials

#### 4.1.4 Coagulants and Flocculants

Anionic flocculant blocks are intended for use within the invert culvert prior to the polishing pond to effect reduction of suspended sediments (TSS) by coagulation with sediment particles to enhance setting. Anionic flocculant blocks are used on an as needed, relatively infrequent, basis. Unused portions of the flocculant blocks are at times removed from the culvert and are stored in original packaging and away from sunlight for later use. Partially used and unused blocks are stored in sealed containers and stored off site for future use.

Flocculant-embedded curtains function much the same way and are used in the polishing pond. Fine particles combine with the active flocculant substance contained within the curtain material. The curtains are suspended across the width of the channel and anchored. Flocculant-embedded curtains are used on an as needed, relatively infrequent, basis. At the conclusion of the treatment campaign, these curtains are removed and folded onto pallets for immediate relocation to Hay River and storage in a weather-proof sea can. Curtains that exceed their intended life span are considered potentially hazardous wastes and are removed from site and disposed of in an appropriately licensed landfill. The curtain material and any combined substances through their use will be sampled and characterised.

Additional coagulant and flocculant products may be trialed for use during future water treatment seasons. The intent of trialing these chemical settling aids is to inform chemical usage rates and future design of a coagulant and flocculant chemical feed system. The coagulants being trialed are liquid aluminum chlorohydrate based products (e.g., Chargepac™ 7, 55, or similar). The flocculants are anionic polymers (e.g., Zalta™ MF1530 or similar). The flocculant products are either powders or emulsions that are diluted with make-up water before use. The coagulant and flocculant products being trialed are dosed into the treatment pond following lime addition using chemical feed pumps. Handling of substances trialed on site will follow the manufacturer's recommendations for storage. Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) are available for all coagulants and flocculants in use or under trial and are in the water treatment trailer located on site.

During the water treatment trial, approximately 4000 L of coagulant and 300 kg of flocculant will be used. The coagulant will be delivered to the site as a liquid in 1000-L totes (approximately four totes total) and the flocculant will be delivered to the site as a powder in 22.7-kg bags (approximately 12 bags total). The coagulant will be used as received and stored in the chemical totes from the chemical supplier. Totes will be kept outdoors in secondary containment that can hold 110% of the tote contents. The powder flocculant will be stored indoors when not in use. Before use, the flocculant will be prepared as a 0.5% (w/v) solution in two 1000-L totes. The flocculant totes will be kept outdoors in secondary containment that can hold 110% of the tote contents. At the completion of the water treatment trial, unused coagulant and flocculant will be transported offsite and temporarily stored for later use. Empty chemical totes will be removed from site and disposed of as non-hazardous waste. The duration of the water treatment trial is expected to be approximately 20 to 30 days beginning in mid- to late-June.



Sludge accumulating within the polishing pond will contain residual coagulant and flocculant. At no time will this material be released other than relocation to the Tailings Impoundment during sludge removals and maintenance of works operations.

#### **4.1.5 Contaminated Soils**

In the event of a spill, the procedures in the Teck Pine Point Contingency Manual (PP-EP-005) are followed. As per the manual, small volumes of contaminated materials are collected and stored in dedicated 20-L pails for offsite disposal. If spill is large then a temporary solution will be to place contaminated soils on an impermeable barrier-lined (i.e., plastic sheet) depression and covered with a plastic sheet that is secured around the perimeter to avoid loss of material and contact with precipitation until access to a large disposal bin is possible. Storage of the 20-L pails will be located as far away from the waterbodies as possible but may be less than 50 m due to practical limitations as discussed in Section 4.1.3. Source reduction is possible by carefully handling materials according to best practices and mitigating impacts from spills by actively using spill kits, containment, and leak/drip trays with vehicles. Since activity at the site is minimal, little contaminated soil is expected to be generated and require offsite disposal annually. Contaminated soils are considered Hazardous, and as such, if generated in quantities greater than 500 kg (Government of Northwest Territories, 2017), the waste will be registered for transport using the Hazardous Waste Generator and Carrier Registration Forms available online at <https://www.gov.nt.ca/ecc/en/services/register-hazardous-waste-generator-or-carrier>.

#### **4.1.6 Hazardous Waste Management**

Hazardous wastes such as batteries, chemical wastes, or similar product type wastes, will be disposed off-site for appropriate recycling and disposal. The volume of wastes of these types of products are minimal and can be shipped and transported without hazardous waste designations.

Hydrocarbons and contaminated soil will be transported by a licensed carrier for proper disposal. Licensed disposal facilities will be notified prior to transporting any hazardous waste to confirm acceptability. Teck will provide any required waste profile information and coordinate disposal directly with the facility.

If temporary storage is necessary, the storage method is specific to the waste type, as described in each section above. The following efforts are made to reduce the volume of potentially hazardous waste produced:

- using non-hazardous alternatives where possible;
- following the Contingency Manual for rapid collection of spilled materials;
- minimizing generation of contaminated materials;
- avoiding storage of large volumes of fuel onsite; and

- advocating for maintenance and repair of engines and hydraulic systems in a controlled environment at dedicated facilities in the Town of Hay River or Fort Resolution.

All potentially hazardous wastes are removed from site and disposed of in an appropriately licensed landfill. Retired flocculant-embedded curtains will be sampled and results reviewed in order to properly characterize prior to disposal. An authorized waste disposal facility will be contacted and arrangements made to receive the curtains following final removal. No hazardous wastes are released to the environment.

## **4.2 Non-Mineral Wastes and Sewage**

### **4.2.1 Domestic Refuse**

Domestic refuse is expected to be generated by workers carrying out water treatment duties and temporary workers carrying out research activities. Domestic waste includes typical household-generated wastes and packaging. All domestic waste is expected to be inert. Approximately, 250 kg of domestic refuse is estimated to be generated per year.

### **4.2.2 Putrescible Waste**

Organic, biodegradable wastes are expected to be generated by camp occupants and temporary access workers. These are exclusively food wastes. Approximately 10 kg of organic waste is estimated to be generated per year and will be combined with the domestic refuse. Refuse is taken to Hay River and placed in a proper disposal bin.

### **4.2.3 Non-Mineral Waste Management**

Non-mineral wastes (i.e., domestic refuse and putrescible wastes) are temporarily stored in vehicles and trailers onsite, to prevent animals from accessing the waste, before offsite disposal. Animal proof bins will be introduced if the storage space cannot accommodate the amount of waste. Efforts are made to reduce waste generation whenever possible, by reusing materials and avoiding the use of overly packaged items. Domestic and putrescible wastes are transported to the domestic landfill at the Hay River Solid Waste Disposal Facility in accordance with its Landfill Operation and Maintenance Plan and pursuant to its Water Licence MV2019L3-0010 (expires January 30, 2031). The Town of Hay River has accepted Teck's request to receive domestic waste (Appendix A).

### **4.2.4 Sewage**

A chemical toilet will be in place, which will be managed by a third-party provider. Treatment operators using camper trailers for accommodation will produce sewage and grey water. Sewage and grey water produced from the camper trailers will be conveyed to a leak-proof storage tank that is disposed off-site at an appropriate sanitation dump facility.

### **4.3 Mineral Waste**

#### **4.3.1 Drill Cuttings**

The only drilling at the TIA is for the purposes of environmental and geotechnical investigation. No mineral exploration is planned, and the only drilling fluid potentially used is freshwater brought to site. Drill cuttings are expected to be generated during soil investigation and delineation activities. Boreholes are typically a maximum of 25 m deep, 30-cm (12-inch) diameter, and do not core into the bedrock. Soil borings into the legacy tailings facility are also expected. Soil samples are typically collected from the entire borehole depth, so drill cuttings are typically limited to 10% of the total borehole volume. Approximately, 100 kg of soil or tailings material is estimated to be generated per year from drill cuttings.

All drill cuttings are disposed of downhole within the stratigraphy from which it was extracted since nothing is being introduced to the environment that did not exist before borehole drilling activities. No transportation of this waste stream is anticipated. Boreholes are sealed with bentonite and the cover soil is replaced.

#### **4.3.2 Water Treatment Precipitates**

The water treatment process involves precipitating zinc using lime. In addition, occasionally coagulants or and flocculants may be used to improve water quality further (i.e., remove suspended solids). A by-product of this process is lime sludge, which accumulates at the bottom of the polishing pond. The lime sludge is periodically (typically once per 3 to 5 years) dredged to maintain the effective volume within the treatment system. Currently, the sludge is stored within the TIA footprint (i.e., within the dyked containment).

### **4.4 Waste Tracking**

Weights or amounts of all hazardous and non-hazardous waste generated during water treatment operations and during special projects that result in waste being stored on site, will be documented. An Excel spreadsheet will be used to document type of waste, volume or weight estimate, disposal location and date of disposal. The Excel track sheet and any documentation generated from waste disposal will be saved to the Pine Point SharePoint site.

## **5.0 Infrastructure Required for Waste Management**

No infrastructure is required for waste management at Teck Pine Point TIA.



## **6.0 Related Procedures**

The following Teck related procedures are required for review and acknowledgement by all Teck employees and contractors working at Pine Point.

- Initial Event Response Procedure - TLP-SP-043
- Pine Point Contingency Plan – PP-EP-005
- Pine Point Operations, Maintenance and Surveillance Manual – PP-OMS-001
- Pine Point Mine Emergency Response Plan - PP-ERP-002
- Pine Point Tailings Impoundment Area Water Treatment Manual - PP-EP-001

## 7.0 References

Government of Northwest Territories. (2017). *Guideline for Hazardous Waste Management*.  
Retrieved from [https://www.gov.nt.ca/ecc/sites/ecc/files/resources/128-hazardous\\_waste-interactive\\_web\\_0\\_0.pdf](https://www.gov.nt.ca/ecc/sites/ecc/files/resources/128-hazardous_waste-interactive_web_0_0.pdf)

APPENDIX A  
EMAIL FROM HAY RIVER DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

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**Re: domestic waste from Teck Pine Point Tailings Impoundment Area**

David Taylor &lt;pwsdirector@hayriver.com&gt;

Thu 12-Sep-24 1:31 PM

To: Cindy Robinson &lt;Cindy.Robinson@teck.com&gt;

**Alert:**

This email originated outside of Teck.

Verify the sender's email address carefully before clicking any links and be cautious of requests for urgent action, personal information, and/or financial details.

Este correo electrónico se originó fuera de Teck.

Verifique cuidadosamente la dirección de correo electrónico del remitente antes de hacer clic en cualquier enlace y tenga cuidado con las solicitudes de acción urgente, información personal y/o detalles financieros.

Hi Cindy,

I have my staff preparing a formal letter for you, however, in an effort to be expedient in this matter, please accept this email as acceptance and approval for Trek to dispose of the domestic waste as mentioned above.

The formal letter will be sent to you by early next week for your records.

Thank you.

David Taylor

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---

**From:** Cindy Robinson <Cindy.Robinson@teck.com>**Sent:** Thursday, September 12, 2024 1:19:46 PM**To:** David Taylor <pwsdirector@hayriver.com>**Subject:** Re: domestic waste from Teck Pine Point Tailings Impoundment Area

You don't often get email from cindy.robinson@teck.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**[External Email] This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hi David,

I just wanted to follow up on our conversations that we had last spring regarding a response from you that Teck can use the Hay River Solid Waste Facility for non-hazardous, domestic waste generated during water treatment activities.

Much appreciated,  
Cindy

**Cindy Robinson, P.Biol. RPBio.** (she/her)  
Senior Supervisor, Environment And Permitting  
Teck Resources Limited, Legacy Properties  
(587) 215-6937

---

**From:** Cindy Robinson <Cindy.Robinson@teck.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 7, 2024 9:15 AM  
**To:** pwsdirector@hayriver.com <pwsdirector@hayriver.com>  
**Subject:** Re: domestic waste from Teck Pine Point Tailings Impoundment Area

Good morning David.

As per our conversation a week or so ago, I would appreciate a response to this email - either as a formal letter or as an email response - to confirm that Teck can use the Hay River Solid Waste Facility for non-hazardous, domestic waste that is generated during activities of water treatment and water licence compliance at the Tailings Impoundment Area of the closed Pine Point Mine.

Thanks,  
Cindy

---

**From:** Cindy Robinson <Cindy.Robinson@teck.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2024 1:07 PM  
**To:** pwsdirector@hayriver.com <pwsdirector@hayriver.com>  
**Subject:** domestic waste from Teck Pine Point Tailings Impoundment Area

Good afternoon.

I am currently updating the waste management plan on behalf of Teck Metals Ltd. for activities at the Pine Point Tailings Impoundment Area (TIA). The TIA is from the historical mine operations and currently water treatment activities are conducted annually in compliance with the water licence for the facility. We are seeking renewal of the approval to use the Hay River Solid Waste Facility, which was first received in 2019. Water treatment activities occur 4 to 6 weeks per year between June and September and therefore, domestic waste that is generated is minimal.

Domestic waste would include typical household-generated wastes at an estimated amount of 250 kg per year. Additional non-hazardous waste that might be generated includes empty product containers used during water treatment (e.g., flocculant and coagulants may be used in 2025 for an optimization trial).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Cindy

**Cindy Robinson, P.Biol. RPBio.** (she/her)  
Senior Supervisor, Environment And Permitting  
Teck Resources Limited, Legacy Properties  
(587) 215-6937

In the spirit of reconciliation, I acknowledge that I work on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îyâxe Nakoda Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.



*"Everyone going home safe and healthy every day"*

*"Tout le monde retourne à la maison en toute sécurité et en santé tous les jours"*

