

Ruttan Mine Remediation

Orphaned and Abandoned Mine Site Rehabilitation Program



Construction

UPDATE

WATER TREATMENT

Contaminated water at the Ruttan Mine site is directed to the water treatment plant where it is treated prior to being discharged to the environment. The water treatment plant started its regular summer operation in July. Operations are in full production and are on track for a successful treatment year. The amount of water treated is over 40,000 cubic meters per day, or in other terms 16 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

As part of the regular maintenance for the water treatment operations, one of the settling ponds is having the excess sludge cleaned out to ensure that the water treatment process remains effective. This work will be ongoing until the end of the water treatment season.



Tailings Management Area 3 (TMA 3) – The clay is in place and work is underway to dry and compact to create the protective Clay Cap.

TAILING MANAGEMENT AREA (TMA) CAPPING AND DRAINAGE CUT OFF CONSTRUCTION

After a brief work break during spring melt, construction resumed on the Ruttan Mine Remediation. Strilkiwski Contracting Limited has committed a large workforce and equipment to work on the capping of the tailings management area and diversion of clean water off site.

Progress in the summer of 2021 will include the drying and compaction of the clay placed during the winter. This work requires plenty of sun and warm weather to dry the clay to a workable condition. As the clay is finished, peat and grass seed will be placed to create a full vegetation cover.

The sunshine so far in June and July has ensured that the work remains on budget and on schedule. It is expected that work will be completed in 2022.

PROJECT IN NUMBERS

- ◆ Over 30 people working on the construction at site with day and night shifts
- ◆ Over 15 full time employees working at the water treatment at site
- ◆ The current TMA capping project is approximately 60% complete with additional progress being made daily

SAFETY

During the winter and the spring over 48,600 hours were worked, and there were only a couple of slips and trips to report. This great success is a testament to the workers and the contractors maintaining a good working environment.

COVID-19 UPDATE

A key part of the safety at site is our response to COVID-19. To address this, the Province of Manitoba and Strilkiwski Contracting Limited are following the provincially mandated COVID-19 protocols and providing support to workers to get vaccinated.

COMPLETED WORK TO DATE

Clay hauling in the winter was successfully completed, with the clay borrow areas that were opened up in 2020 being reclaimed in the spring.

All three Tailings Management Areas have now been partially or completely capped with clay, allowing rain fall that collects on the cap to be discharged to the environment.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Not only are they working at cleaning up the Ruttan Mine Site, the workers are living in the community. With over 55 people employed at Ruttan Mine, over 30 percent are from Leaf Rapids, and over 40 percent are from Indigenous communities.



Tailings Management Area 3 (TMA3)
with Ruttan Lake in the background



Tailings Management Area (TMA)
The clay capping starting to green up with vegetation



West Dam and Ruttan Lake – Clay being placed to cover tailings on the slope.
In the future only clean water will be entering the lake.

For Project inquiries and Orphaned and Abandoned Mine Program questions, e-mail at : EPRBranch@gov.mb.ca

For more information visit the [Orphaned and Abandoned Mines Website](#)