

Improvements at Schreiber trans-shipment site

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tires of trucks before they leave the site,

- * covering concentrate piles with properly secured tarps, and

- * an investigation of handling methods that would entirely avoid placing concentrates on the ground.

While airborne metal levels in Schreiber meet Ministry health-based air quality objectives, the MOE study said citizen complaints continue to be received and "there is evidence that the ore dust is at least causing a nuisance effect on residential properties near the ore trans-shipment site."

CP Rail has recently replaced the gravel at the site and the concentrate is now left on the pad no more than an hour.

Andy Clark, CP Rail Terminal Supervisor at Schreiber said there is now on site operation clean up every day to keep the dust down.

The biggest improvement is going to be the new contractor," he said.

With the container system there should be no spillage and the dust volume should be cut down considerably, he said.

The old system of transporting the mineral concentrates allowed for some spillage which contaminated the first few inches of gravel. In a heavy rain that contamination could go down as far as 3 - 4 inches, Clark said.

The first three inches of gravel were removed from the loading site and replaced with new compacted gravel. The contaminated gravel was shipped to the tailing pond at the mine.

"Once the new container system is in place gravel replacement will take place less often."

Calcium was put down on the gavel to help keep the dust in place and bagged calcium is on hand at the entrance to keep

the dust down where the trucks have been tracking it.

McLarty said one reason for loading inside a building at the mine is to keep the concentrates from blowing around in the area, getting on the trucks and tracking on the road.

The MOE study said that contamination dispersion along the highway probably occurred through suspension concentrates spilled near the entrance to the trans-shipment site.

The water used to wash the pad down is collected in a holding tank which is pumped out and taken to the tailings pond at the mine.

"You'll still get a little bit of a dust problem but it should be cut down by about 85 per cent [with the new container system]." Clark said.



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R.V. Mikkonen, P. Eng.
 Township Engineer

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by Alice Scott

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