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Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd.
Sumitomo Corporation

Electrical Damage halts the operation at Pogo Gold Mine

Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd. ("SMM") and Sumitomo Corporation ("SC") (collectively "Sumitomo") jointly announced today that an accident of damaging the electrical power facilities occurred yesterday during the construction of mine facility ofat the Pogo Gold mine in Alaska which is jointly developed by Sumitomo and Teck Cominco Limited. The cause of the trouble is accidental cut of electric wire by a contractor for mining facility, and some of electric power equipment was burnt out.

There were no injuries, but mine and mill operations have been fully suspended due to the loss of electric power arising from this accident. The extent of the damage is still being assessed and it is not yet known when full power will be restored and operations will resume.