



BUREAU OF MINING REGULATION AND RECLAMATION
GUIDANCE DOCUMENT
PERMIT LIMITATIONS FOR LEAK DETECTION SYSTEMS

The following flow rates from leak detection systems are used in all Permits issued by the Bureau. All rates are daily averages in gallons per day for the time period noted.

Lined Facility Type	Subbase Permeability	Quarterly Limit (gpd)	Annual Limit (gpd)
Double-lined ponds	Not Applicable	150	50
Leach pad and Similar	1.0 X 10 ⁻⁷ cm/sec	150	50
Leach pad and Similar	1.0 X 10 ⁻⁶ cm/sec	75	25
Leach pad and Similar	1.0 X 10 ⁻⁵ cm/sec	20	10
Conveyance Channels	1.0 X 10 ⁻⁷ cm/sec	150	50
Conveyance Channels	1.0 X 10 ⁻⁶ cm/sec	45	15

Table Notes:

The category “Leach Pad and Similar” refers to single-lined facilities that drain to a pond or underdrain system including tailings impoundments so that there is limited hydraulic pressure on the liner.

cm/sec = centimeters per second

gpd = gallons per day

In the event that Permit limitations are exceeded, the Permittee must report the noncompliance as described in the Water Pollution Control Permit under Part II. *General Facility Conditions and Limitations* and Section B. *Reporting Requirements*. A site-specific evaluation must be conducted by the Permittee to assess the need for additional process component or site monitoring. Depending upon site-specific conditions, the Permittee may be required to institute mitigation procedures to bring the process component into compliance with the Permit limitation. If it can be demonstrated that the Permit violation will not result in degradation of waters of the State, and the Permittee complies with new monitoring levels and mitigation procedures, the Division may allow the continued use of the non-compliant process component. If a Permit limitation for a leak detection system is exceeded, the Division does not intend to use the Permit limitation as a means of halting beneficiation or assessing penalties, except in cases where the design criteria are no longer reasonably met, the Permittee has been negligent or is not responsive in taking proper corrective action.