

September 27, 2011

Kelli Gillard
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU
X0B 0C0

**RE: Meliadine Phase 1 All Weather Access – Pre-development Construction Application
 “Phase 1 All-Weather Road” Project Proposal**

Dear Ms. Gillard,

Vis this letter AEM is asking the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) and the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA) to consider the attached “Meliadine Phase 1 All-Weather Access Road Project Description” as an application by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (AEM) to construct a 23.8 km long all-weather gravel road (AWAR), with controlled access, between Rankin Inlet and our Meliadine West advanced mineral exploration project, as a pre-development activity under the Part 5 Review of the Meliadine Gold Project. The primary purpose of this AWAR is to allow AEM to support its planned advanced exploration activity at the Meliadine West exploration site to complete the full economic feasibility study for this project while the NIRB, along with all other interested parties, continue the full Part 5 Environmental and Socio-economic Review of the proposed Meliadine Gold Mine Project (including the Phase 2 AWAR).

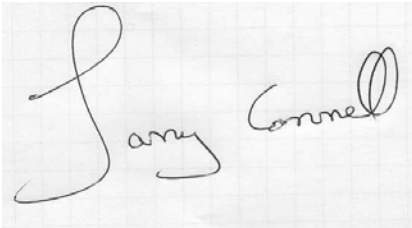
The attached Meliadine Phase 1 AWAR Project Description is a document that was jointly prepared by both AEM and Golder Associates, who are working on behalf of AEM on this project. AEM has reviewed all of the statements, conclusions, predictions, recommendations and commitments that have been made in this document. The NIRB, along with all other parties should take it that all statements, predictions, recommendations and commitments made within this document have been approved by AEM and should be taken as commitments made by AEM for this specific Phase 1 AWAR project.

It is AEM’s preference that it be allowed to construct the Meliadine Phase 1 AWAR in early 2012 (nominally starting on March 01, 2012) as reflected in this document. AEM recognizes that obtaining such approval in a time and manner to allow this “plan A” approach is not a certainty. Thus AEM has simultaneously made application to the NWB and to the KIA to allow AEM to expand its on-site fuel storage capacity at its Meliadine West exploration site by an additional 1.6 Million litres in early 2012 through an amendment of its existing Type B water license. AEM considers this to be a backup plan (a

Plan B) to minimize the adverse effect on our exploration plans should AEM not be able to construct the Phase 1 AWAR in early 2012.

Yours sincerely,

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue grid background. The signature is written in a cursive style and appears to read "Larry Connell".

Larry Connell, P. Eng.
Corporate Director of Sustainable Development

cc:

Nunavut Planning Commission
Nunavut Water Board
Kivalliq Inuit Association
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada – Iqaluit
Environment Canada
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Transport Canada
Government of Nunavut