



**File: 2AM-DOH1335 /
Amendment Application**

February 3, 2026

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**RE: Application to Amend the Type A Water Licence No: 2AM-DOH1335, issued to
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited for the Doris-Madrid (Hope Bay) Project**

Dear Ms. Prather and Ms. Range:

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) acknowledges receipt of the type A Water Licence Amendment application and supporting documentation (the Application) submitted on January 30, 2026 by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) for the Doris-Madrid Project (the Project), Water Licence No: 2AM-DOH1335.

Copies of all information received in support of the Application can be accessed from the NWB's FTP site using the following link:

[NWB Public Registry link to Application documents](#)

Pre-licensing Requirements

On December 3, 2025, the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) confirmed¹ that the Application was for a Project that is outside the area of an applicable land use plan. The NPC further stated that this project proposal is exempt from screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because the NPC understands that the activities included in this Application were previously screened and reviewed by the NIRB (05MN047 and 12MN001), and do not change the general scope of the original or previously amended project activities.

Consequently, the NWB deems that the relevant pre-licensing requirements for its process have been met.

¹ Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) Conformity Determination (150529), December 03, 2025.

The Application included the following documents:

Main documents

- Hope Bay WL Amendment-Renewal Application Form
- Hope Bay WL Amendment-Renewal - Main Application Document

Appendices

- Hope Bay WL Amendment-Renewal – Evaluation of change
- Hope Bay WL Amendment-Renewal – SIG
- Hope Bay WL Amendment-Renewal – Engagement summary
- Hope Bay WL Amendment-Renewal – NPC

Design details

- TIA Filtered Tailings Conceptual Design Assessment
- Design Report – Saline Pond 1
- Design Report – Patch 7 Contact Water Pond 4 (CWP 4) and Sump 6A

Technical studies

- Geochemical Characterization Naartok West Metallurgical Tailings
- Geochemical Characterization of Waste Rock and Ore from the Madrid North and Patch 7 Deposits
- Analysis of Increased Water Withdrawals at Hope Bay
- Hydrogeological Modelling Update 2024
- Interim geochemical source term predictions report
- Water and Load Balance Model
- Hydrodynamic modelling study of Roberts Bay

Management plans

- Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (Version 4)
- Domestic Wastewater Treatment Management Plan (Version 9)
- Emergency Response and Crisis Management Plan (Version 7)
- Explosives Management Plan (Version 6)
- Groundwater Management Plan (Version 5)
- Hazardous Waste Management Plan (Version 8)
- Hydrocarbon Contaminated Material Management Plan (Version 5)
- Incinerator and Composter Waste Management Plan (Version 7)
- Doris-Madrid Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (Version 8)
- Non-hazardous Waste Management Plan (Version 2)
- Quality Assurance / Quality Control Plan (Version 15)
- Quarry Management and Monitoring Plan (Version 8)

- Operations, Maintenance and Surveillance Manual: Doris Tailings Impoundment Area (Version 9)
- Spill Contingency Plan (Version 19)
- Waste Rock, Ore and Mine Backfill Management Plan (Version 12)
- Doris-Madrid Water Management Plan (Version 20)
- Hope Bay Mine Fisheries Offsetting Plan

The NWB has conducted a preliminary review of submission(s) and determined that the application package meets the requirements allowing for public distribution in support of an initial technical assessment. Further, the preliminary review confirms that the Application is for the amendment and renewal of a type A Water Licence, which will require a public hearing in accordance with section 52² of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* (NWNSRTA or Act). All public hearing matters will be carried out in accordance with the Board's *Rules of Practice and Procedure for Public Hearing*, May 11, 2005 (NWB Rules).

The next step in processing the Application involves a completeness review and an initial technical assessment to determine if all of the necessary information and studies required to evaluate the quantitative and qualitative effects of the undertaking on the freshwater environment have been provided.

Accordingly, by copy of this letter, the Board requests that interested parties review the Application and supplemental information for completeness and conduct an initial technical assessment, including identifying any Information Requests (IRs) that the reviewing party requests be filed to enable that party to complete their technical review of the Application. Further, the NWB invites interested parties to comment on the type of Technical Meeting / Pre-Hearing Conference to be held for the application (written, teleconference, or in person as outlined in steps 3 and 5 in the process overview set out below).

All intervening parties should provide their submissions to the NWB's Manager of Licensing at licensing@nwb-oen.ca by **Thursday, March 5, 2026 (3:00 p.m. MT)**.

Following the receipt of comments, the NWB will determine whether the Application is complete, or whether additional information and studies are required (IR's) to evaluate all quantitative and qualitative effects of the undertaking pursuant to section 48 of the Act. The NWB will advise Agnico Eagle of the Board's determination at that time.

Once the Application has been deemed complete, the following general process will be undertaken. Complete details on the NWB's licensing process are available in NWB Guide 5³, and the Board preserves the right to modify the licensing process, including timelines as may be required to appropriately process this Application.

² *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*, section 52 (1) Subject to subsection 37(2), a public hearing shall be held by the Board before it disposes of (a) any application in relation to a Licence, unless the application is of a class that is exempted by the regulations from the requirement of a public hearing.

³ Guide 5 – Processing Water Licence Applications (April 2010).

1. Notice of the Application

A notice of the Application will be made in accordance with section 55(1) of the *Act*. This notice will invite interested persons to make representation to the Board. Parties will be advised of the consequences of failure to respond, as outlined in sections 59 and 60(2) of the *Act*. Furthermore, the Board will distribute notice to the communities and interested parties affected by the Application and shall publish the notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the areas that are affected. If there is no such newspaper, the Board shall publish the notice in such other manner as the Board considers appropriate.

2. Detailed Technical Review

Interested parties will be invited to undertake a detailed technical assessment or review of the complete Application for the undertaking. Parties (Intervenors and the Applicant) will be encouraged to work cooperatively to address technical issues identified during the review period. Generally, the Board provides at least thirty (30) days for a technical review in advance of a technical meeting. However, to assist the Board in expediting the technical assessment, parties are encouraged to begin their detailed technical assessment as early as possible (during and following the initial request for IRs).

3. Technical Meeting (TM) / Pre-Hearing Conference (PHC)

Rule 14 of the NWB Rules permits the Board, through its staff or in conjunction with staff, to hold a Technical Meeting (TM) and Pre-hearing Conference (PHC) with interested parties, either in writing, by teleconference, or in person. The Board anticipates setting a date for a TM/PHC shortly after the deadline for receiving technical review submissions. The PHC is typically scheduled to immediately follow the TM.

4. Pre-Hearing Conference (PHC) Decision

Following the TM/PHC, the NWB will issue a PHC decision and may outline any technical commitments of the Applicant, and the administrative and procedural requirements for a Public Hearing.

5. Public Hearing (PH)

Sub-section 55(2) of the *Act* requires that a minimum notice period of sixty (60) days be provided for a Public Hearing (PH). As with the Technical Meeting and Pre-hearing Conference, the Board has the ability to conduct its PH in writing, by teleconference, or in person. Once the Board has received all information requested through this process and is satisfied that the PH should proceed, the type or place, date, and time of the hearing will be determined and a notice will be published by the Board in advance of the public hearing and in a manner that promotes public awareness and participation in the hearing.

6. Public Hearing Decision

Following the Public Hearing, the Board will issue a written decision with reasons (final decision) for the Application. The Board's final decision will be provided to the Minister of

Northern and Arctic Affairs (Minister) for consideration. Interested and intervening parties will also be provided with a copy of the Board's final decision. The Minister typically issues his/her response to the Board's final decision within forty-five (45) days of receipt, or if notifying the Board of an extension within the forty-five (45) days, within ninety (90) days from the date of receipt.

On this basis, the NWB is inviting interested persons to comment on the following:

- 1) completeness of the Application based on their initial technical assessment;
- 2) Information Requests (IRs) related to the Application that must be provided to enable the parties to complete their full technical review; and
- 3) Type of TM/PHC to be held.

All comments, recommendations and any requests for information (IRs) should be submitted to the NWB's Manager of Licensing at licensing@nwb-oen.ca no later than **Thursday, March 5, 2026 (3:00 p.m. MT)**.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or procedural matters related to the file, please contact the NWB's Licensing department by e-mail at licensing@nwb-oen.ca or by phone at (867)-360-6338. For inquiries related to technical matters, please contact Mohammad Ali Shaikh, Technical Advisor, by email at ali.shaikh@nwb-oen.ca.

Parties should note that the NWB intends to issue copies of the Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun versions of this correspondence subsequently.

Sincerely,

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing

RD/as/rh
Cc: Distribution List – Doris-Madrid