

Table 1 2021 Tailings Impoundment Area Annual Geotechnical Inspection Report Recommendations and Agnico Response

<u>Please note</u>: Formal recommendations are provided in black text, EOR suggestions are captured in blue text, and where appropriate, an EOR update status of certain recommendations or important context is provided in *red* text.

Inspection Item	2021 Recommendations	Agnico Response
Tailings Operating, Maintenance and Surveillance (OMS) Manual and Emergency Response Plan (ERP)	 Overall, the OMS manual, TARPS and Dam Emergency plan must be reviewed by Agnico Eagle and updated to reflect the many recent changes, including, but not limited to the Dam Emergency Plan, the updated TARPs and change in key personnel listed in the OMS manual. Minor updates to the North and South dam monitoring SOPs are also recommended. All components should be reviewed against Agnico Eagle's corporate tailings management system and updated tailings standards through a gap analysis to identify required updates. The suite of OMS, TARPs, ERP and Dam Emergency Plan must be reviewed with all site operations annually and updated as necessary. Agnico Eagle should ensure all staff are properly informed and trained on the contents of the OMS Manual. 	SRK and Agnico are currently collaborating on updates to these plans. The OMS manual, including the TARPS, is updated once per year in accordance with the AEM governance policy for Critical Infrastructure. The update takes place during the second quarter of the year. An update of the ERP manual will be made at the same time. Agnico is currently in the process of updating the Dam Emergency Plan. Agnico conducts regular review of the OMS manual with key staff including emergency response scenarios. Components of the OMS manual are included with new hire orientations.
Compliance with Monitoring Frequency Requirements	 Recommended monitoring frequencies have been met in all categories except for visual inspections and survey monitoring. Agnico Eagle should aim to improve the frequency of these monitoring events in 2022. It is understood that COVID-19 and site staffing limitations during this monitoring year impacted the ability to collect this data. Plans in place now from Agnico to further increase visual inspections in 2022. 	Agnico will carryout monitoring activities as per the Monitoring SOP. Any deviations from protocol will be communicated to the Engineer of Record (EOR).
Thermosyphons	■ The joints on the thermosyphons are showing signs of weathering and rusting. The thermosyphon weld joints should be cleaned (wire-wheel) and repainted to slow additional corrosion.	AEM will ensure that appropriate maintenance is given to the thermosyphons including the joints.
CR1000 Datalogger Battery Voltage	■ The external CR1000 datalogger batteries should continue to be monitored and recharged annually or replaced as needed.	Battery charge data is reviewed monthly, and batteries are maintained accordingly.
Visual Inspection (Walk Over)	 Increase the completion of weekly visual inspections at the North Dam in accordance with the specified frequency. The number of visual inspections (formerly walk overs surveys) has improved in 2021, however additional inspections are required to be in compliance with the specified frequency. 	Agnico will carryout monitoring activities as per the Monitoring SOP. Any deviations from protocol will be communicated to the Engineer of Record (EOR).
Monitoring of Flowing Water at the Toe of the North Dam	 Modify the water quality monitoring SOP based on the absence of data to suggest the presence of TIA Reclaim Pond water in the flowing water at the toe of the North Dam. Recommended changes to the monitoring SOP are below, final changes to the frequency will be documented in an updated SOP. Reduce the water quality and flow monitoring frequency for field measurements, from once per week to once per month in the periods while flowing water is observed (if observed). Reduce the laboratory water quality monitoring frequency to once per year, during August, when flowing water is observed at the downstream toe, ensuring that this sample 	Agnico will reduce the water flow and quality monitoring frequency as recommended.



	is collected and analyzed per the SOP, including all field parameters. This change in frequency also applies to the other LAS samples described in the monitoring SOP.	
Ground Temperature Cables (GTCs) and D405 Dataloggers	 GTCs provide thermal monitoring of the dam to ensure conditions remain within the intended design for safe operation and tailings containment. GTC replacement is recommended in some areas of the South Dam where recent instrument failure has occurred. Four replacement GTCs are suggested to be installed at this time (two upstream and two downstream). The Agnico Eagle should work forward to install these replacement GTCs as soon as practical. Priority should be given to the two upstream GTC replacements. Four replacement GTC strings are on site (at the Doris North Camp) Complete a detailed visual inspection of the South Dam after spring melt, especially looking for any exposed or damaged ground temperature cables. This will allow for preventative maintenance and placement of protective material to be done if exposed cables are observed, which will help to limit the potential for damage from wildlife. Complete a manual download of data from each datalogger once in 2022, following the instructions in the monitoring SOP. Beadedstream telemetry subscription requires annual renewal. Agnico Eagle has taken over the subscription with Beadedstream and will be responsible for maintenance of the GTC telemetry system operations are maintained. 	Agnico will look to install the GTC as soon as practical, and conduct spring survey of all GTC cables., Maintenance and repairs will be conducted as required. Manually downloads will be collected annually.
Visual Inspection (Walkover)	Increase the completion of weekly visual inspections at the South Dam in accordance with the required weekly frequency.	Weekly walkover surveys will continue as per the South Dam SOP.
Annual Physical Inspection of the South Dam	 There are two zones on the 2H:1V downstream slope of the South Dam, specifically where the downstream GTCs were brought up the downstream slope, that some minor sloughing and tension cracking of the dam shell ROQ has occurred. These areas should be closely monitored and additional fill (toe berm) along these portions of the slope could provide some mitigation in these areas (See later bullet). Phase 1 South Dam construction disturbance, where snow access roads were constructed appears to have initiated some permafrost degradation (thaw depressions and ponding) and should continue to be closely monitored. All ponding, tension cracking, sloughing and permafrost disturbance is within the Phase 2 South Dam footprint. Delayed construction of the Phase 2 raise may lead to further degradation of the permafrost in these areas. To proactively mitigate the risk of foundation thaw prior to construction of the South Dam Phase 2 raise, a thermal toe berm should be implemented. The toe berm would include at least 1.5 m of ROQ fill placed over this area (about 5 m in width). The toe berm fill would be integrated into the Phase 2 dam shell volume. Initial volumetric modeling of a 2 m thick, top crest width 5m with 2H:1V side slopes indicates that neat-line volumes for this additional fill material would be in the range of 4,000 m³. Agnico Eagle has already sourced dust suppression agents for the TIA and should determine when the dust suppression measures should be implemented based on monitoring 	A mitigation plan has been developed in collaboration between SRK and AEM to add additional rockfill in the area mentioned. It is to be noted that these areas are located outside of the current section of the dam retaining tailings and the movement are shallow and limited to the slope. AEM will continue to closely monitor the area as part of the monitoring and surveillance program.



	observations and the planned restart of production and tailings deposition.	
Tailings Deposition System	 The tailings discharge system must be operated in accordance with the tailings deposition plan (SRK 2021). Primary spigot moves should be expected during, or shortly after, spring melt and again prior to winter freeze up. The next winter discharge should be located at the northeastern extent of the subaerial beach (north of the current spigot H location) to limit ice entrainment due to winter sub-aerial deposition. Following spring melt, deposition from the South Dam (Spigot A, B and C) should resume. In the subsequent fall/winter, a move to the new northeastern extent of the subaerial beach should be anticipated. A bathymetric survey was conducted in 2021. With this newly available data, Agnico Eagle should work with SRK to complete tailings volume reconciliation and updated deposition planning prior to resuming production. Plans for the Phase 2 raise of the South Dam should be made in parallel with updates to the mine plan to ensure construction can occur in the appropriate season (winter); The raise is required to be in place once the tailings beach against the existing dam reaches the full supply level for tailings (36.5 masl or approximately 2.64Mt of total tailings tonnage). The required timing is dependent on the resumption of production and future milling rates. Production activities and tailings discharge have been suspended in 2022. No immediate recommendations during periods when tailings discharge is not active. 	N/A The tailings deposition plan is followed as much as feasible in the field. The simple geometry of the Hope TIA does not require a complex sequencing of change in the deposition area over the year. The main operational criteria is to ensure that the South Dam has a minimal tailings beach length of 100 meters. This component of the design criteria of the South Dam has been followed at all time in 2021. Note that no AEM tailings deposition is planned in 2022 and 2023.
Emergency Dump Catch Basins	■ The Western Emergency Dump Catch Basin still requires repairs and should be closely monitored. Additional liner slippage since 2020 was noted at the top of the liner crest. This pond still maintains the minimum required capacity but further liner slippage may result in a reduction of the capacity of this emergency catch basin.	The tailings emergency catchment basin will be repaired at the earliest opportunity.
Pipelines (Reclaim, Tailings Deposition and TIA Discharge)	 Agnico Eagle should carefully inspect all pipelines placed directly on the tundra for signs of vegetation dieback and associated flow path channeling. Where this is occurring, the pipeline must be relocated to follow existing all-weather road shoulders, and appropriate remediation needs to be put in place where damage has occurred. The smaller diameter TIA pipelines going from the North Dam to Doris Creek, that were used during the care and maintenance period and before tailings were placed in the TIA around 2017, are no longer connected or functional. Agnico Eagle should consider removing these nonfunctional pipelines from the tundra. 	Agnico will continue to monitor all pipelines placed directly on the tundra for signs of tundra damage. To date, Agnico has not observed any issues with insulated lines on the tundra. If damage is observed, Agnico will take the appropriate action to prevent further damage to tundra and remediate where required.
TIA Reclaim Pond Jetty (710 Pumphouse) Pad	 Continue settlement monitoring at the TIA Reclaim Jetty (710 Pumphouse) following the recommended survey frequency of twice monthly, May through November. Once the survey monitoring of the Reclaim Jetty resumes, and the surface is snow-free, conduct an audit of the existing survey monitoring points and establish survey monitoring points where proposed locations are missing or damaged. Agnico Eagle should develop a plan to raise the Reclaim Jetty pad from its current minimum elevation of roughly 32.1 masl to above the Full Supply Level of the TIA (33.7 masl 	Agnico Eagle is in the process of reviewing options for modification of the TIA Reclaim Jetty to improve long term operation at this area. Agnico has been continuously monitoring settlement of the reclaim jetty.



	would raise the pad 0.2 meters above the TIA FSL), or some interim raise which the water level can be maintained with adequate freeboard below the pad. Once any significant construction or remediation is complete, ensure the recommended TIA Reclaim Jetty survey monitoring points are reestablished.	
TIA Operational Water Balance and Level Targets	 Water level targets must be adhered to whenever practical. Short-term or risk-based exceedances may be acceptable. Currently the main area of immediate impact from raised water levels is the TIA Reclaim Jetty. See recommendations in the section above. The RBDS resumed in June 2021 and has since been stopped as of December 1, 2021 due to changes in the discharge water quality requirements (specifically changes in the toxicity testing requirements). From a TIA water management perspective, it is important that the RBDS be re-commissioned or alternative water management strategies be developed as the water level approaches the FSL of the TIA (33.5 masl). 	Agnico Eagle and SRK are actively in the process of reviewing options for future water management in the TIA. Changes to the water balance and level targets will be reported on in future reports.