



Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Nunavut Regional Office
918 Nunavut Drive
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 3H0

Your file - Votre référence
2AM-DOH1335
Our file - Notre référence
GCDOCS#147593700

June 8, 2026

Robert Hunter
Licensing Administrator
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0
E-mail: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's review of AEM's response to comments on the Doris Airstrip Extension-Surface Water Transfer Point Design Report for Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH1335 in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut

Dear Mr. Hunter,

Thank you for the June 2, 2026 invitation to review Agnico Eagle's (AEM) response to CIRNAC's comments on the Doris Airstrip Extension-Surface Water Transfer Point Design Report (Report) for Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH1335.

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) reviewed the report pursuant to its mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act*. CIRNAC's 3 comments are resolved. Please find CIRNAC's comments and recommendations in the attached Technical Memorandum.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact Michelle Blade at michelle.blade@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca or Andrew Keim at andrew.keim@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Michelle Blade
Regulatory and Science Advisor



Technical Review Memorandum

Date: June 8, 2026

To: Richard Dwyer, Licensing Administrator, Nunavut Water Board

From: Michelle Blade, Regulatory and Science Advisor

Subject: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's review of AEM's response to comments on the Doris Airstrip Extension-Surface Water Transfer Point Design Report for Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH1335 in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut

Region: Kitikmeot Kivalliq Qikiqtani

A. DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AND REFERENCED

The following table (Table 1) provides a list of the documents reviewed under the submission and reference during the review.

Table 1: Documents Reviewed and Referenced

Document Title, Author, File No., Rev., Date
SRK Consulting (Canada) Inc. Doris Airstrip Extension – Surface Water Transfer Point - Design Overview for Notice of Construction. 17 April 2026.
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's comments on the Doris Airstrip Extension-Surface Water Transfer Point Design Report for Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH1335 in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut. 15 May 2026.
Response to Comments Airstrip Extension-Surface Water Transfer Point Design Report Application for the Hope Bay Project, Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH1335. Agnico Eagle, 1 June 2026.

B. CIRNAC Comments and Recommendations

1. Contact water

Section 4.1 of the Report states "*The design criteria for the airstrip surface water transfer point includes...Consider inflow design flood volumes to determine the maximum flooding elevation which could flood this area. For design, the water is considered non-contact water and as such a containment is not required.*"

De-icing of airplanes and runways are known airport activities.

CIRNAC recommends the Licensee provide explanation and/or a plan on how contact water from de-icing airport activities is kept separated from the airstrip surface water transfer point.

**AEM Response:**

Existing site practices and management plans will be followed, including the airstrip operations procedures and de-icing management approach. The water transfer point is located outside the natural drainage area associated with the de-icing apron; therefore, under typical conditions, runoff from that area does not report to the transfer point. Even under extreme storm conditions, any potential migration would depend on a prior loss of containment, which is managed through existing operational controls.

CIRNAC Response:

CIRNAC considers comment 1 **resolved**.

2. Active pumping

Section 4.2 of the Report states “*Due to the substantial portion of the design volume being associated with snowmelt and considering the typical snow melt duration of 15 to 30 days, larger magnitude rainfall events during freshet will be managed through active pumping and otherwise flow to the north along the airstrip shoulder.*”

CIRNAC recommends the discharge point for active pumping be specified along with the erosion prevention measures at the discharge point.

AEM Response:

The design drawings (62-132-230-002 of the Design Report submission) identifies the discharge route, with water pumped northward from the Surface Water Transfer Point. Erosion protection will be provided via a 3.0 m by 3.0 m splash pad constructed of coarse quarry material (0.5 m thick). The outlet will discharge directly onto the pad and be secured in place, with final positioning adjusted in the field as needed to minimize erosion potential.

CIRNAC Response:

CIRNAC considers comment 2 **resolved**.

3. Snow removal

Section 4.2 of the Report states “*Due to the substantial portion of the design volume being associated with snowmelt and considering the typical snow melt duration of 15 to 30 days, larger magnitude rainfall events during freshet will be managed through active pumping and otherwise flow to the north along the airstrip shoulder.*”

Snow removal is a known airport activities.



CIRNAC recommends the Licensee provide a snow removal plan for the Doris Airstrip Extension.

AEM Response:

Snow removal at the airstrip extension will follow established site practices. Snow will be cleared from the airstrip surface and preferentially stockpiled west of the runway. Where this is not feasible, snow may be placed to the east, north of Station 0+150. Snow pile placement will continue to consider drainage and avoid contributing to ponding during spring freshet. Please note that additional detail is provided in response to CIRNAC-1.

CIRNAC Response:

CIRNAC considers comment 3 **resolved**.