



March 22nd, 2023

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Sent via Email: ali.shaikh@nwb-oen.ca, robert.hunter@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's Review of the Construction for Doris Vent Raise Surface Water Diversion Infrastructure Notification for Hope Bay Project, Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH1335

Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (Agnico) is providing this letter in response comments and recommendations received from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) on March 17th, 2023. Agnico's response to the comments and recommendations are detailed below:

1. CIRNAC 1

Subject: Existing Tailings and Water Pipeline

Comment:

In the Note 4, 5, and 6 of the Engineering Drawings for Vent Raise Surface Water Management, AEM repeatedly states that:

"Existing tailings and water pipelines will need to be temporarily moved, relocated, cut, and/or modified to complete construction and installation of the culvert through the existing road".

CIRNAC notes that AEM did not provide adequate information with regards to how they intend to temporarily manage water being transported by the pipeline when relocating or cutting the water pipeline during construction of the culvert, and no information was provided as to where the existing tailings will be placed and what will happen after the construction.

Recommendation (R-01):

(R-01) CIRNAC recommends that AEM provide:

- More information on how they intend to temporarily manage the water being transported by the water pipeline in the event that the pipe is cut or relocated; and
- Details where the existing tailings and the cut pipes is planned to be relocated.

AEM Response:



The existing tailings and water pipelines to be relocated are currently inactive, and are expected to be empty. As such, there is no requirement to temporarily manage or relocate actively flowing water (or tailings) within the pipeline. The pipelines will be cut and removed prior to construction, and replaced following the completion of the work.

Prior to the cutting and removal of the pipelines, AEM will ensure any contributing sources of energy are locked out, and that the pipelines are drained. The pipelines are expected to be empty, but in the event that drainage of residual fluid is necessary, the pipelines may be drained to the nearby emergency catch basin located on the west side of the Doris Creek Bridge.

2. CIRNAC 2

Subject: Materials Used for Construction

Comment:

AEM did not state where the construction materials will be taken from. This information is important as it will enable reviewers understand the chemical composition of such materials as it could be a Potential Acid Generating (PAG) which would require extra mitigative measures.

Recommendation (R-02):

(R-02) CIRNAC recommends that the applicant state where the construction material will be sourced from.

AEM Response:

AEM will use geochemically stable run-of-quarry (ROQ) material sourced from an approved quarry. The material for this project will be sourced from Quarry 2.

3. CIRNAC 3

Subject: North Most Additional Berm Phase 2

Comment:

AEM did not state where the water will be pooling or directed to with the addition of the northern most berm in phase 2. This is a concern as it may create a new pool of water.

Recommendation (R-03):

(R-03) CIRNAC recommends that AEM state where the water will flow or be directed to with the addition of the northern most berm in phase 2.



AEM Response:

Based on the topography data used in the design of the northernmost berm, pooling of surface water redirected by the berm is not expected at this location. The designed location of the berm was chosen such that positive drainage is maintained along the berm alignment. If constructed, the orientation of the berm will be modified during construction to avoid any localized topography that may lead to a risk of pooling water.

Additionally, this rockfill berm is designed to redirect surface water flows during freshet. Based on materials used in the design of the berm, retention of surface water against the berm for any significant period of time is not expected.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at Brennan.jay@agnicoeagle.com

Sincerely,

Brennan Jay – Geotechnical EIT, Agnico Eagle Mines – Hope Bay Mine

Cc:
Licencing (NWB)