



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# 139667751

August 18, 2025

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 the Upgraded Potable Water Treatment Plant Design Report Application for the Hope Bay Project, Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH1335

Dear Robert,

Thank you for the July 31, 2025 invitation to review the referenced licence Design Report application, submitted by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico), for Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH1335.

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) examined the application 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*. Please find CIRNAC comments and recommendations in the attached Technical Memorandum.

The applicant shall provide confirmation from the Nunavut Water Board that all outstanding water license fees have been paid in full prior to approval of this application.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at (867) 975-3877 or Joyce.Demers@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca or Andrew Keim at (867) 975-4550 or Andrew.Keim@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Joyce Demers, B.Sc.,
Industrial Coordinator

Canada 



Technical Review Memorandum

Date: August 18, 2025

To: Robert Hunter – Licensing Administrator, Nunavut Water Board

From: Joyce Demers – Industrial Coordinator, CIRNAC

Subject: **Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's Review of the Upgraded Potable Water Treatment Plant Design Report Application for the Hope Bay Project, Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH1335**

Region: ☒ Kitikmeot ☐ Kivalliq ☐ Qikiqtani

A. BACKGROUND

Hope Bay Gold Mine Project, owned by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico) is located approximately 110 km south of the Bathurst Inlet, 705 km northeast of Yellowknife, North West Territories and 153 km southwest of Cambridge Bay in Nunavut. The Hope Bay Project is made of three distinct areas: Doris, Madrid, and Boston. Hope Bay Mine Project which currently holds five separate water license (2AM-DOH1335, 2AM-BOS1835, 2BB-MAE1727, 2BB-BOS1727 and 2BE-HOP2232).

On February 18, 2022 Agnico announced decision to suspend production at Hope Bay project, placing the mine site into care and maintenance till date while continuing to upgrade the infrastructural facilities, and provided the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) with a formal notice of Care and maintenance for Doris – Madrid operations on March 30, 2022.

Agnico submitted a detailed design report for the Potable Water Treatment Plant (PTP) to the NWB on July 30, 2025 in accordance to water license 2AM-DOH1335 Part D item 1. The updated PTP is deigned to treat a maximum of 209 m³ of water per day.

CIRNAC provides the following comments and recommendations pertaining to the application package. A summary of the subjects of recommendations can be found in Table 1. Documents reviewed as part of this submission can be found in Table 2 of Section B. Detailed technical review comments can be found in Section C.



Table 1: Summary of Recommendations

Recommendation Number	Subject
R1	Secondary Containment
R2	SDS

B. DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AND REFERENCED

The following table (Table 2) provides a list of the documents reviewed under the submission and reference during the review.

Table 2: Documents Reviewed and Referenced

Document Title	Author, File No., Rev., Date
250730 2AM-DOH1335 PTP Design Report-ILAE	Agnico, July 2025

C. RESULTS OF REVIEW

1. Secondary Containment

Comment:

It is unclear from the drawings if the updated PTP will contain secondary containment within the building for areas containing chlorinated water or if the whole building itself is a secondary containment unit with the outside door slightly elevated and floor system contained. The concern is that if a spill occurs that chlorinated water will be released into the environment potentially making its way into nearby water bodies.

Recommendation:

(R-01) CIRNAC recommends that Agnico clarify if there will be secondary containment berms within the updated PTP.

2. SDS

Comment:

Ensure that SDSs attached to the in design report are also included in the spill response document for completeness of the spill plan if it is not already done.

Recommendation:

(R-02) CIRNAC recommends that Agnico Eagle provide the SDSs within the spill plan if not already completed.