



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# 139671625

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

Dear Robert,

Thank you for the July 30, 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 Sewage Water Treatment Plant Upgrade 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 updated Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) to the NWB on July 29, 2025 in accordance to water license 2AM-DOH1335 Part D item 1. The updated STP is required to allow for increased sewage treatment capacity to accommodate 580 to 870 people while remaining in compliance to the water license requirements.

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	Sewage Management During Construction
R2	Clarifications

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
250729 2AM-DOH1335 STP Upgrade Design Report-ILAE	Agnico, July 2025

C. RESULTS OF REVIEW

1. Sewage Management During Construction

Comment:

During the months of September to the end of the 2025 year, the Sewage Treatment Plant will be undergoing upgrades. It is unclear how sewage will be managed during the construction period. This is a concern as it is unclear if sewage will be able treated during this time or stored until the STP is completed.

Recommendation:

(R-01) CIRNAC recommends that Agnico clarify how sewage will be managed during the construction period.

2. Clarifications

Comment:

- A. It is unclear if the discharge heated pipes from the STP to the preapproved discharge locations have the capacity to dispose of the increased treated sewage water and that this increase in capacity will not create divots in the tundra.
- B. Ensure that SDSs attached 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 clarifications to the points above.