



January 30, 2023

Robert Hunter
License Administrator
Nunavut Water Board
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Sent via Email: ali.shaikh@nwb-oen.ca, robert.hunter@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Agnico Response to Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada Comments regarding Agnico Eagle Mine Ltd's notice of South Dam Toe Berm Notice of Construction for Type A Water License 2AM-DOH1335 for the Hope Bay Project.

Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (Agnico) is providing this letter in response to a follow-up comment received from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) on January 18, 2023. Agnico's response to the follow-up comment is detailed below:

1. CIRNAC COMMENT – THE SOUTH DAM FOOTPRINT

In the In the South Dam Toe Berm Notice of Construction Letter, "Re: Water License 2AM-DOH1335 – Conditions Applying to Construction and Operation – Construction of South Dam Berm", AEM indicated that "the berm will be located entirely within the permitted footprint for phase 2 of the south dam".

Note number 4 of the engineering drawing states that: "The berm/access road may be widened or pull outs may be necessary to allow safe construction. Berm widening or pull-outs may be added as determined in the field for a safe construction process"

CIRNAC is not sure on the extent of the possible widening of the berm to allow for a safe construction process as proposed by AEM, whether it would still be within the permitted footprint for phase 2 of the south dam or not.

CIRNAC Recommendation

CIRNAC recommends that AEM clarify if the proposed potential widening of the berm will be within the permitted footprint for phase 2 of the south dam, and in event it is not, any plans of seeking permission for modifications prior to the widening of the berm/access road for safe work purposes.

Agnico Eagle's Response:

Agnico Eagle will safely construct, including turn arounds and access roads, the south dam toe berm within the permitted Phase 2 south dam footprint.



2. CIRNAC COMMENT – THE SOUTH DAM TOE BERM CONSTRUCTION TIMELINES

AEM indicated that the construction is expected to take place during Q1 – Q2 of 2023, and will take place during the winter in order to mitigate impacts to the tundra.

CIRNAC note that Quarter 2 is during freshet when ice/snow is beginning to melt, and uncertain about the measures AEM will be putting in place to mitigate impact to the tundra should the construction spill over to the Q2 as indicated by the AEM's construction timelines.

CIRNAC Recommendation

CIRNAC recommends that AEM clarify the measures intended to take to mitigate impact to the tundra should the construction spill over to Q2 of 2023 during freshet.

Agnico Eagle's Response:

As stated in our application, our plan is to construct in early Q2, under frozen conditions. If construction extends into freshet, best practices for construction and erosion control measures will be implemented and license requirements for construction will be adhered to.

3. CIRNAC COMMENT – ROCKFILL MATERIAL LOCATION

In the South Dam Toe Berm Notice of Construction Letter, AEM stated that:

"The berm will be constructed by conventional haul and place methods, using geochemically suitable rockfill material sourced from an approved quarry or other source, and will be in accordance with the Hope Bay Technical Specifications (SRK 2022b)"

AEM stated the rockfill material will be sourced from an "approved quarry or other source", and did not mention the location of the quarry or the other sources. It is unclear to CIRNAC where AEM intends to source the estimated 2,700m³ of additional rockfill material. This information will be helpful in determination of the history and geochemical composition of the rockfill material.

CIRNAC Recommendation

CIRNAC recommends that AEM clarify the specific location it intends to source the rockfill materials.

Agnico Eagle's Response:

The rockfill material will be sourced from the currently active Quarry 2.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at:
nancy.harvey@agnicoeagle.com

Sincerely,



Nancy Duquet Harvey, Environmental Superintendant, Agnico Eagle Mines – Hope Bay Mine

Cc:
Licencing (NWB)