

August 29, 2022

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

Re: Agnico Response to KIA Comments regarding Water License 2AM-DOH1335 – Conditions Applying to Construction and Operation – Construction of Water Treatment Plant

Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (Agnico) is providing this letter in response to comments received from Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) on August 22, 2022. Agnico's response is detailed below:

## 1. KIA-NWB-1

Subject: Efficiency of dissolved metal precipitation

Reference: Section 3.2

Summary: Conditions warranting increased metal precipitation are not specified

## **Detailed Review Comment**

Several metals are regulated by the MDMER, but it is not made explicit when enhanced metal removal would be put in place.

## Section 3.2 states:

"Arsenic and copper, which will be parameters of concern in the future. To promote metal precipitation in the future, an alkali and a metal precipitator could be added to ensure the optimal removal (not currently included in the current design report)."

It is stated that metal concentrations will be of concern in the future, but no detail is provided as to understand what conditions enhanced ("optimal") metal precipitation would be included in the treatment process.

## Recommendation/Request

Provide detail as to when enhanced metal precipitation would be included in the treatment process.

Response to KIA-NWB-1



Agnico is committed to complying with MDMER and will not discharge non-compliant water from the Doris TIA. The Annual Water and Load Balance Assessment Report, prepared for the NWB as part of the Annual Report, is used to evaluate water management needs and predict water quality at the Project and downstream receptors, as well as to predict Doris TIA levels. Currently Hope Bay is in Care and Maintenance and tailings production has suspended. The concentrations of metals in the Doris TIA are not expected to be a concern during the Care and Maintenance period.

Concentrations in the Doris TIA in 2020 increased by a factor of 2.5 after commencing Madrid ore processing, however, remained under the model predictions. Concentrations in 2021 have also remained under the model predictions and Madrid ore processing has since been suspended.

The need for metals treatment will be reassessed when ore processing recommences.

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

Sincerely,

Guy Dufour on behalf of Nancy Duquet Harvey

**Environmental Superintendent - Agnico Eagle Mines Limited - Hope Bay Mine** 

Cc:

Licencing (NWB)