

## AGNICO-EAGLE MINES LTD. Meadowbank Division

DFO File No. NU-03-0190

Referral File No. 03-HCAA-CA7-000-000109

November 19, 2007

Ms. Amy Liu, Fisheries and Oceans Canada Eastern Arctic Region PO Box 358, Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Reference: Meadowbank Gold Project - Authorization for Works or

Undertakings Affecting Fish Habitat - All Weather Private Access

**Road – Request for Amendment** 

I am writing to formally request an amendment of the DFO Authorization for Works or Undertakings Affecting Fish Habitat issued in June of 2007 for the water crossings associated with the All-Weather Private Access Road between Baker Lake and the Meadowbank Mine Project site. The specific requested amendments are as follows:

- An extension of the Valid Authorization Period until April 30, 2008 (currently set to expire December 31, 2007). This is specifically to allow for the planned habitat compensation measures to be constructed within stream R02 during the coming winter season, i.e., before April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The road is nearing completion but it was felt that constructing the proposed compensation measures would be best deferred until the ground is frozen sufficiently to ensure that access by construction equipment to the site at R02 can be done across frozen ground without the need for additional road construction and without the need to damage the underlying ground;
- That the "written report summarizing the ..... monitoring results" required under Item 6 in the authorization be rescheduled for submission on or before March 31<sup>st</sup> of the following calendar year being reported on (rather than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year being reported on as currently required). This request is to allow Agnico-Eagle to combine all of the monitoring reporting requirements for the all weather private access road that are contained in both the DFO Authorization and the Water License issued by the Nunavut Water Board into one common submission. Typically the Nunavut Water Board has set March 31<sup>st</sup>

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as the consistent annual reporting date for the preceding year being reported on. This allows for all monitoring information to be provided in a single report that would go to both DFO and the NWB. The benefit is having one common report each year containing all of the monitoring data from the preceding year while at the same time streamlining the reporting burden on Agnico-Eagle;

- the reported magnitude of habitat loss associated with the five HADD crossings as set out in Section 4 be corrected as set out in the June 26, 2007 letter from Azimuth Environmental Consulting Group Inc. to DFO, specifically:
  - Section 4 The reported total loss is 0.53 HUs rather than the 1,430 currently listed in the Authorization (this higher value refers to m<sup>2</sup> rather than Habitat Units (Hus);
  - Section 4.2 the reported gain based on 1.5:1 compensation-to-loss ratio should be 0.8 HUs with the planned losses for the individual crossings being:
    - R02 0.43 HUs
    - R06 0.06 HUs
    - R09 0.02 HUs
    - R15 0.002 HUs
    - R19 0.03 HUs
  - The values currently contained in Section 4.2 of the Authorization are in m<sup>2</sup> not HUs and should thus be corrected.

Please feel free to call on the undersigned for addition information or clarification.

Regards,

Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.

Regional Manager of Environment, Social & Government Affairs

cc: G. Mann, Azimuth Consulting Group Inc

Nunavut Water Board Kivalliq Inuit Association INAC Water Resources Environment Canada

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