



AGNICO EAGLE

July 15th, 2014

Elizabeth Patreau
Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist
Eastern Arctic Area, Central and Arctic Region
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
P.O. BOX 358
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0
Phone: (867) 979-8019

Re: Agnico Eagle Mines Meadowbank Mine NIRB Project Certificate No.4 - Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake Project Description

Dear Ms. Patreau

Agnico Eagle Mines (AEM) Meadowbank Division is proposing to expand the Vault Pit operations into Phaser Lake (referred to as Phaser Pit) which is a small open pit that extends to the southwest from the perimeter of the Vault Pit and into Phaser Lake. The document attach with this letter provide a mini project description and a re-evaluation of the terms and conditions related to Phaser Lake.

AEM also apply for an authorization from DFO under Paragraph 35(2)(b) Fisheries Act Authorization (Normal Circumstances) to dewatered Phaser Lake. AEM has an approved NNL Plan (AEM, 2012) that has an offsetting plan to account for fisheries losses to Phaser Lake that will ultimately improve its connectivity to Vault and Wally Lake. Furthermore, based on current mine plans, Phaser Lake no longer requires water diversion into Turn Lake, which was originally predicted to be a potential impact. The dewatering activity proposed in this document will follow current dewatering plans approved by the NIRB and NWB.

Until recently, for economic reasons, it has not been part of the life of mine (LOM) at Meadowbank. All of the permits were approved and were based on the original (2005) environmental management plans and the associated life of mine (LOM) plans which did not consider the expansion of Vault Pit into Phaser Lake. Consideration for expansion of the mine is a continuous process. Initial feasibility studies did not consider Phaser Pit, however this was dependant on scale, timing, the potential environment impacts and the economics at the time. As the economics of the project have changed and the details of last few years of the Meadowbank mine are optimized, mine engineers began considering the feasibility of expanding Vault Pit.

It is AEM's opinion that Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake is not a significant change to the project, is within the scope of the original project permitted by NIRB Project Certificate No.4, and is within the KIA Production Lease (KVPL08D280).



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Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division is submitting the attached project description to DFO to received approbation.

Should you require any further information or questions please contact the below via email or by telephone.

Regards,

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division

Stéphane Robert
Stephane.robert@agnicoeagle.com
819-763-0229
Manager Regulatory Affairs Nunavut

Ryan Vanengen
ryan.vanengen@agnicoeagle.com
819-651-2974
Environment Superintendent Interim



Application Form for Paragraph 35(2)(b) Fisheries Act Authorization (Normal Circumstances)

I, the undersigned, hereby request authorization to carry on a work, undertaking or activity which will result in serious harm to fish that are part of a commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fishery, or to fish that support such a fishery. I understand that the *Fisheries Act* Authorization, if granted, is only from the standpoint of the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and does not release me from my obligation to obtain permission from other concerned regulatory agencies.

1. Applicant Contact Information

Applicant's Name:

Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. Meadowbank Division
Stephane Robert - Manager Regulatory Affairs

If applicable:

Authorized Representative's Name:

Address:

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
Meadowbank Division
Baker Lake, Nunavut, Canada
X0C 0A0

Address:

Telephone No.:

Office : 819-759-3700 x 5188
Mobile : 819-763-0229

Telephone No.:

Fax No.:

NA

Fax No.:

E-mail:

stephane.robert@agnicoeagle.com

E-mail:

DFO File Referral No. (if known):



2. Checklist for Prescribed Information

An applicant does not need to re-submit documents that have already been submitted to DFO for review. An applicant may reference documents such as Environmental Impact Statements, technical supplements, etc. in their application but must provide the appropriate reference to any document cited, including the chapter, section, page reference and date of submission.

Type of Information/ Documentation	Have you submitted the following? (Yes/No)	Identify the appropriate reference document: Title, Chapter, Section, Page Number and Date of Submission	DFO Comments (For official use only)
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Letter of Credit	Yes	Letter of credit for \$15.75 million for the mine site (dated July 21, 2009) and a separate letter of credit of \$10.2 million for the tailings impoundment area or tailings storage facility (TSF) (dated January 12, 2010), for a total fish habitat compensation related security for the Meadowbank mine site of \$25.95 million.	
Description of Proposed work, undertaking or activity	Yes	Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Section 2 - Location and Description of proposed Vault Pit Expansion, Page 10 Date of Submission : July 15, 2014	
Project engineering specifications, scale drawings and dimensional drawings (for physical works)	Yes	Figure 3-5 of AEM (2012). No-Net-Loss Plan. Meadowbank Division. October 2012. Page 33. Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Section 2 - Location and Description of proposed Vault Pit Expansion, Page 10. Date of Submission : July 15, 2014	
Timeline information	Yes	Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Section 2.5 - Timing, Page 13 Date of Submission : July 15, 2014	



Location information	Yes	Figure 3-5 of AEM (2012). No-Net-Loss Plan. Meadowbank Division. October 2012. Page 33. Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Section 2 - Location and Description of proposed Vault Pit Expansion, Page 10. Date of Submission : July 15, 2014	
Description of Fish and Fish Habitat (Aquatic Environment)	Yes	Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Section 3.4 - Fish and Fish Habitat, Page 18. Date of Submission : July 15, 2014	
Description of Effects on Fish and Fish Habitat	Yes	Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Section 3.6 - Cumulative Effect, Page 20. Date of Submission : July 15, 2014 Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Appendix B - Table 7-3 and Table 7-15, Page 46 and 61. Date of Submission : July 15, 2014	
Description of Measures and Standards to Avoid or Mitigate Serious Harm to Fish	Yes	Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Appendix B - Table 7-3 and Table 7-15, Page 46 and 61. Date of Submission : July 15, 2014	
Description of the Residual Serious Harm to Fish	Yes	Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Appendix B - Table 7-3 and Table 7-15, Page 46 and 61. Date of Submission : July 15, 2014 Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Section 3 - Review of associated impact predictions, Page 15. Date of Submission : July 15, 2014	
Offsetting Plan	Yes	Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake - Project Description Section 5.3 - Offsetting Fish Habitat, Page 24. Date of Submission : July 15, 2014 AEM (2012). No-Net-Loss Plan. Meadowbank Division. October 2012. Section 4.4 Vault Lake Area Access Enhancement, Page 48 and Section 5.3.3 Allotment of gains Vault Lake Area, Page 58.	

3. Public and Aboriginal Engagement

Have you engaged the public or Aboriginal group(s) who may be affected by your proposed work, undertaking or activity?

Yes No

If yes, provide details including the groups engaged, type of engagement, dates, outcomes, etc.

AEM discussed the Vault Pit expansion with the Baker Lake HTO and DFO beginning in 2012 (as part of a revision to DFO mine site authorizations) and to NIRB representatives during a conference call hosted on March 11th, 2014.

If providing (attaching) supporting documentation to describe your engagement activities (e.g., meeting log, summary of meetings, etc.), include the title of each document.



4. Fisheries Management Objectives

Did you consider local Fisheries Management Objectives in your planning process? Yes No

If yes, please identify the Fisheries Management Objective(s)/Plan considered and, if applicable, reference the relevant sections.

Please identify any effects that the proposed work, undertaking or activity may have on achieving these objectives.

Applicant Declaration

I solemnly declare that the information provided for this application are true, complete and correct, and I make this declaration conscientiously believing it to be true knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath. This declaration applies to all material submitted as part of this application for a Paragraph 35(2)(b) *Fisheries Act* Authorization.


Applicant's signature (and corporate seal):

14/07/2014
Date

Information about the above-noted proposed work, undertaking or activity is collected by DFO under the authority of the *Fisheries Act* for the purpose of administering the Fisheries Protection Provisions of the *Fisheries Act*. Personal information will be protected under the provisions of the *Privacy Act* and will be stored in the Personal Information Bank number DFO PPU 680. Under the provisions of the *Privacy Act*, individuals have a right to, and on request shall be given access to, any personal information about them contained in a personal information bank. Instructions for obtaining personal information are contained in the Government of Canada's Info Source publications available at www.infosource.gc.ca or in Government of Canada offices. Information other than "personal" information may be accessible or protected as required by the provision of the *Access to Information Act*.

If you require additional space to provide relevant information, please attach that information and indicate the title of the form being used and the section to which you are responding.