

NIRB File No.: 03MN107

August 14, 2014

Stéphane Robert Environment Superintendent Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd., Meadowbank Division P.O. Box 540 Baker Lake, NU X0B 0C0

Sent via email: stephane.robert@agnicoeagle.com

Re: <u>Application Pending NPC Conformity Determination and Referral from an Authorizing Agency for Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake" Project Proposal</u>

Dear Stéphane Robert:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s (AEM) "Vault Pit Expansion into Phaser Lake" project proposal from your office on July 28, 2014. The project proposal submission included the following documents:

- Project Description
- Lists of Leases, Permits and Authorizations
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- *Meadowbank No Net Loss Plan (AEM, 2012)*
- SNC 2012 Water Management Plan (SNC, 2013)

While the proposal is related in scope to the Meadowbank Gold Project (NIRB File No.: 03MN107) previously reviewed by the NIRB and allowed to proceed pursuant to Article 12 Part 5 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the proposed works also appear to be located in an area which may require conformity to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan, pursuant to Article 11 of the NLCA. Please be advised that Proponents are required to submit their project proposals directly to the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) for a conformity determination. For further information, please contact NPC's Director of Regional Planning, Brian Aglukark, at (867) 857-2242 or via email at <a href="mailto:aglukark@nunavut.ca">aglukark@nunavut.ca</a>.

The NIRB conducts environmental impact assessments of project proposals upon referral from Government departments, other licensing agencies and Regional Inuit Associations responsible for authorizing the proposed project works or activities. Please be advised that it is the Proponent's responsibility to apply for all authorizations and approvals required to carry out the proposed project works or activities.

Once the NIRB receives a positive conformity determination from the NPC and a referral from an authorizing agency, the Board will assess the project proposal in accordance with Article 12of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement and will report to the Government Minister(s) responsible for authorizing the project.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Stephanie Taptuna, Environmental Administrator, at 867-983-4610 or via email at info@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Taptuna Environmental Administrator

Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Brian Aglukark, Nunavut Planning Commission

Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board

Tracey McCaie, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Mark Dahl, Environment Canada

Georgina Williston, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Ryan Vanengen, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.