



NIRB File No.: 03MN107

DFO File No.: 03-HCAA-CA7-00191; 14HCAA-01046

July 24, 2015

Stéphane Robert
Manager Regulatory Affairs Nunavut
Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd., Meadowbank Division
P.O. Box 540
Baker Lake, NU X0C 0A0

Sent via email: stephane.robert@agnicoeagle.com

Re: Receipt of Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Vault Pit Expansion Amendment Proposal for the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project

Dear Stéphane Robert:

On July 15, 2015 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s (AEM or Proponent) addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Meadowbank Gold Project. The Addendum to the FEIS is to support the necessary technical review of the Vault Pit Expansion project as proposed by AEM and as part of the NIRB's reconsideration of Project Certificate No. 004 pursuant to Section 12.8.2(b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

The Board has commenced an internal review of the Addendum to the Final EIS to determine whether this document conforms to the previously issued NIRB's EIS Guidelines¹. This conformity review is meant to be a presence or absence analysis only rather than an evaluation of the quality of the information presented; although the NIRB may point out significant deficiencies encountered.

The NIRB anticipates that its internal conformity review of the Addendum to the Final EIS will take approximately 15 days to complete and if the addendum is deemed to be satisfactory (positive conformity determination), the NIRB will distribute the Addendum to the public and commence the technical review period. The technical review period will provide interested parties with an opportunity to analyze the adequacy and quality of the information presented within the Addendum to the Final EIS and to provide the NIRB with their technical review comments and final written submissions.

¹ "Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines for the Meadowbank Gold Project" issued on February 20, 2004

The NIRB has enclosed a *draft* process map outlining the anticipated timelines for the next steps in the NIRB's reconsideration of the terms and conditions of Project Certificate No. 004. Further, in preparation of the technical review of the addendum to the FEIS, the NIRB would like to provide another opportunity for interested parties to indicate the number of copies required (electronic via cd or memory key and/or print version) in order to facilitate participation in this assessment. Please advise our office with the contact name, agency/department, mailing address, contact email address, phone number, and the number of copies requested (please specify electronic and/or print) via email to info@nirb.ca by **July 29, 2015**. If the addendum is deemed to be satisfactory (positive conformity determination), the NIRB will be directing the Proponent to send copies to parties.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification regarding the next steps in the Board's assessment of the Vault Pit Expansion, please contact the undersigned at (867) 793-4480 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho, M.Sc. EP
Senior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Meadowbank Distribution List
Ryan Vanengen, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
Julie Marentette, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Georgina Williston, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Tanika Simmons, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency

Enclosure: Anticipated Process Map and Timelines NIRB File No.: 03MN107—Reconsideration of Project Certificate No. 004 for the Proposed Vault Pit Expansion, dated July 24, 2015