



NIRB File No.: 03MN107

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

November 12, 2015

To: Meadowbank Distribution List

Sent via email

Re: Draft Agenda for the Technical Meeting related to the NIRB's Review of AEM's Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Vault Pit Expansion Amendment Proposal for the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project

Dear Parties:

As outlined in previous correspondence dated October 9, 2015, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) confirmed that the Technical Meeting for Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s (AEM or Proponent) Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS Addendum) submission for the Vault Pit Expansion proposal (NIRB File No. 03MN107) will be held *via teleconference* from **December 1, 2015 to December 2, 2015**.

To assist with parties' preparation for the Technical Meeting, the NIRB has prepared a *draft* meeting agenda (Appendix A) and is inviting input from parties with regards to the proposed meeting schedule and items for discussion.

TECHNICAL MEETING

The objective of the Technical Meeting would be to clarify and resolve technical issues in the Addendum; and to facilitate informal discussions between the Proponent and interested parties on technical matters related to the Vault Pit Expansion proposal. The Technical Meeting will be kept as informal as possible in an effort to resolve technical issues prior to the submission of technical review comments due December 4, 2015 by interested parties. This meeting will be facilitated by the NIRB staff, with participation by the Proponent, responsible authorities and interested parties. During the Technical Meeting, the NIRB staff will compile a list of commitments made by the Proponent regarding revisions and updates to the Addendum submission.

Discussions during the Technical Meeting are intended to assist parties with developing a position on whether or not the Addendum proposal should be allowed to proceed, and if so, what amendments to the Meadowbank Project Certificate should be made, including which of the terms and conditions contained therein should be amended, and any new conditions which the Board should consider for inclusion. This dialogue is intended to assist with delineating

outstanding technical issues and concerns for parties in their preparation of final written submissions.

The Board asks that parties attending the Technical Meeting be prepared to discuss the following points in particular, according to their respective jurisdiction/mandate:

- Determination of whether parties agree/disagree with the conclusions in the FEIS Addendum regarding the alternatives assessment, environmental impacts, proposed mitigation, significance of impacts and monitoring measures – and reasons to support the determination;
- Determination of whether or not conclusions in the FEIS Addendum are supported by the analysis – and reasons to support the determination;
- Determination of whether appropriate methodology was utilized in the FEIS Addendum to develop conclusions – and reasons to support the determination, along with any proposed alternative methodologies which may be more appropriate (if applicable);
- Identification of specific commitments being sought by parties from the Proponent to address technical issues and concerns;
- Identification of any terms and conditions contained within the Meadowbank Project Certificate which may require reconsideration or amendment; and,
- Identification of additional Project Certificate terms and conditions which would be required to address the potential impacts of the Vault Pit Expansions proposal.

After the technical meeting, the list of commitments will be provided to the Proponent for its review and response. Parties are then required to submit any outstanding technical review comments to the NIRB by **12:00 pm MST, December 4, 2015**. At that point, the NIRB will determine if a Hearing can be announced after establishing that there are no outstanding issues that would limit the Board's ability to make a decision on the proposal.

REQUEST TO PROPONENT

The NIRB requests that AEM be prepared to deliver a 30 minute presentation at the opening of the Technical Meeting which summarizes the proposed Vault Pit Expansion Project proposal, the assessment provided in the FEIS Addendum, identification of issues which have been addressed with agencies through update meetings, and those issues which remain in negotiation or have not met with resolution. The presentation should also highlight those terms and conditions within the Meadowbank Project Certificate that AEM suggests be amended. It is recommended that this presentation follow a similar thematic approach to that contained within AEM's FEIS Addendum submission and the attached draft meeting agenda. Further, the NIRB requests that AEM submit a copy of the presentation prior to the teleconference to ensure all parties would have a copy for viewing.

REQUEST TO PARTIES

The NIRB requests that parties planning to attend the upcoming teleconference Technical Meeting provide our office with a confirmation of attendance, via email to info@nirb.ca or via fax to (867) 983-2594 on or before **5:00 pm MST, Monday November 23, 2015**. The NIRB also requests that parties provide comments on the *draft* agenda and items for discussion as presented by this date.

Once the NIRB has received confirmation from all parties attending the teleconference, separate correspondence will be issued to the respective attending parties with the teleconference call-in number.

The NIRB would also like to remind parties that technical review comments for the Vault Pit Expansion proposal is due at **12:00 pm MST, December 4, 2015**.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification regarding the next steps in the Board's assessment of the Vault Pit Expansion proposal, please contact the undersigned at (867) 857-2052 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Tara Arko
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Stéphane Robert, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd
Ryan Vanengen, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
Tineka Simmons, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency

Attachments: Appendix A – Draft Agenda

NIRB File No.: 03MN107 – Vault Pit Expansion Proposal
Proponent: Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
Location: *Teleconference Technical Meeting moderated by Cambridge Bay office
(call-in telephone number to follow)*
Dates: December 1 – 2, 2015
Times: 8:00 – 11:00 am, 12:00 – 4:00 pm **Mountain Standard Time (MST)**

Day 1 – Tuesday, December 1, 2015

8:00 – 8:15 am	NIRB Welcome and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Objectives of Technical Meeting▪ Introduction of Participants▪ Housekeeping Items▪ Overview of Agenda
8:15 – 8:45 am	AEM Presentation - presentation to be circulated prior to teleconference
8:45 – 9:15 am	Conclusions presented in the FEIS Addendum pertaining to the physical environment including air quality and noise, and fresh water quality and quantity, soils and landforms and related mitigation/monitoring programs; including relevant management and/or mitigation plans
9:15 – 9:30 am	<i>Health Break</i>
9:30 – 11:00 am	Physical environment including air quality and noise, fresh water, soils and landforms and related mitigation/monitoring programs; including relevant management and/or mitigation plans – <i>continued</i>
11:00 – 12:00 pm	<i>Break for Lunch</i>
12:00 – 1:45 pm	Conclusions presented in the FEIS Addendum pertaining to the terrestrial ecosystem including terrestrial environment, vegetation, wildlife, birds, habitat and related management and mitigation plans and/or programs
1:45 – 2:00 pm	<i>Health Break</i>
2:00 – 3:45 pm	Conclusions presented in the FEIS Addendum pertaining to the fish and fish habitat; including management and mitigation plans and/or program
3:45 – 4:00 pm	Afternoon session wrap-up

Day 2 – Wednesday, December 2, 2015

8:00 – 8:15 am	NIRB Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Day 1 Recap and Day 2 brief
8:15 – 9:15 am	Conclusions presented in the FEIS Addendum pertaining to social, economic and cultural components, including related management and mitigation plans and/or programs
<i>9:15 – 9:30 am</i>	<i>Health Break</i>
9:30 – 11:00 am	Social, economic and cultural components, including related management and mitigation plans and/or programs – <i>continued</i>
<i>11:00 – 12:00 pm</i>	<i>Break for Lunch</i>
12:00 – 1:45 pm	Conclusions presented in the FEIS Addendum pertaining to archaeology and cumulative effects assessment and related management and mitigation plans and/or programs
<i>1:45 – 2:00 pm</i>	<i>Health Break</i>
2:00 – 3:00 pm	NIRB discussion of next steps and Public Hearing Question and answer period for parties Conclusion of Technical Meeting