



**NIRB File No.: 03MN107**

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

December 2, 2015

To: Meadowbank Distribution List

*Sent via email*

**Re: Technical Meeting Commitments related to the NIRB's assessment of AEM's Vault Pit Expansion proposal for the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project**

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Dear Parties:

On December 1, 2015 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) facilitated a Technical Meeting via teleconference as part of the NIRB's assessment of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s (AEM or Proponent) proposed Vault Pit Expansion to the Meadowbank Gold Mine project (NIRB File No. 03MN107). The objective of the Technical Meeting was to clarify and resolve issues related to the technical review of AEM's Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS Addendum), as well as to facilitate informal discussions between the Proponent and interested parties on technical matters related to the Vault Pit Expansion proposal.

Representatives from the following organizations participated in the teleconference:

- Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
- Kivalliq Inuit Association
- Government of Nunavut
- Environment Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Health Canada
- Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
- Natural Resources Canada
- Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency

The NIRB would like to thank all parties for participating in the Technical Meeting and providing their relevant expertise at this meeting. As a result of parties' commitment to being available for the teleconference, their advance preparation and AEM's detailed overview presentation, the meeting agenda was completed well ahead of schedule.

## COMMITMENT FROM TECHNICAL MEETING

During the Technical Meeting, AEM provided an overview presentation regarding the Vault Pit Expansion proposal and related effects assessments, discussing aspects of the physical environment, the terrestrial ecosystem, fish and fish habitat, socio-economics and archaeology that may be affected by the proposal along with proposed mitigation measures. Parties were given an opportunity to ask questions and/or provide comments following the presentation of each topic. During the proceedings, the following commitment was made by AEM as requested by Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada:

- 1) AEM commits to provide the results of the bulk metal, metal leaching static testing and acid base accounting for the site-specific samples taken within the proposed Phaser and BB Phaser Pit.

AEM provided the requested information as outlined in the above commitment to the NIRB and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada on December 2, 2015.

## NEXT STEPS

During the closing remarks of the meeting, the next steps in the NIRB's reconsideration of the terms and conditions within Project Certificate No. 004 for the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project were outlined as follows:

- Interested parties submit Technical Review Comments directly to the NIRB on or before **12:00 pm MST, December 4, 2015**.
- Proponent submits responses to technical review comments to the NIRB on or before **December 23, 2015**.
- Parties submit Final Written Submissions to the NIRB on **February 12, 2016**.
- NIRB Public Hearing to be scheduled for the week of **February 29, 2016** (*tentative*).

The enclosed process map further illustrates the process steps and anticipated timeline for the NIRB's assessment of the Vault Pit Expansion proposal moving forward.

The NIRB would like to encourage the proponent and parties to continue discussions to resolve any questions or concerns related to the Vault Pit Expansion proposal prior to the planned public hearing. The NIRB would like to remind all parties that any resolutions made during these discussions should be provided to the NIRB for placement on the public registry, to ensure that all parties are made aware of the items being discussed and provided with the outcomes of the discussions.

The NIRB would like to remind all interested parties that Technical Review Comments are due to the NIRB by email at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) or by fax to (867) 983-2594 on or before **12:00 pm MST, Friday, 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](mailto:sgranchinho@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



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

cc: Stéphane Robert, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.  
Ryan Vanengen, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.

Enclosure: Process Map (NIRB File No.: 03MN107) — Reconsideration of Project Certificate No. 004 for the  
Proposed Vault Pit Expansion (*December 1, 2015*)