



January 5, 2014

Karén Kharatyan
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0

Dear Karén

RE: Proposed Water Level Trigger for Weekly Monitoring

In response to the question during the Meadowbank Mine Type A Water License freshwater use Amendment technical meeting and to the email from the NWB dated February 3rd, 2014, AEM has developed trigger levels for increasing monitoring from monthly to weekly monitoring and to engage the NWB. These will also be included in the updated Water Management Plan.

Third Portage Lake has a pre-operation volume of 446,200,000m³ and a pre-operation water level of 133.68 masl. As per Meadowbank's Type A Water License conditions, AEM monitors water levels in Third Portage Lake on a monthly basis. AEM is proposing two trigger values, below which measures will be taken to prevent impacts to Third Portage Lake. The trigger values were derived based on the maximum permissible winter water withdrawal volume of 10%, according to the DFO "Protocol for Winter Water Withdrawal from Ice-covered Waterbodies in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut", June 21, 2010.

If the water volume is decreased by 5%, or there is a water level decrease of 0.68m (133.0 masl), AEM will increase the water level monitoring from monthly to weekly. If the water volume in Third Portage Lake decreases by 10%, or there is a water level decrease of 1.35m (132.33 masl), AEM will initiate a review of the mine site water balance, evaluate the natural contributing factors (eg. precipitation) and engage in consultation with the NWB to determine measures to protect the aquatic ecosystem.

Should you require any further information or questions please contact the below.

Regards,

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