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NRCan's Final Comments on the Proposal for In-Pit Tailings Disposal at the Meadowbank Mine + proposed meeting agenda

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Hello.

Please find attached Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan) technical comments and questions on the thermal modelling and hydrogeological modelling for the proposed In-pit Tailings Disposal Modification for Agnico Eagle Mines' (AEM) Meadowbank Mine. This is in response to AEM's final submission to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB).

This submission will be the subject of the meeting between NRCan and AEM in Ottawa, scheduled for September 25th at 10:00 am, and would serve as the meeting indicated in AEM's final submission to the NIRB. Federal government departments normally do not meet with Proponents during the decision phase of a NIRB process in order to maintain transparency and to avoid any perceptions of bias. In this situation, as the NIRB has recommended that issues related to hydrogeological modelling be addressed by the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) and, as this meeting will be a purely technical discussion with experts from the GSC, and not a meeting with Explosives Safety and Security Branch, who have the regulatory role within NRCan for this project, this meeting will proceed as it is the most practicable way to address outstanding issues related to the thermal and hydrogeological modelling. A proposed agenda is also attached, and a final agenda and detailed meeting summary will be shared with all of you after the meeting. NRCan would like to respectfully ask the NWB to accept these final comments and the meeting record as submissions for consideration during their water licence amendment process.

I have copied AEM staff in order for them to be able to speak to these issues at next week's meeting. I have copied colleagues from CIRNAC, as they have also expressed concerns related to hydrogeology. I have also copied NIRB, full cognisant that the record is closed on the NIRB process, but just for NIRB's information as to how their recommendation is being addressed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Thank you,

Peter Unger

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2 attachments



NRCan Final Comments on Meadowbank In-pit Tailings Disposal Modification.pdf 557K



Draft Meeting Agenda - NRCan and AEM meeting to discuss thermal and hydrogeological modelling - Meadowbank In-Pit Tailings Disposal Modification.docx 13K