



Water Resources Division  
Nunavut Regional Office  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

*Your file - Votre référence*  
2AM-MEA1526

November 30, 2018

*Our file - Notre référence*  
CIDM# 1235012

Assol Kubeisinova  
Nunavut Water Board  
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Sent via email: [licensing@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:licensing@nwb-oen.ca)

**Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) reply to Nunavut Water Board's (NWB) request for update on parties' discussions with Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (AEM) on In-Pit Tailings Deposition – Meadowbank Gold Mine Project under AEM's Type "A" Water Licence No. 2AM-MEA1526.**

Dear Ms. Kubeisinova,

Thank-you for the email notice, received on November 26, 2018, requesting an update on parties' discussions with AEM concerning in-pit tailings deposition at the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project.

CIRNAC has three outstanding concerns in regard to the in-pit tailings disposal. The three concerns pertain to: thermal monitoring and hydrogeological connectivity; flooding strategy; and Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan and the associated closure cost estimate (Security). As in-pit tailings disposal significantly changes the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project that was licensed by the NWB, CIRNAC deems the outstanding concerns significant and requests corresponding changes to existing designs and applicable management plans be approved by the NWB prior to deposition of tailings into the Portage or Goose Pits.

On September 25, 2018, CIRNAC participated in the meeting with AEM and Natural Resources Canada discussing hydrogeology and permafrost concerns related to the Meadowbank in-pit tailings disposal. CIRNAC is awaiting the results of the hydrogeological model Version 4 with the updated thermal data and boundary conditions to assess if the thermal monitoring and hydrogeological connectivity concerns are resolved.



In AEM's in-pit tailings disposal responses to interested parties' final concerns, submitted to the NWB on August 31, 2018, AEM wrote "*Agnico Eagle will discuss with CIRNAC the three outstanding concerns for further clarification and will provide a more detailed response to the Board on these topics as soon as possible*". To date, AEM has not contacted CIRNAC to address the aforementioned concerns which remain outstanding.

CIRNAC will continue to work with AEM and the NWB to resolve the outstanding concerns. If you have any questions or require further information with respect to this matter, contact me at (867) 975-3877 or email [michelle.blade@canada.ca](mailto:michelle.blade@canada.ca), or Ian Parsons at (867) 222-9278 or email [ian.parsons@canada.ca](mailto:ian.parsons@canada.ca).

Regards,

Michelle Blade

Regional Coordinator, Water Resource Division – CIRNAC, NRO