ECCC File: 6100 000 008/019

NWB File: 2AM-MEA1526

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate Prairie & Northern Region 5019 52nd Street, 4th Floor P.O. Box 2310 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

January 31, 2019

via email at: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Richard Dwyer Manager of Licensing **Nunavut Water Board** P.O. Box 119 Gioa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Richard Dwyer:

RE: 2AM-MEA1526 – Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Mine Project – Responses to ECCC Technical Review Comments for the Type A Water Licence Amendment

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) regarding the above-mentioned responses to ECCC's technical review comments. ECCC is satisfied with the Proponent's responses, and will not have any further technical review comments for this Water Licence Amendment. The remaining uncertainties with sediment (tailings) arsenic behaviour and/or the need for sequestration with rock cover can be addressed through ongoing monitoring and development of the final closure plan.

If the NWB determines a Public Hearing is not necessary and the requirements of the *Nunavut* Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act Section 52 (2) are adhered to, ECCC would be comfortable with the cancellation of the Public Hearing. This process ensures that all interested parties and local communities are given an opportunity to be heard before a decision is made to forgo the Public Hearing requirement.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4732 or Emily.Nichol@canada.ca.

Sincerely,

[original signed by]

Emily Nichol Environmental Assessment Coordinator

Georgina Williston, A/Manager, Prairie and Northern Region CC:

