



AGNICO EAGLE

August 25th, 2015

Christine Wilson
Water Resource Officer
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
Development Canada
Nunavut Regional Office
969 Qimugjuk Building, P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0

**Re: 2AM-MEA0815: Agnico Eagle Mines Meadowbank Gold Project response to the
AANDC Water Licence Inspection Report dated July 24th, 2015**

Dear Ms. Wilson,

The following information is provided in response to comments and recommendations made in your 2AM-MEA08515 Water Licence Inspection report dated July 24th, 2015.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the below.

Regards,

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- 1- **The Licensee shall submit a copy of the revised 2015 version of the Landfarm Design and Management Plan to the inspector upon completion.**

AEM response: As it is stated in the Management Plan "The LDMP will be reviewed and updated at least annually, if necessary". AEM will complete the 2015 work plan and will determine after that if any revisions to the plan are necessary. It should be noted that the NWB approved the Feb 2013 Version 3 of the Plan as part of the renewed water license that was sent to the Minister for signing. Future revisions will be in accordance with Part B, Item 16 of the renewed water license.

- 2- **As per Part E Item 9, the inspector requests to review a copy of the weekly inspection records for the Eastern diversion ditch/Vault road culverts on the date of discovery of the incident (approximately June 7th, 2015).**

AEM response: See Appendix A below. As per the freshet action plan, AEM is to conduct daily inspection of this area from May until freshet is completed. Once the freshet is done, AEM is to conduct weekly inspection and after rain event. Please refer to report "Elevated TSS in the water running under Vault Road (culvert) toward Lake NP-1" submitted on June 9 and the "Response to KIA inspection report" submitted on dated July 13.

- 3- **The Inspector requests further correspondence on monitoring station ST-6's location and the reported results.**

AEM response: The ST-6 sampling is conducted outside the maritime barrier and these results are reported to authorities on a monthly basis via the NWB report. During the freshet period or after rain events, environmental technicians conduct daily inspections of the area and if they observe elevated TSS in the water a sample is taken to the on-site lab (non accredited). Samples are taken both inside the barrier (ditch) and outside the barrier. The reason for taking two samples is to determine the efficiency of the barrier in preventing elevated TSS from reaching Third Portage Lake. Confirmatory samples are also sent to our accredited lab in Val D'Or. When the freshet period has ended, only one sample is taken outside the barrier. AEM will continue to provide the result of ST-6 station outside maritime barrier as we consider the result representative of the water reaching TPL.

- 4- **The Licensee shall include the ST-16 Till Plug in the Annual Geotechnical Inspection as discussed in Part I Item 12.**

AEM response: Starting in 2015, the Annual Geotechnical Inspection will include the ST-16 Till plug. Results from this inspection will be provided as part of the 2015 Annual report.



AGNICO EAGLE

- 5- A section of the rock barrier has been removed near door A/cyanide destruction area of the Mill to allow for drainage of the road. The Inspector is concerned with possibility of contaminated water and the location of this drainage way as it is very near to Third Portage Lake.

AEM response: As of July 30, 2015, the area described by the Inspector was recapped (see Figure 1 below) and no additional sections of the rock barrier will be removed in the future. If AEM needs to remove, in the future, a section to allow for road drainage this will be done in a section where water can be collected by the Mill seepage Trench downstream (constructed as corrective measure for the Mill seepage). This will prevent any drainage water that may be contaminated from reaching Third Portage Lake.



Figure 1: Concerned section of the rock barrier berm that was refilled with material





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APPENDIX A



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Date	Observation	Photo	
07/06/2015	More turbid due to mud, flow increased.		
08/06/2015	Installation of Turbidity Barrier.		
09/06/2015	Installation of Turbidity Barrier. Notification sent to regulator for June 7 (first day where we observed elevated TSS)		