



Your file - Votre référence
2AM-MEA1525

August 4, 2016

Our file - Notre référence
IQALUIT-#1086978

Licensing Department
Nunavut Water Board
GJOA HAVEN, NU X0B 1J0

Sent via email: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Re: 2015 Annual Report Review, Nunavut Water Board Water Licence No. 2AM-MEA1525

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for providing an opportunity to review the Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s 2015 Annual Report for its Meadowbank Gold Mine. A memorandum is provided for the Nunavut Water Board's consideration. Comments and recommendations have been provided pursuant to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada's mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act*.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 867-975-4555 or email at David.Abernethy@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca for further information.

Sincerely,

David Abernethy
Regional Coordinator
Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
IQALUIT, NU X0A 0H0

Encl.

Cc. Stéphane Robert, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.

Memorandum

To: Licensing Department, Nunavut Water Board

From: David Abernethy, Regional Coordinator, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Cc: Stéphane Robert, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.

Date: August 4, 2016

Re: 2015 Annual Report Review, Nunavut Water Board Water Licence No. 2AM-MEA1525

Licensee: Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
Project: Meadowbank Gold Mine
Region: Kivalliq

A. Background

On June 3, 2016, the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Boar) distributed a 2015 Annual Report that Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM or Licensee) prepared pursuant to Part B, Item 2 of its Type A Water Licence for the Meadowbank Gold Mine, 2AM-MEA1525. Interested parties were asked to provide comments on this submission by July 4, 2016. This deadline was subsequently extended to August 4, 2016 following two separate extension requests made by Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC or the Department).

B. Results of review

On behalf of INAC's Water Resources Division, the following comments and recommendations are provided.

1. Departmental Comments Submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) on June 6, 2016

Reference:

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada. *Re: Comment Request for Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Meadowbank Gold Project 2015 Annual Report*. From Mr. James Neary, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, to Ms. Sophia Granchinho, Nunavut Impact Review Board. File No. 5510-5-3-9. June 6, 2016.

- <ftp://ftp.nirb.ca/03-MONITORING/03MN107-MEADOWBANK%20GOLD%20MINE/03-ANNUAL%20REPORTS/02-PROPONENT/2015/03-COMMENTS/160606-03MN107-INAC%20Comments->

Comment:

Attached are comments that the Department provided to the NIRB on June 6, 2016 pertaining to the submitted annual report. Most of the comments are relevant to the current NWB review exercise.

Recommendation:

INAC recommends that the Licensee respond to the comments provided in the Department's June 6, 2016 letter to both the NIRB and the NWB.

2. Cover Letter to Annual Geotechnical Engineer's Report

Reference:

- Nunavut Water Board. *Water Licence No. 2AM-MEA1525*. Issued to Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. Part I, Item 11 (p. 19), July 23, 2015.

Comment:

Part I, Item 11 of NWB Water Licence No. 2AM-MEA1525 states that "the Licensee shall submit to the Board as part of the Annual Report, the Geotechnical Engineer's Inspection Report. The Report shall include a cover letter from the Licensee outlining an implementation plan to address the recommendations of the Geotechnical Engineer."

Although the Licensee provided a 2015 Geotechnical Engineer's Inspection Report (Appendix B1 of the Annual Report), a cover letter outlining an implementation plan to address the recommendations of the Geotechnical Engineer cannot be found.

Recommendation

INAC recommends that the Licensee provide a letter outlining how it will address recommendations included in the 2015 Geotechnical Engineer's Inspection Report by September 30, 2016.