



February 26, 2025

Nunavut Water Board
Karén Kharatyan
PO Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Re: Meadowbank Mine Vault Distribution Line – Operational Activity to Manage Water

Dear Mr. Kharatyan,

Following the discussion between the Nunavut Water Board (NWB), Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), and Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle) on February 20, 2025 the following provides our assessment on the activity associated with the water distribution line at the Meadowbank Mine.

The objective of the distribution line is to transfer contact water from Portage pits to the bottom of Vault Pit within an area of our approved footprint. After this objective is achieved, the water distribution line will no longer be required and will be dismantled. Agnico Eagle does not believe a full assessment is needed and as discussed the activity is part of standard operating procedures within a mine site to maintain water management and operations. For context, there is already approximately 155 km of linear infrastructure at the Meadowbank Complex; the Vault water distribution line is not a major increase to the multiple water lines as part of mine operations.

At the request of the NWB and CIRNAC, Agnico Eagle has completed a self-assessment for the Vault distribution line and considers the activity to not be significant. As noted in Part A, Scope 1 of the Water Licence No: 2AM-MEA1530, Agnico Eagle is authorized to use waters and deposit waste in support of the Mining Undertaking within the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project and infrastructure used by the Whale Tail Pit Project. The scope of activities approved within the licence pertaining to the Vault distribution line includes:

- Authorization to manage construction and operation of contact and non-contact water management system activities (i.e., water line between pits)
- Progressive Reclamation and Abandonment planning of on-site facilities and infrastructure.

Based on the outcome of the NuPPAA s.90 factors self-assessment presented in Table 1, Agnico Eagle considers that the nature, magnitude, complexity, probability, frequency, and duration of the impacts for the Vault distribution line are low to negligible changes as compared to the approved activities. Our conclusion is that this application would be a non-significant modification. We acknowledge the Water Management Plan would have to be updated and will be submitted to NWB (as per Part B, Item 16 of the Water Licence) within 60 days of approval of this notice.

Our conclusion is that the Vault distribution line would be a non-significant modification and does not need an assessment by the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

Table 1: Agnico Eagle NuPPAA Section 90 Self-Assessment

NuPPAA Section 90 Factors	Results of Agnico Eagle Self-Assessment
(a) the size of the geographic area, including the size of wildlife habitats, likely to be affected by the impacts	The geographic area for the land activities is within the approved mine footprint as assessed in the 2005 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). There is no increase in size to the mine footprint or spatial boundaries. Therefore, there is no additional impacted geographical area. The proposed activities will occur within the area previously included in the NPC's positive conformity determination, assessed by NIRB, and licensed by the NWB.
(b) the ecosystemic sensitivity of that area	The temporary Vault distribution line will be within a previously assessed area where mining has already occurred and do not cause impacts to ecosystemically sensitive areas.
(c) the historical, cultural and archaeological significance of that area	The proposed activities will result in a negligible change in impacts to an area of historical, cultural, or archaeological significance. The temporary Vault distribution line will be within a previously assessed area where mining and development has already occurred.
(d) the size of the human and the animal populations likely to be affected by the impacts	The proposed activities are not expected to result in changes to impacts on human and animal populations.
(e) the nature, magnitude and complexity of the impacts	The nature, magnitude, and complexity of the impacts are similar to those assessed in the 2005 FEIS (average discharge of 0.5 Mm ³ /year, during the open water season, from Vault Pit, to Vault Attenuation Pond, to Wally Lake). The temporary Vault distribution line will be within a previously assessed area where mining and development has already occurred. The temporary Vault distribution line is common linear infrastructure used at the Meadowbank Complex.
(f) the probability of the impacts occurring	The probability of the impacts occurring are similar to those assessed in the 2005 FEIS; proposed activities (water transfer among pits) do not change the probability of these impacts. The temporary Vault distribution line will be within a previously assessed area where mining and development has already occurred. The temporary Vault distribution line is a common linear infrastructure used at the Meadowbank Complex, with management plans to outline monitoring and mitigation. From the 2005 FEIS, effluent discharge to Wally Lake is expected to have a negligible effect on the water balance and water quality of the receiving environment.
(g) the frequency and duration of the impacts	The frequency and duration of the impacts are within those assessed in the 2005 FEIS. Water would be transferred seasonally (i.e., open-water, or non-frozen conditions) and over a relatively short duration (~ 6 years) which indicates an insignificant project impact.
(h) the reversibility or irreversibility of the impacts	The reversibility or irreversibility of the impacts are within those assessed in the 2005 FEIS.
(i) the cumulative impacts that could result from the impacts of the project combined with those of any other project that has been carried out, is being carried out or is likely to be carried out	The proposed activities will result in negligible change to the cumulative impacts.
(j) any other factor that the Board considers relevant to the assessment of the significance of impacts	None identified to date.

Closure

Agnico Eagle thanks the NWB for their time and discussion on this subject and would appreciate a decision from the Board in a timely manner to maintain operational activities. If you require any further information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Colleen Prather
Permitting & Regulatory Affairs Superintendent
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited