

January 14, 2010

Via Email

Mr. Richard Dwyer
Licensing Administrator
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0
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Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Re: Water License 2AM-MEA0815 Executive Summary Translations

On November 16, 2009, Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited - Meadowbank Division (AEM) received letters of approval from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) for the Operational Acid Rock Drainage and Metal Leaching (ARD/ML) Testing and Sampling Plan, Version 1 under 2AM-MEA0815 Part I, Item 4 and for the Sewage Treatment Plant Operation and Maintenance Manual Version 1, under 2AM-MEA0815 Part D, Item 19. The NWB also requested, for both of these plans, the submission of an Executive Summary with an Inuktitut translation. Please find the following documents attached to satisfy this request:

- ARD/ML Testing and Sampling Plan, Version 1 Executive Summary with Inuktitut Translation; and
- Sewage Treatment Plant Operation and Maintenance Manual Version 1 Executive Summary with Inuktitut Translation.

Additional comments from interested parties will be incorporated into the next revision of each plan as required by 2AM-MEA0815 Part B, Item 20.

Should you require any further information, please contact me directly at 819-763-0229 or via email at stephane.robert@agnico-eagle.com.

Regards,



Stéphane Robert
Environment Superintendent

cc: David Abernethy, INAC

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Rotary Biological Contactor (RBC) sewage treatment system has been installed at Meadowbank. Three RBC units have been purchased and installed at site; the Seprotech L333 Rotordisk model, and two Biodisk LJ100 units. These units are designed to remove organic material and nutrients from the wastewater (sewage and greywater). The Meadowbank RBC units are housed within an insulated tank with an insulated cover and are equipped with immersion heaters to ensure efficient operation under Northern temperature conditions. During mine operations, the treated water and sludge will be co-disposed with the mill tailings into the tailings impoundment area.

Approximately 45,000 L to 65,000 L of sewage and grey water is generated at site each day. All sewage and greywater generated at Meadowbank is drained by gravity pipelines to a specific lifting station, then pumped through a heat traced insulated pipeline to the STP equalization tank. In addition to the sewage generated at the mine, a sewage truck picks up sewage daily from a 10,000 gallon storage tank at the exploration camp.

Sewage sludge will be drawn through sludge ports on the bottom of the primary settling tank on an as needed basis and pressed into solid “hockey pucks”. These pucks will be incinerated or co-disposed of in the tailings impoundment area.

AEM recognizes that in order to keep a properly functioning STP, particular items must not be allowed to enter, or at least be minimized, in the STP influent. Two such products, and the process AEM uses to prevent or reduce these items in the STP influent, are described below.

- The kitchen at Meadowbank is equipped with a grease trap to separate and collect grease from the kitchen greywater. The grease trap is manually cleaned to keep this material out of the sewage treatment plant influent and the recovered grease incinerated.
- The camp rules and purchasing practices prohibit anti-bacterial soap products from being used on site to protect the biological activity in the RBC units.

A daily inspection of the sewage collection system, heat traced pipelines, and treatment plant is conducted to ensure there are no spills or incidents to report. Maintenance inspections and repairs, if necessary, of bearings, pumps and hoses in the STP are conducted weekly. Regular monthly maintenance of the RBC units includes applying grease to all of the bearings. An inspection of the chain linkage in the RBC units will be conducted every 6 months and the gear oil changed. On an annual basis, each of the tanks will be pumped out for maintenance and cleaning purposes. Records of the operational and maintenance and sampling procedures are kept daily in order to assist in the evaluation of the effectiveness of the sewage treatment plant.

Water quality sampling of the input and final discharges from the Seprotech and Biodisk RBC units is conducted weekly. Water samples are tested for Ammonia, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD₅), Faecal Coliforms, pH, Total Suspended Solids and Total Phosphate.

Employees working in the STP facility must be trained prior to commencement of work so that they are aware of the health and safety risks associated with the STP. The following two absolute points of compliance are part of that training:

- No person is to drink the water in the plant or the water that is discharged from it; and
- Working with sewage requires adequate protection for operators. This includes wearing steel toed boots, hard hat, safety vest, protective goggles and protective gloves.

Access to the STP at Meadowbank is restricted to authorized personnel only. In case of fire or in the event of a spill at the STP, the on-site emergency response team would be notified as per AEM protocol. In an emergency situation, the overflow tank would be capable of accepting overflow from the system for up to 24 hours. The following contingent measures can be applied by AEM in the event of an RBC malfunction at the Meadowbank Sewage Treatment Plant for more than 24 hours:

- Cut back on allowable camp water until the malfunction is corrected and use the equalization tank to retard the peak flow to the remaining RBC unit;
- Shut down the malfunctioning RBC unit until the malfunction is repaired and use only one of the two parallel units until repairs are completed; and
- Shut down all water use in the camp until the repairs are complete.

Operational manuals for each of the STP plants are attached as appendices.

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