



Nunavut Regional Office
Operations Directorate
Water Resources Division
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November 20, 2008

via Email

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

CIDMS File: 9545-2-2.2AM.MEAA
CIDMS # 281868

**SUBJECT Water License #2AM-MEA0815, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.,
 Meadowbank Gold Project, Submission of East Dike Technical
 Specifications**

Dear Richard,

Please be advised that on behalf of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), I have completed a review of the above-referenced August 6, 2008 Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM) submission to the Nunavut Water Board as required (stated in your Oct 23, 2008 letter to parties) by Part D, Item #2 of water license #2AM-MEA0815.

A Technical Memorandum with comments / recommendations is provided for the Board's consideration in the approval of this plan.

Should you have any questions regarding my comments / recommendations, feel free to contact me at 867-975-4555 or AbernethyD@inac-ainc.gc.ca.

Regards,
David W. Abernethy
Regional Coordinator

Cc. Kevin Buck, Manager of Water Resources
 Bernie MacIsaac, Manager of Field Operations
 Phyllis Beaulieu, Nuavut Water Board

Technical Review Memorandum

To: Richard Dwyer

From: David Abernethy

Re: Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM), Meadowbank Gold Project, "East Dike Technical Specifications," submitted to the Nunavut Water Board on August 6, 2008.

DESCRIPTION

AEM submitted the above referenced technical specifications to the Board on August 6, 2008. The Board subsequently posted this submission on their public registry on October 23, 2008 and requested interested parties to review and/or comment on or before November 21, 2008. In its distribution letter, the Board stated that the East Dike Technical Specifications were submitted as a requirement of Part D, Item #2 of water license #2AM-MEA0815.

The following documents were reviewed when preparing this technical review memorandum:

- Golder Associates. *Meadowbank Gold Project East Dike Technical Specifications*. August 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-00, East Dike Location Map and Drawing Index, Issued for Construction. July 31, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-01, East Dike Site Plan, Issued for Construction. July 31, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-02, Borehole Location Plan, Issued for Construction. August 1, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-03, East Dike Rockfill Setout Plan, Issued for Construction. August 1, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-04, East Dike Rockfill Layout Plan (1 of 3), Issued for Construction. July 31, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-05, East Dike Rockfill Layout Plan (2 of 3), Issued for Construction. July 31, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-06, East Dike Rockfill Layout Plan (3 of 3), Issued for Construction. July 31, 2008;

- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-10, East Dike Typical Sections and Details. , Issued for Construction. July 31, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-11, East Dike Cross Sections, Issued for Construction. August 1, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-14, East Dike Centreline Profile, Issued for Construction. July 31, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-15, East Dike Abutment Detail, Issued for Construction. August 1, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-16, East Dike Instrumentation Plan, Issued for Construction. July 31, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-17, East Dike Instrumentation Typical Section and Grouting Plan, Issued for Construction. August 1, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-22, West Channel Dike Plan, Issued for Construction. August 1, 2008;
- Golder Associates. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project, Drawing #2100-23, West Channel Dike Profile and Section, Issued for Construction. August 1, 2008; and,
- Larry Connell, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. *Meadowbank East Dike Construction TSS and Turbidity Issue Update*. Emailed to Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board. August 22, 2008.

COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The following comments / recommendations are provided to the Board for consideration in the approval of this submission.

1. Submission's Relevance to Part D, Item #2 of the License

This license conditions reads:

The Licensee shall submit to the Board for approval, at least six (6) months prior to Construction of the Saddle Dams, Goose Island Dewatering Dike and Vault Dewatering Dike, final design and construction drawings accompanied by a detailed assessment report from the Independent Geotechnical Expert Review Panel.

This license condition makes no reference to construction of the East Dike, yet AEM's submission relates to modifications to the East Dike's construction. This is confusing as the submission and the License condition appear unrelated.

After review of the relevant information INAC cannot provide comments and/or recommendations on this submission. The reason for this is that after discussion with Larry Connell of AEM it was determined that the East Dike has, for the most part been constructed. Therefore any recommendations would be moot at this point. From a review of the documents on the Board's Public Registry it is unclear if the East Dike construction was approved by the Board (approved during hearing?). It does appear that standard engineering practice was implemented during the construction of the dike however this would be subject to a comprehensive review by the Geotechnical Expert Review Panel. Mr Connell has informed INAC that this modification was reviewed by the "Panel."

2. Professional Engineering Approval

Part D, Item #1 of the license reads:

"All final design and construction drawings shall be stamped and signed by a Professional Engineer."

The submitted construction drawings for the East Dike are not stamped and signed by a Professional Engineer as required by this license condition. AEM must ensure that all final design and construction drawings for the East Dike are approved and stamped by a Professional Engineer. Copies of all final drawings should be submitted to the Board.

Prepared by David W. Abernethy