



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

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November 16, 2009

Our file *Notre référence*
NU-03-0191
Other Approvals-s. 30:
Freshwater Intake-Emulsion Plant

Rachel Lee Gould, M.Sc.
Environmental Coordinator
Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited - Meadowbank Division
P.O. Box 540; Baker Lake, Nunavut
X0C 0A0

via email: r.gould@agnico-eagle.com

Dear Ms. Gould:

Subject: Section 30 Approval- Emulsion Plant- Proposal not likely to result in impacts to fish and fish habitat.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) has reviewed correspondence and supporting documentation for a freshwater intake for the emulsion plant of the Meadowbank Gold Project.

Your proposal has been reviewed to determine whether it is likely to result in impacts to fish and fish habitat which are prohibited by the habitat protection provisions of the *Fisheries Act* or those prohibitions of the *Species at Risk Act* that apply to aquatic species.

It is our understanding that your proposal consists of:

- Installing a freshwater intake in the unnamed lake northwest of the emulsion plant, approximately 73 metres from shore in approximately 4 metres of water suspended in the water column at a depth of 3 metres.
- Withdrawing water intermittently as required with an expected average use of 6.5 m³ per day.
- Utilizing an intake screen of 2mm x 16mm.
- Biannual maintenance to inspect and clean the fish screen and intake pump.

As outlined in the following plan:

- Meadowbank Gold Project – Application for Water Intake Pipe Authorization for the Emulsion Plant.

Provided that your plans are implemented as described, DFO has concluded that your proposal is not likely to result in impacts to fish and fish habitat since the pumping and withdrawal rates are limited. The proposed screen size should be acceptable so that fish should not be impinged or entrained.

You will not need to obtain a formal approval from DFO in order to proceed with this proposal.

Please notify this office at least 10 days before starting the work. A copy of this letter should be kept on site while the work is in progress.

If the plans have changed or if annual maintenance provides evidence of fish entrainment or impingement you should contact this office to determine if the advice in this letter still applies.

This letter does not permit the deposit of a deleterious substance (section 36 of the *Fisheries Act*) into waters frequented by fish nor does it permit the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat (section 35 of the *Fisheries Act*). It is your responsibility to obtain any other federal, territorial, or municipal approvals.

Should you have any questions please contact Dave Balint at (519) 668-2132, or by email at Dave.Balint@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Yours sincerely,



Eric Kan
Area Director
Fisheries and Oceans Canada- Eastern Arctic Area

Copy

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