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Winnipeg, MB
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June 28, 2016

Our file Notre référence
03-HCAA-CA7-00191

Nunavut Water Board
c/o Ida Porter
PO Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU
X0B 1J0

Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
c/o Stéphane Robert
Manager, Regulatory Affairs
10200 Route de Preissac
Rouyn-Noranda, QC
J0Y 1C0

Dear Ms. Porter and Mr. Robert:

Subject: Meadowbank Gold Mine Project, NU.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) – Fisheries Protection Program (the Program) has reviewed the following recent submissions from Agnico Eagle Mines (AEM) and provided comments respectively pursuant to our mandate upon request from the Nunavut Water Board:

- 2015 Annual Report – Meadowbank Gold Mine Project
 - See attached DFO review comments submitted to the NIRB and AEM on May 13, 2016
- June 18, 2016 Management Plan submission prior to new construction as is required under Part D Item 5 of the NWB Type A Water Licence 2AM-MEA1525 regarding a Final Water Quality Monitoring and Management Plan for Dike Construction and Dewatering.
 - DFO could not locate reference to AEM adhering to DFO's mitigation measures as they apply to Freshwater Intake Screening Guidelines <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Library/223669.pdf>; and, <http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures/measures-mesures-eng.html>
 - DFO requests AEM ensure these measures are adhered to in order to avoid causing serious harm to fish.
- June 20, 2016 Modification Vault Pit Review under Part G for Water Licence 2AM-MEA1525 regarding water management



- DFO agrees with INAC's recommendation #8 to provide for the cost estimate of closure activities including pit reflooding, water quality monitoring, ground contouring and scarifying disturbed areas as they relate to the expansion of the Vault Pit into Phaser Lake. AEM has stated that 'no major additional costs at closure are expected as a result of the planned modification to the Vault Pit and ancillary works.'
- AEM provided DFO the following relevant cost estimates in their 2013 NNLP Cost Estimate:
 - Re-flood the Vault Pit \$571,440
 - Breach Vault Dike \$146,146
 - Rock excavation \$223,961
- The above listed items total \$941,547 plus the cost of water quality monitoring and any other associated items. As the costs associated with the closure and reclamation at Phaser Lake are not insignificant and will be coordinated between INAC and DFO, DFO requests AEM provide this information in the most recent version of RECLAIM.

If your plans have changed or if the description of your proposal is incomplete or changes during the review of your application, you should contact this office to avoid any unnecessary delays in the review of your application.

If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Patreau at (204)983-2361, or by email at Elizabeth.Patreau@dfo-mpo.gc.ca. Please refer to the file number referenced above when corresponding with the Program.

Sincerely,

Martyn Curtis
A/Regional Manager, Regulatory Reviews
Fisheries Protection Program

cc. Elizabeth Patreau– DFO
INAC

ATTACHMENT(S): DFO Letter to AEM and NIRB May 13, 2016 re Meadowbank 2015 Annual Report