



Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie & Northern Region
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June 30, 2016

ECCC File: 6100 000 008/012
NWB File: 2AM-MEA1525

Karen Kharatyan
A/Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Via email: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

**RE: 2AM-MEA1525 – Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meadowbank Gold Project –
Management Plan Submission Prior to New Construction**

Attention: Karen Kharatyan

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) regarding the above-mentioned management plan submission. ECCC's specialist advice is provided based on our mandate, in the context of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

The following comments are provided:

1. The "Management Plan submission prior to new construction" is an addendum to the March 2010 Water Quality Monitoring and Management Plan for Dike Construction and Dewatering, which is difficult to access on the NWB ftp site. To be more useful, the addendum should be standalone for key information, and should include Figure 12 from the original Plan showing the Standard Operating Procedure for suspended sediment monitoring and management. At a minimum, a link to the original Plan should be included.
2. For the use of turbidity as a field surrogate for Total Suspended Solids (TSS) measurement, reference should be made to how the site-specific turbidity-TSS

relationship will be established. Quality Assurance/Quality Control practices should be referenced.

3. Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. is planning to start dewatering July 2016. The dewatering plan should identify any variation in practices for dewatering occurring during winter conditions in the event of a delay.
4. It is not stated how the lake level monitoring will be used to determine whether Wally Lake remains within natural variation. The original Plan does not provide details, and excerpts have just been reiterated for the Phaser dewatering. To demonstrate that the licence requirement can be met, the Plan should identify the high and low water elevations for Wally Lake, and how measurements will be compared.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4733 or Melissa.Pinto@canada.ca.

Sincerely,



Melissa Pinto
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Loretta Ransom, A/Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)
ECCC Review Team
Manon Turmel, Senior Environmental Compliance Technican, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
Jamie Quesnel, Environment Superintendent - Nunavut, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.