

January 10th, 2025

Subject: TSF Water Collection Pond Construction Start-Up

Agnico Eagle Meadowbank Complex would like to advise of its intent to start construction of a water management infrastructure located at the Meadowbank Mine, between the airstrip and the South Cell Tailings Storage Facility (TSF), in the former quarry used for the construction of the airstrip (referred to as Quarry 23) located within the Meadowbank Production Lease (KVPL08D280) as presented on Figure 1.

The infrastructure includes a water collection pond and a channel, and is part of progressive reclamation activities to ultimately close the TSF. The collection pond is required in operation to complete the final tailings deposition in the South Cell TSF, as an alternate reclaim water management infrastructure will be needed. The collection pond will also be required once the North and South Cells TSF cover will be in place, to collect the runoff water from the landform cover system. Water from the TSF will be discharged to the collection pond by a channel located on the north-east side of the pond, connecting it to the South Cell. Water accumulated in the collection pond during operation and early closure will be pumped to the open pits, until water quality meets the required criteria to be discharged to the environment, upon regulatory approval. The collection pond is also required for safe water management of the TSF runoff and to optimize management of site contact water for the end of operation and closure.

Figure 2 presents the general arrangement of the collection pond and the channel from the South Cell TSF. The total pond volume required is approximately 525,000 m³. The development of the collection pond will be done in two (2) phases. In 2025, the first phase of the pond will be constructed and have a capacity of approximately 315,200 m³. Complete design basis and criteria will be presented in the North and South Cell TSF cover landform and associated water management structure design, which will be included in the next version of the Closure and Reclamation Plan (CRP) in 2025. The second phase of the construction will be completed at a later date during operation.

The first construction activity will consist of drilling, blasting and excavation of the bedrock or frozen ground portion below the actual ground level for the collection pond. The channel between the South Cell TSF and the pond will also be blasted and excavated at a later stage this year. As the work will be completed mostly during winter, no water management measures are expected to be necessary during construction. If needed, sediment and erosion control measures will be put in place.

All non-acid generating (NAG) rockfill material excavated for the collection pond and channel construction will be used for various construction projects around site. If potentially acid generating (PAG) material is encountered, this material will be managed as per the operational standards following the Meadowbank Waste Rock and Tailings Management Plan (AEM, 2024). Standard

operating sampling and laboratory testing procedures will be put in place to determine PAG or NPAG material and ensure proper management during the excavation and disposal.

Agnico Eagle will use best blasting practices to ensure safety of the personnel, environment and of important infrastructures located close to the work site. Third Portage Lake is the closest water body to the construction work and is located approximately 350 m away. Since this activity is close to a water body, Agnico Eagle has developed a blast monitoring program, including methods for the monitoring and the development of the mitigation actions. The blast monitoring program was sent for review and approval by the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO). DFO approved the blast monitoring program on January 7th, 2025.

Agnico Eagle is of the opinion that the proposed work is part of the progressive closure activities presented in the Meadowbank Interim Closure Reclamation Plan – 2019 Update (ICRP) as well as described in section 9 of the 2023 Annual Report. As per condition 5, Part J of the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) Water License 2AM-MEA1530, progressive reclamation, including progressive covering of the tailings, is recommended.

As-built drawings of the infrastructure will be provided in the Meadowbank Annual Report.

The work described above is expected to start around January 20th, 2025, based on site and weather conditions. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Eric Haley
Environment & Critical Infrastructures Superintendent

Figure 1 – General work area for the construction of the water management infrastructure

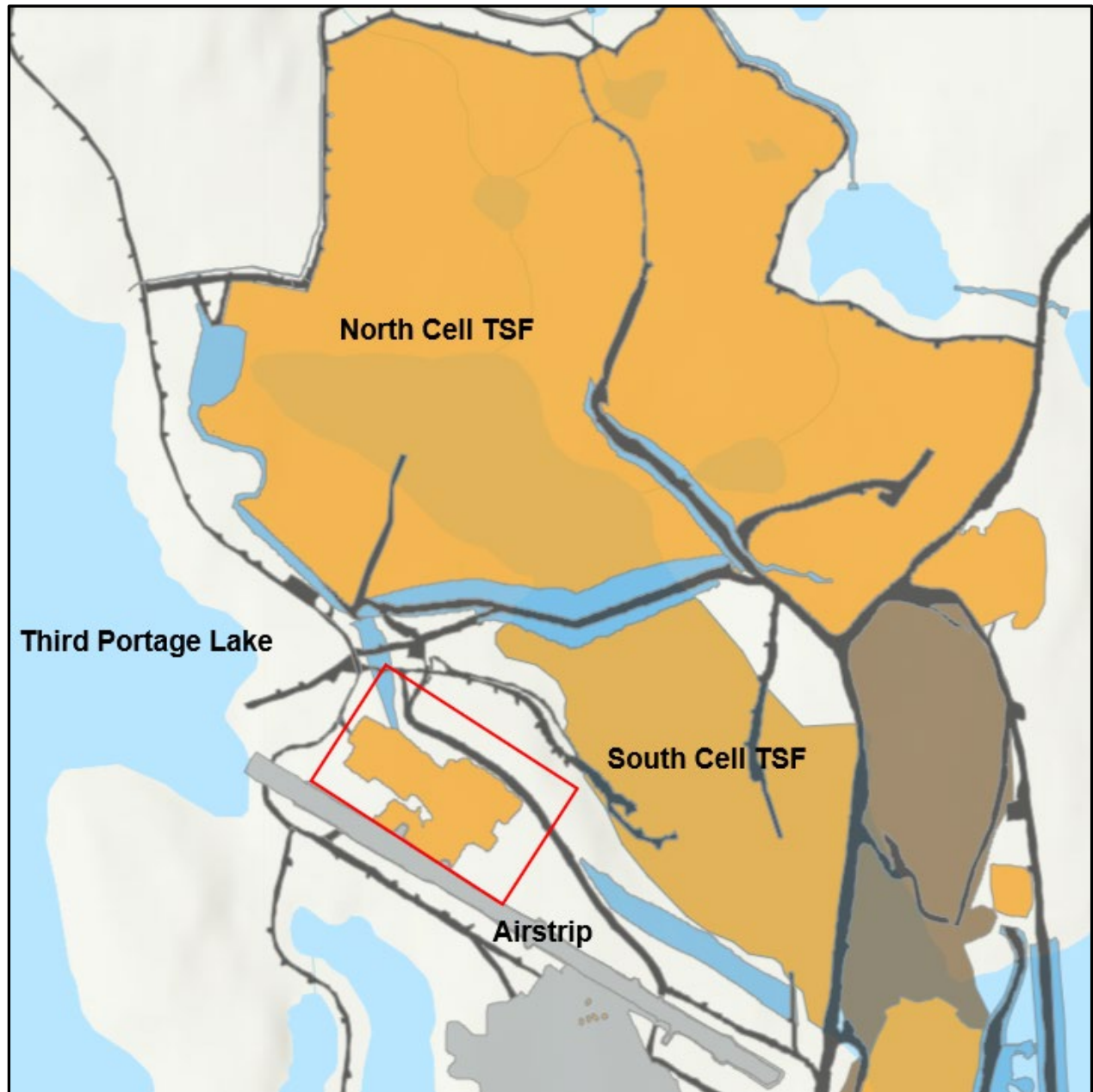


Figure 2 - General arrangement of the collection pond and the channel

