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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File: 2AM-MEA0815/F10

March 4, 2009

By Email and Regular Mail

Stéphane Robert
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Subject: Agnico-Eagle Mines (AEM) Limited; Submission of an “Incinerator Waste Management Plan” for the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project; Water Licence 2AM-MEA0815

Dear Ms. Gould;

The Nunavut Water Board (“NWB”) would like to acknowledge the receipt on October 6, 2008 of the above document under Part F, Item 10 of Licence 2AM-MEA0815. The document was distributed for review to interested parties on October 21, 2008. Environment Canada (EC) and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) provided expert advice with respect to several aspects of the plan. Taking into consideration the information submitted and the comments received by interested parties, the NWB hereby accepts and approves the Incineration Waste Management Plan under **Motion 2008-17-A1-05**, dated **February 19, 2009**.

As a condition of the approval, the Licensee is to address comments and recommendations provided during the review and comment period in a revision or addendum to the “Incinerator Waste Management Plan” within ninety (90) days of this letter or within the Annual Report, due no later than March 31, 2009. Please refer to EC’s submission dated November 21, 2008 and INAC’s submission dated November 20, 2008. These comments include:

- i. Revisions to the Environmental Management System;
- ii. Ash testing and disposal;
- iii. Waste oil and fuel testing;
- iv. Reporting;
- v. The Meadowbank Gold Project site plan;
- vi. Incineration of sewage sludge and dead animals;
- vii. Burning of waste oil and waste fuel for space heat;
- viii. The process flowchart for incineration and recycling;
- ix. Information referred to in Appendix I;
- x. Mixing of various streams to obtain optimum heat content;
- xi. Weigh scales;
- xii. Equipment for monitoring and reporting;
- xiii. Operational data record keeping; and
- xiv. Annual report template.

Further to INAC's comment on Section 1 of the Plan which states that the Plan will be reviewed annually and updated every two years, INAC recommended that the Plan be revised when necessary rather than every two years to ensure that project staff and interested parties are kept aware of any changes to operations. The Licensee is also referred to Part B Item 20 of the Licence which requires the Licensee to review the Plans or Manuals referred to in the Licence as required by changes in operation and/or technology and modify the Plans or Manuals accordingly. Revisions to the Plans or Manuals are to be submitted in the form of an Addendum to be included with the Annual Report required by Part B Item 5, complete with a revisions list detailing where significant content changes are made.

Further to EC's comment on section 5.2 of the Plan which states that dead animals and sewage sludge are acceptable wastes for incineration, EC recommended that dead animals and sewage sludge should not be burned in batch incinerators that are typically used in remote camps. The Licensee is also referred to Part D Item 20 of the Licence, which requires the Licensee to direct all sludge removed from the Sewage Treatment Plant to the Incinerator prior to commissioning of the Tailings Storage Facility or, in the absence of an approved Manual, as per Part D Item 19 (Operations and Maintenance Manual for the Sewage Treatment Plant).

Finally, INAC commented on sections 3.3 and 6.3 of the Plan regarding incinerator ash testing, recommending that AEM ensure that all leachate from ash residues be analysed for all parameters listed in Schedule IV of the Government of Nunavut Environmental Guidelines for Industrial Waste Discharges. This comment also applies to section 3.5 and Table 3.1 of the Landfill Management Plan.

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (780) 443-4406, at your earliest convenience, or the Manager of Licensing at licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By:

David Hohnstein, C.E.T.
A/Director Technical Services

DH/tla

Cc: Meadowbank Distribution List