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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File: 2AM-MEA0815/TR/F16

January 19, 2010

Stéphane Robert
Environment Superintendent
Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division
20, Route 395, Cadillac, Quebec, J0Y 1C0
Email: stephane.robert@agnico-eagle.com

Subject: Comments regarding Part F, Item 16 Updated Water Management Plan and Mine Waste Management Plan.

Dear Mr. Robert,

Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited (AEM or Licensee) submitted the above-cited Plans on July 29 and October 30, 2009 respectively. The Plans were distributed to interested parties for review on November 2, 2009 and submissions have been received from the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment (GN-DOE), Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Environment Canada (EC) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO). These comments are available on the Nunavut Water Board's (NWB) ftp site, **Username: public, Password: registry** at the following link:

[ftp://nunavutwaterboard.org/1%20PRUC/2%20MINING%20AND%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MEA0815/3%20TECH/4%20WASTE%20DISP%20\(F\)/F16%20Mine%20Waste%20%26%20Water%20Managme nt%20Plan/](ftp://nunavutwaterboard.org/1%20PRUC/2%20MINING%20AND%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MEA0815/3%20TECH/4%20WASTE%20DISP%20(F)/F16%20Mine%20Waste%20%26%20Water%20Managme nt%20Plan/)

Prior to making a decision on whether or not to approve the Plans, the NWB would like to provide AEM with an opportunity to respond to the comments received. The deficiencies identified by parties with respect to the provisions of Part F, Item 16¹ of the water Licence are of particular concern. For example, INAC, EC, and GN-DOE noted the absence of a detailed ammonia management plan as required by Part F, Item 16(a). INAC and EC also noted the a field testing program for closure cover depth of the Tailings Storage Facility and Waste Rock Storage Facilities with consideration for climate change has not been provided as required by License condition Part F, Item 16 (c) or that a protocol for distinguishing seepage through facilities has not been provided as required by License condition Part F, Item 16 (d).

¹ The Licensee shall submit to the Board for approval, within six (6) months of Licence approval, a revised Mine Waste and Water Management Plan to include:

- a. Detailed Ammonia Management Plan;
- b. Integration of the Waste and Water Management Plan submitted under Water Licence 8BC-TEH0809, Part D Item 1;
- c. Field testing program for closure cover depth of the Tailings Storage Facility and Waste Rock Storage Facilities with consideration for climate change; and
- d. A protocol for distinguishing Seepage through facilities.

Given that the mine is in the process of commencing operations, a timely response to the comments submitted by INAC, EC, DFO and GN-DOE is requested by **January 29, 2010**. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Original Signed by:

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

DH/tla

Cc: Meadowbank Distribution list