

November 15, 2009

Via Email

David Hohnstein
Director technical services
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
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Dear David

Re: Meadowbank Gold Project - 2AM-MEA0815 - Response to Comments on Aquatic Effects Management Plan

In regards to the letter dated November 4, 2009 from the Nunavut Water Board, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM) would like to provide the following response.

AEM has reviewed the comments received from Environment Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans regarding the Aquatic Effects Management Plan (v2). Based on these comments, we concur that the plan does not meet the expectation of the regulators.

All regulators agree that the 'umbrella' approach to the plan is an efficient method of organization of all of the projects aquatic monitoring requirements. However, we understand that the AEMP has not been revised and redesigned based on their expectations. Nor have sufficient linkages between the various monitoring plans been provided. We also note that regulators were not consulted with the revisions made to the plan.

AEM began the redesign of the AEMP in the fall of 2008. A number of data gaps were identified for the statistical redesign of the water sampling program. Additional water quality samples have been collected throughout the 2009 year to fulfill our data requirements. The data analysis and interpretation phase is anticipated to be completed in the first quarter of 2010. Based on the comments from the regulators, we also expect new data gaps to be identified with the sediment and biological sampling programs at Meadowbank. The data gaps will be determined based on a full review of the AEMP comments by our consultants and in consultation with the regulators. The collection and analysis of these data must be conducted prior to the completion of the redesign of the AEMP.

Consequently, AEM is asking the Nunavut Water Board to extend the submission of the redesign of the AEMP until March 31, 2011. This will allow sufficient time to collect the required data and complete the analyses, provide the appropriate linkages to the various monitoring plans, and consult with all of the relevant regulators on the redesign process.

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Should you have any questions or concerns regarding our request, please contact the undersigned.

Regards,
Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division



Stéphane Robert
Environment Superintendent