

February 4, 2010

Via Email
David Hohnstein
Director Technical Services
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, Nunavut
X0B 1J0

Dear David,

Re: Meadowbank Gold Project - 2AM-MEA0815 - Response to Deadline for Submission of Revised Aquatic Effects Management Plan

In follow up to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) letter dated February 1, 2010 addressing the deadline for submission of a revised Aquatic Effects Management Plan (AEMP); Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM) respectfully offers the following in response:

1. AEM acknowledges that the AEMP serves an important monitoring tool and lays out the strategy for triggering adaptive management where required during the course of the mine's development. We understand that the AEMP previously submitted by AEM has not been developed with and has not met the expectations of the regulators (Environment Canada, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Indian and Northern Affairs of Canada and the Nunavut Water Board).
2. Consequently, AEM feels that it is important that it consults with these regulatory agencies before revising the AEMP. To this end, AEM has arranged a workshop with all of the appropriate regulatory agencies that will be held in Yellowknife on March 2 and 3, 2010. This workshop will allow AEM to fully understand the regulators' expectations and will provide a forum to discuss how to best develop an integrated framework to harmonize monitoring efforts between programs. It will also facilitate discussions on potential environmental changes related to AEM's pending commencement of operation and identify any concerns that may not be adequately addressed in the existing monitoring program.

AEMP respectfully requests that the NWB allow AEM 60 days following the completion of this March workshop to complete and submit a revised AEMP that incorporates the suggestions and input received from the regulatory agencies. We believe that this approach will benefit all parties and ultimately result in a better product. AEM recognizes the importance of this work and thus wants to get it right.

We also acknowledge the importance of getting this planning completed in sufficient time to ensure that the upcoming 2010 open water aquatic sampling programs incorporate potential changes and adjustments that may come from this workshop. We believe that this can be achieved through this extension to early May given that open water sampling will not commence until approximately mid-July, given the past experience with project lake ice-off.

Concerning the commencement of the operation, we are experiencing unforeseen delays in the installation of certain elements essential to the start of the mill operation. It is now expected that the mill will start to process ore in mid- February at a low rate and will ramp up to full production by mid-April.

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

cc: Anne Wilson, EC
Dave Balint, DFO
Lou-Ann Cornacchio, INAC
Stephen Hartman, KIA