

January 13, 2010

*Via Email*

Richard Dwyer  
Licensing Administrator  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU  
X0B 1J0

Dear Richard Dwyer

**Re: Meadowbank Gold Project – Laboratory Accreditation**

On November 26, 2009 Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM) wrote a letter to the NWB providing a status update on six of the conditions in water license 2AM-MEA0815.

Regarding the condition from Part I, item 23, AEM would like to provide an additional update.

The license condition and AEM's response in the November 26, 2009 letter are provided below.

***The Licensee shall file a letter with the Board confirming application for accreditation for the on-site environmental laboratory prior to commencing Operations.***

To date, the AEM on-site laboratory has not formally applied for accreditation. Laboratory accreditation in Canada is run by an organization called CALA (Canadian Association of Laboratory Accreditation); this organization was formerly called CAEAL (Canadian Association of Environmental and Analytical Laboratories). Under the CALA guidelines, a lab may not apply for accreditation until the lab has completed all of its required proficiency testing and passed its results. It is only under special circumstances that a lab will be allowed to apply without all of the proficiency testing results; the AEM on-site lab does not fall under the special circumstances category.

Proficiency testing under the CALA program occurs only twice per year, in April and October. As the AEM laboratory was not fully operating in April, we were forced to wait until October of this year to complete our proficiency testing.

The AEM on-site laboratory will seek accreditation for these parameters: Total Suspended Solids (TSS), pH, and gold. AEM has submitted samples for its proficiency testing. Samples for TSS and pH were sent to CALA on November 8, 2009. We anticipate receiving the results from our proficiency testing within 3 months, by the end of January 2010. At this time AEM will formally apply for laboratory accreditation.

All environmental samples will be sent to an external accredited laboratory for analysis, until such time that the laboratory receives its accreditation.

AEM has now received the results for all of its proficiency testing; all of the requested parameters received passing results. The Chief Assayer of the lab submitted our formal application for accreditation to CALA at the beginning of January. Attached is the letter of confirmation from CALA. We trust this meets the requirements of Condition Item 23 of Part I.

Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at [rgould@agnico-eagle.com](mailto:rgould@agnico-eagle.com).

Regards,  
**Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division**



Rachel Lee Gould, M.Sc.  
Environment Coordinator



**CALA**

Canadian Association for  
Laboratory Accreditation Inc.

Building Laboratory  
Excellence

Vers l'excellence  
dans les laboratoires

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January 13, 2010

CALA Membership #3648

Mr. Rod Hanson  
Meadowbank Process Plant Laboratory  
Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.  
Meadowbank Camp/Meadowbank Laboratory  
c/o Peter's Expediting  
Baker Lake, NU XOC OAO

Dear Mr. Hanson,

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of Meadowbank Process Plant Laboratory's application to the CALA Accreditation Program. This application confirms the laboratory's intent on seeking accreditation and undergoing a site visit to assess the conformance to the requirements of *ISO/IEC 17025 (General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories)*.

We have not yet completed our 2010 assessments schedule; we hope to have this completed in February 2010. We will advise you at that time of the site visit date.

Thank you,

Colleen M. Cotter  
Accreditation Manager



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