



NIRB File No. 11MN034

February 28, 2012

To: Meliadine Distribution List

Sent via email

Re: Guidelines for Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement for the "Meliadine Gold Mine" project

Dear Parties:

On December 16, 2011 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) distributed a request for public comments and advice on the Revised *Draft* Guidelines for Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s (the Proponent) Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the "Meliadine Gold Mine" project (NIRB File No. 11MN034). Following the receipt of comments submitted to the Board prior to January 20, 2012, the NIRB hosted an EIS Guidelines development workshop in Rankin Inlet on January 31, 2012 to allow for discussion of outstanding issues relating to the Revised Draft EIS Guidelines document.

The enclosed EIS Guidelines were issued to the Proponent on February 20, 2012 pursuant to section 12.5.2 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. The EIS Guidelines are intended to assist the Proponent in its development of an EIS submission which addresses the information requirements of the Review process for this proposed development.

During its ongoing development of the EIS Guidelines, the NIRB has incorporated, where appropriate, those public comments and advice it has received through written submissions and during the EIS Guidelines development workshop. An internal comment table that was developed during the NIRB's revision of the EIS Guidelines has been enclosed with this letter in order to provide a clear reference as to how and where comments were addressed throughout the document.

Furthermore, NIRB staff compiled notes which outlined the major discussion points which arose during the EIS Guidelines development workshop and whose purpose was to assist with revising the EIS Guidelines document. Please be advised that these notes will be distributed for the information of parties, once transcription is complete.

<p>At this time, the Board requests that those interested parties requiring a hard copy of the Proponents' future <i>draft</i> EIS submission provide their mailing addresses and the required number of copies to the NIRB on or before Tuesday, March 20, 2012.</p>
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The NIRB would like to thank all parties for their continued efforts toward ensuring an efficient and thorough assessment of the proposed Meliadine Gold Mine project. If you have any questions related to the NIRB's Review of this file, please contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Amanda Hanson
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Larry Connell, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.
John Whiteman, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.
Eric Lamontagne, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.

Enclosed: 1) Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Meliadine Gold Mine Project (*February 2012*)
2) EIS Guidelines Comment Table (*February 2012*)