



NIRB File No.: 11MN034
NWB File No.: 2AM-MEL----
AANDC File No.: 5510-5-28
DFO File No.: NU-11-0014
EC File No.: 4703 001 014

October 18, 2013

Meliadine Gold Distribution List

Sent via email

Re: Logistical information for the upcoming NIRB Technical Meeting and Pre-Hearing Conference related to the NIRB's Review of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Meliadine Gold project

Dear Parties:

On May 7, 2013 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) initiated the public technical review period for the *Draft* Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) submitted by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM or Proponent) for the Meliadine Gold project (the Project) (NIRB File No. 11MN034). The NIRB invited interested parties to submit Information Requests (IR) to the Board for consideration by June 6, 2013 in order to facilitate the technical review of the DEIS. On June 13, 2013 the NIRB requested that the Proponent review the submissions and supply the Board with an IR Response Package. On September 20, 2013 AEM submitted the IR Response Package as requested.

On September 24, 2013 the NIRB notified parties of the commencement of the 60 day Technical Review Period and tentative dates for a Technical Meeting and Pre-Hearing Conference (PHC) for the Review of the Meliadine Gold Project. The NIRB is confirming the following dates and facility locations for the Technical Meeting and PHC, both to be held in **Rankin Inlet**:

December 3-5, 2013: Technical Meeting at the *Siniktarvik Hotel and Conference Centre*.

December 10-12, 2013: Community roundtable and PHC at the *Community Recreation Centre*.

Technical Meeting and Pre-Hearing Conference

The NIRB will hold a technical meeting involving discussions on technical matters related to the DEIS. The technical meeting will be kept as informal as possible in an effort to resolve technical issues prior to the PHC. As such, this meeting will be facilitated by the NIRB staff, with participation by the Proponent, responsible authorities and interested parties. Break-out sessions may be used with discussions in each break out group (e.g., may be related to engineering, wildlife or socioeconomic issues) facilitated by a NIRB staff member. During the technical meeting, the NIRB staff will compile a list of commitments made by the Proponent regarding required revisions and updates to its pending *Final* Environmental Impact Statement submission. The list of commitments is then carried forward to the PHC for consideration by the Board.

Following the technical meeting, the NIRB will hold a PHC to discuss such matters as: timelines for submissions, future meetings, evidence, document exchange, Final Hearing venue(s) and timing, Final Hearing format and any other matters related to the logistics of the Final Hearing. The PHC involves a community roundtable session and is meant to provide parties with an opportunity to present to the Board those issues that were resolved during the technical meeting, and those issues which remain outstanding. It is also an opportunity for the Board to hear from the public regarding the quality of information contained in the DEIS and outstanding issues. The technical meeting is a structured but largely informal opportunity for technical experts to resolve outstanding issues, however parties should note that participation in the PHC is somewhat more formalized.

The Board will facilitate a Community Roundtable session in conjunction with the PHC to involve representation from communities identified as potentially impacted by the proposed Project in order to provide an opportunity for meaningful participation in the Board's Review. Following the PHC, the Board will issue a PHC decision which will provide direction to the Proponent for its preparation of a *Final* EIS and which outlines the procedures for the review of the *Final* EIS and the Final Hearing.

Further details on the arrangements to be made for the Technical Meeting along with a draft agenda will be circulated by the NIRB once technical comments have been received from parties. Parties will be provided with an opportunity to comment on the ordering of discussion items prior to finalizing the agenda.

Hotel Accommodations

A block of hotel accommodations are currently being held by the NIRB in Rankin Inlet at the Siniktarvik Hotel and Conference Centre to facilitate participation by responsible authorities, agencies, and organizations which will be in attendance at the Technical Meeting and PHC. Twenty beds (20) are currently being held by the NIRB and are now being made available to meeting participants upon request.

Parties are hereby requested to notify the NIRB regarding their interest in securing these hotel beds as soon as possible. Requests should be forwarded to the undersigned at kgillard@nirb.ca or to Tara Arko at tarko@nirb.ca. Reservations for individual hotel beds will be transferred from the NIRB to the planned attendee, who will be responsible for providing the hotel with a credit card to confirm the reservation and assume associated costs. The NIRB will release any

remaining unrequested hotel beds from our group reservation by **5:00 pm Friday, November 8, 2013.**

If you have any questions or require further clarification related to next steps in the NIRB's Review of the Meliadine Gold Project, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned directly at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelli Gillard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kelli" and last name "Gillard" clearly legible.

Kelli Gillard
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Stéphane Robert, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
Larry Connell, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.