

April 21, 2020

Karén Kharatyan Director of Technical Services Nunavut Water Board PO Box 119 Gjoa Haven, NU XOB 1JO

## Re: Sampling Strategy - Type A Licence No. 2AM-MEL1631 Emergency Amendment Application

Dear Mr. Kharatyan,

Thank you for your letter dated April 17 2020 related to Agnico Eagles proposed validation monitoring and the availability of the external accredited laboratories.

Agnico Eagle will continue to have cargo flights, with our charter company, operating during all the weeks of COVID 19 that is allowing Agnico Eagle to ship compliance samples without delays, to our normal compliance sampling schedule. All compliance samples are analyzed at CALA labs, which are currently open for operation and continue to process samples as per usual. Our main labs, Aquatox and Bureau Veritas Lab, issued letters confirming they are maintaining their analytical services, and we also identified an alternative lab located in Rouyn Noranda, H2Lab, which could support us if required. These letters are provided in Appendix A.

Alternatives to the monitoring approach have been considered if limitations arise while the proposed monitoring program during discharge from CP1 is being carried out. The proposed monitoring strategy for the edge of the mixing zone in Meliadine Lake as presented in the discharge amendment relies on collecting water samples for toxicity and chemistry analysis and to collect water column profile measurements shortly after discharge has commenced. The follow-up sampling and field measurements is then scheduled to be completed a month later, which should coincide when ice cover on Meliadine Lake melts. In the event the sample are not collected, Agnico Eagle is evaluating the opportunity to install up to three remote monitoring stations located at the edge of the mixing zone consisting of submerged specific conductivity sondes with data loggers mounted on an anchor, buoys and cable system. These monitoring stations will be recovered after ice cover melt. Once the sondes are recovered, the data will be downloaded and available for review.

The ability to collect the samples at the edge of the mixing zone when discharge commences would be predicated on the Mine's Health & Safety protocols associated with sampling on ice at those locations. The above program will be assessed on a daily basis related to accessing the ice on Lake Meliadine in a safe manner

Based on the above information, we don't anticipate any logistical concerns related to the validation program that Agnico Eagle has proposed as part of our Emergency Amendment application.

Regards,





Jamie Quesnel

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819.856.0821

Regional Manager - Permitting & Regulatory Affairs



## April 21, 2020

## Attn: Agnico Eagle - Meliadine Mine

Bureau Veritas Laboratories is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy workplace for our employees. As such, we are closely monitoring the ongoing COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak according to the guidelines and recommendations of the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and Health Canada. We want to share with you the actions we are taking to help protect our employees and customers.

At this point, all our North American laboratories are maintaining our regular operating schedules and are receiving routine sample deliveries from couriers such as UPS and FedEx. In addition, facilities have implemented non-contact drop-offs procedures for local sample deliveries.

We've advised our employees to follow the public health authorities' guidance regarding hygiene and social distancing, and we've reinforced existing Bureau Veritas policy encouraging employees who exhibit flu-like symptoms to stay home and consult with a medical professional. At this time we've limited business travel and encouraged employees to leverage technology to hold business meetings and work remotely when possible.

As part of our business continuity strategy, Bureau Veritas has the ability to leverage the use of its sophisticated network of laboratories and service centers across North America. This includes where necessary, relocation of tests, reallocation of resources including personnel and equipment, adjustments to hours of operations, and working with suppliers and business partners to maintain service continuation. In addition, ensuring that we are in compliance with regulatory guidelines and procedures; cooperating with applicable agencies and authorities.

Redundancies have been built for core tests across the network should testing need to be conducted at another lab. This is to ensure that results will be delivered on time and to the same high level of quality that clients expect, regardless of location. In the event that there is a need for testing at a third party laboratory, the customer will be notified of such activity. Bureau Veritas prioritizes the selection of a sub-contractor's laboratory based on accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025, experience, capacity and turn-around-time in order to meet client reporting requirements.

As the situation is fluid, we will continue to adapt to the circumstances to ensure our employee's safety and continued operations. Up to date information can be found on our website at <a href="www.bvlabs.com/covid-19">www.bvlabs.com/covid-19</a> or you can contact us at +1-800-563-6266.

For additional resources regarding COVID-19, we suggest monitoring the CDC's COVID-19 situation summary (updated several times each week), as well as CDC guidance on COVID-19 prevention.



H2Lab Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts, April 20, 2020

Subject: COVID-19 | Continuation of our operation

As required following the announcement of the Quebec government on March 23, 2020, our services will be maintained as H2Lab provide essential services such as regulated drinking water, waste water compliance and regulated environmental monitoring analysis. Our activities are included in the maintenance and operation of strategic infrastructure (sanitary services and supply chains (for example water treatment plants) and public security services (enterprises involved in environmental emergencies)

This is a very difficult situation requiring difficult decisions, but we hope that we will get through this COVID-19 crisis altogether, with minimal damages. We will keep you informed of any changes in our situation <u>by email or on our web platform</u>. We strongly encourage you to <u>follow us on Facebook</u> or look at our <u>website</u> to stay informed about our operations.

If you need more information, please contact your H2Lab project manager.

Andrée-Ann Lemieux, M. Sc., M.B.A.,
Directrice générale adjointe

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AquaTox Testing & Consulting Inc. B-11 Nicholas Beaver Road Puslinch, ON NOB 2J0 Tel. (519) 763-4412 Fax. (519) 763-4419

April 20, 2020

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Meliadine Mine, Suite 879 Rankin Inlet, Nunavut Canada X0C 0G0

Re: Status of Operations During COVID-19 Pandemic

To whom it may concern:

AquaTox Testing & Consulting Inc. has been deemed an essential service in Ontario and continues to accept all scheduled samples for ecotoxicological analysis. The health and safety of our staff, continuing our commercial operations and servicing our clients remain our top priorities during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

As part of our business continuity plan and as this crisis is evolving, AquaTox has implemented several new procedures to limit our exposure while still producing high quality scientific results. Such measures include (but are not limited to): moving to two daily shifts to increase physical distancing within the lab, increased cleaning/disinfecting of offices and lab areas, some project managers and other office support staff are working from home, stay at home procedures for personnel identifying any symptoms or in response to travel, restricting visitors and contractors to the laboratory (including requiring sign off on symptom self-declaration forms), contactless sample drop off for couriers (e.g., no signing of chain of custody documents), providing guidance on personal hygiene techniques (i.e., hand-washing), and how to self-monitor for symptoms.

We will continue to respond and adapt as new knowledge and guidance is provided by the Federal government and Health Canada. We recognize sample collections may be interrupted due to the prevention and spread of COVID-19. Should you need to reschedule testing or if you have any concerns please contact your Project Manager (Martina Rendas) or email us at info@aguatox.ca.

Sincerely,

**AQUATOX TESTING & CONSULTING INC.** 

Lisa N. Taylor, Ph.D.

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