



Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Nunavut Regional Office
918 Nunavut Drive
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 3H0

Your file - Votre référence
2AM-MEL1631
Our file - Notre référence
GCDocs#149326866

August 17, 2026

Robert Hunter
Licensing Administrator
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0
E-mail: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's Reply to Information Request Responses for the Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-MEL1631 Amendment Application for Meliadine Gold Project

Dear Robert,

Thank you for the August 7, 2026 invitation to reply to Information Request responses provided by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (Agnico) for the completeness check of Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-MEL1631 amendment application.

In order to proceed with our technical review, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) is still looking for information on two requests:

1. Updated security estimate (CIRNAC IR-01)

CIRNAC requested a revised security estimate and Agnico did not provide their estimate or specify when they will, other than stating security would be reviewed "*throughout the amendment process*". Once the formal review process is started, fixed timelines limit the time for evaluating and discussing proposed reclamation security. CIRNAC would like to ensure it has all the information necessary before proceeding to the next stage so our initial information request remains unchanged.

2. Temporary tailings storage (CIRNAC IR-12, KivIA IR-04, ECCC IR-01)

CIRNAC requested information on three aspects related to the proposed temporary tailings storage area. Agnico provided a description and links to previous temporary storage facility requests and approvals, satisfying part a) of our request.

Part b) of the request was for the "*storage capacity, pad designs and operational details for subsequent post-storage handling of tailings that are stored in temporary storage areas*". Agnico replied they are still considering four different options and once they had decided, would submit a design report at least 60 days prior to use. This level of uncertainty at the water licensing stage does not allow holistic evaluation of post-storage handling of tailings

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from the proposed temporary tailings storage area. Similar information requests were made by the Kivalliq Inuit Association and Environment and Climate Change Canada, supporting the argument that the entire tailings handling operational cycle needs to be planned to integrate a new tailings storage facility in the water licence.

For part c) of CIRNAC's request, we understand Agnico is not requesting approval for post-storage handling facilities at this stage as they are planning to do so through a construction approval. CIRNAC acknowledges a detailed design report is not necessary at this stage, however operational details of the post-storage option including its capacity, location and contact water capture mechanisms are required.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at (587) 338-6428 or sarah.forte@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca or Andrew Keim at (867) 975-4550 or andrew.keim@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Sarah Forté,
Regional Coordinator