



To: Meliadine Distribution List

Re: Licence No. 2AM-MEL---- Type “A” Water Licence Application, Meliadine Gold Project, Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited; Nunavut Water Board Written Direction Regarding Close of the Public Hearing Record

As indicated in the Nunavut Water Board’s (NWB or Board) correspondence of February 15, 2016, the Public Hearing Record associated with the Board’s Public Hearing to consider the Application by Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited (AEM or the Applicant) for a Type “A” Water Licence 2AM-MEL----, with respect to the Meliadine Gold Project (the Application), has remained open following the adjournment of the in person Public Hearing (held on February 10th and 11th 2016 in Rankin Inlet). At the Public Hearing, the NWB Panel responsible for this application (P15 or the Meliadine Panel) directed that the Hearing Record remain open in order to allow the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KivIA), the Applicant, and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) to file additional written materials solely on the issues of water compensation and a security management agreement.

The date for filing these further submissions was set for February 19, 2016. In accordance with the Board’s directions on this point, final written submissions were provided to the Board by the KivIA (with consent of AEM and INAC).

The Board has placed this information on its public registry and these materials are now included as an addition to the Public Hearing Record for the NWB’s file in respect of the Meliadine Gold Project, 2AM-MEL----. Access to this information is made available through the NWB’s ftp site using the following link:

<ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/1%20PRUC%20PUBLIC%20REGISTRY/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MEL----%20Agnico/3%20TECH/2%20SECURITY/>

On February 22, 2016, the Meliadine Panel reviewed the additional information provided by the parties and decided that all required evidence is now before the Board. Consequently, by way of Panel Motion #2015-28-P15-05, the Panel confirms the Public Hearing record for the Nunavut Water Board’s Public Hearing regarding an Application for Type “A” Water Licence 2AM-MEL----, for the Meliadine Gold Project is complete and is now **CLOSED**. Accordingly, no additional evidence in respect of AEM’s Application may be filed with the Board and the Hearing Record will consist of the documentation filed in advance of the Hearing, the oral evidence and Exhibits filed during the Hearing and the further information filed with the Board by February 19, 2016.

Now that the Hearing Record is closed, the Application has been remitted to the Panel who will, in due course (typically within 30-45 days from the date the Application was remitted to the Panel), issue a decision report to the Minister of INAC regarding whether or not to issue the requested Type “A” Water Licence. If the Board’s decision is to recommend that a Type “A” Licence be issued, the Board will also attach a draft of the new licence to the decision report for the review of the Minister.

Please note that with the Public Hearing Record now closed and the Panel in deliberations, the Board will not provide any further comment regarding this Application until the Board publicly issues its decision regarding the Application.

In closing, the Board extends our thanks to all the parties, community members and general members of the public who were involved in the Board’s processing of the Application. The Board recognizes the diligence of the parties in working together to resolve any outstanding issues in advance of, at the Public Hearing and during the period when the Hearing Record remained open. In addition, the Board appreciates the contributions of everyone who attended the in-person Public Hearing held in Rankin Inlet, February 10th and 11th, 2016.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Lootie Toomasie
Vice Chairperson, Nunavut Water Board
Chairperson of the Meliadine Panel (P15) and Hearing Chair