

<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>NUNAVUT WATER BOARD</p> <p>Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Type "A" Water Licence Number 2AM-MEL1631 Amendment Application</p> <hr/> <p>PUBLIC HEARING VOLUME 1</p> <hr/> <p>Rankin Inlet, Nunavut March 30, 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>1 TABLE OF CONTENTS</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 Description Page</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 March 30, 2021 Morning Session 10</p> <p>6 Opening Remarks by the 10</p> <p>7 Nunavut Water Board Chair</p> <p>8 Identification and Introduction of the Parties 21</p> <p>9 JAMIE QUESNEL, MICHEL GROLEAU, COLLEEN PRATHER, 28</p> <p>10 SUZANNE LECLAIR, JOHN FAITHFUL, GARY LAWRENCE,</p> <p>11 Affirmed</p> <p>12 Presentation by Agnico Eagle Mines 29</p> <p>13 Kivalliq Inuit Association Questions 53</p> <p>14 Agnico Eagle Mines</p> <p>15 Nunavut Water Board Staff Questions 62</p> <p>16 Agnico Eagle Mines</p> <p>17</p> <p>18 March 30, 2021 Afternoon Session 67</p> <p>19 LUIS MANZO, Sworn 67</p> <p>20 RICHARD NESBITT, Affirmed 67</p> <p>21 Presentation by Kivalliq Inuit Association 68</p> <p>22 Agnico Eagle Mines Questions 75</p> <p>23 Kivalliq Inuit Association</p> <p>24 Nunavut Water Board Staff Questions 81</p> <p>25 Kivalliq Inuit Association</p> <p>26 SARAH FORTE, DAVID ZHONG, GERD WIATZKA, Affirmed 94</p>
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<p>7</p> <p>1 S. Leclair Lead Community Relations 2 M. Plante Vice President, Operations 3 M. Gillman Operations, Water Management 4 General Supervisor 5 L. Syvret Senior Advisor, Nunavut 6 D. Krilterdlik IQ Coordinator 7 P. Kusugak Director, Nunavut Affairs 8 O. Tagolik IIBA Coordinator 9 J. Range Project Manager 10 C. Kowbel Legal Counsel 11 J. Faithful Consultant, Golder Associates 12 Ltd. 13 G. Lawrence Consultant, Golder Associates 14 Ltd. 15 M. Bradley (Remotely) Community Relations and 16 Communications Superintendent 17 C. Charest (Remotely) Communications General 18 Supervisor 19 G. Côté (Remotely) Community Relations General 20 Supervisor 21 P. Lapointe (Remotely) Technical Advisor 22 A. Veillette (Remotely) Senior Coordinator Community 23 Relations 24 K. Mayrand (Remotely) Director, Shared Services 25 Nunavut 26 C. Chok (Remotely) Consultant, Kirk &amp; Co.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1 A. Amendola (Remotely) Consultant, Golder Associates 2 Ltd. 3 B. Horne (Remotely) Consultant, Tetra Tech 4 A. Hospital (Remotely) Consultant, Tetra Tech 5 G. Mann (Remotely) Consultant, Azimuth Group 6 7 Kivalliq Inuit Association 8 L. Manzo Director of Lands 9 H. Niakrok Chief Operating Officer 10 J. Tulugak Land Use Inspector 11 A. Aupaluktuq Lands Administrative 12 Coordinator 13 J. King (Remotely) Legal counsel 14 R. Nesbitt (Remotely) Consultant, Aquatic Science 15 A. Sexton (Remotely) Consultant, Geology engineer 16 17 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada 18 S. Dewar Director of Resource 19 Management 20 S. Forte Water Management Specialist 21 D. Zhong (Remotely) Science and Regulatory Advisor 22 G. Wiatzka (Remotely) Consultant, Arcadis Canada 23 24 Environment and Climate Change Canada (Remotely) 25 V. Shore Senior Environmental 26 Assessment Officer</p>

<p>9</p> <p>1 A. Wilson Senior Water Quality Analyst  2 J. Sabourin Environmental Assessment  3 Officer  4  5 Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated  6 B. Dean Assistant Director of Wildlife  7 and Environment  8 D. Kunuk Chief Operating Officer  9 P. Irgaut Director of Wildlife and  10 Environment  11 R. Mercer Resource Management  12 Coordinator  13  14 INTERPRETERS/TRANSLATORS  15 M. Angoshadluk Language Translator  16 J. Ayaruaq Language Translator  17  18 T. Huynh CSR(A) Official Court Reporter  19  20 R. Dempster Sound Technician  21  22  23  24  25  26</p>	<p>10</p> <p>1 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 8:41 AM)  2 Opening Remarks by the Nunavut Water Board Chair  3 THE CHAIR: Good morning. Welcome to the  4 public hearing for the Type "A" water licence, a water  5 licence application submitted by Agnico Eagle Mines  6 Limited ("Agnico Eagle"). This application is seeking  7 authorization to amend their existing Type "A" Water  8 Licence Number 2AM-MEL1631.  9 My name is Lootie Toomasie, and I am the Chairman  10 of the Nunavut Water Board and the hearing Chair for  11 the today's public hearing. Over the next two days,  12 the Nunavut Water Board will consider Agnico Eagle's  13 application to authorize the activities requested by  14 the applicant that I will discuss later in my opening  15 remarks.  16 I would like to also note that some parties are  17 joining the public hearing via Zoom conference call, so  18 I would like to ask those participants who are calling  19 in to mute their microphone to avoid any unnecessary  20 noises.  21 Before we proceed with the hearing, please let us  22 begin with prayer. I recognize David Kritterdlik in  23 audience. Can I call David to open prayer?  24 (OPENING PRAYER)  25 THE CHAIR: Qujannamiik, David.  26 I will be chairing this Panel, and with me today,</p>
<p>11</p> <p>1 as members of the Panel, are the Board members Ross  2 Mrazek, on my right, and, to my left, Sakiasie  3 Sowdlooapik.  4 Several staff members who have contributed to the  5 Board's administration and technical review of the  6 application are present, along with legal counsel to  7 the Board. I ask them to wave when I say their names:  8 Stephanie Autut, Executive Director; Karén Kharatyan,  9 Director of Technical Services; Richard Dwyer, Manager  10 of Licensing, at the back -- he's sitting by the  11 doorway; Sergey Kuflevskiy, if I pronounce it properly,  12 Technical Advisor; and Teresa Meadows, from Meadows  13 Law, legal counsel to the Board.  14 In addition, we have two interpreters available  15 for simultaneous interpretation throughout the hearing:  16 Mary Rose Angoshadluk, who is from Rankin Inlet, and  17 John Ayaruaq, also from Rankin Inlet. For audio  18 support, we have Ryan Dempster, from PIDO. If you  19 experience any difficulty with your headsets, Ryan is  20 able to provide assistance, and these are available  21 with him.  22 To ensure an accurate record of the proceedings is  23 kept, we have with us a court reporter, Tran Huynh. I  24 might not pronounce it properly. I'm not good with  25 names. Sorry about that. She's over there by the  26 wall. She's from Dicta Court Reporting Incorporated.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>1 Secondly, I would like to ask again those  2 participants who are calling in by Zoom to mute their  3 microphone to avoid any unnecessary noises. I would  4 also like to remind everyone to turn their cell phones  5 off or put them on "silent" before we begin and then  6 have it -- just to make sure it's on "silent."  7 Additionally, as indicated earlier, there's  8 interpretation available throughout the hearing in  9 English and Inuktitut. Earpieces can be obtained from  10 the table located just by the interpreting area at the  11 -- right beside the booth. Please make sure you have  12 your -- make sure you have your earpieces off to  13 prevent audio feedback or interference with the  14 speaker.  15 Thirdly, I would like to ask everybody, including  16 the applicants, interveners, and the members of the  17 public to sign in and leave your contact information on  18 sheets located at the table at the entrance.  19 Additionally, there are COVID-19 screening  20 questionnaire forms available; please fill them out  21 too. This information is required by the Department of  22 Health for contact-tracing purposes, so we would  23 appreciate your help in making sure this information is  24 provided.  25 Also, the agenda for the public hearing and the  26 community session are available at the back. Please</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>1 pick one up and follow along with us as we proceed.  2 The washrooms are located just outside of this  3 room, and exits are located at the entrance and behind  4 us. There will be snacks and refreshments brought in  5 throughout the hearing, during the breaks, and you are  6 welcome to help yourself throughout the day. Please  7 remember to wash your hands.  8 Okay, before we go on, I would like to have the  9 executive director talk about COVID-19, as I mentioned,  10 about this COVID.  11 So take the microphone, Stephanie.  12 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  13 And good morning, everyone. Appreciating that  14 there is public interest related to the water  15 management at the Meliadine site, the Board made an  16 application to the Chief Public Health Office, seeking  17 an exemption for the 50-person gathering limit here in  18 the community hall. This morning, I was advised by the  19 Chief Public Health Officer, Mr. Chair, that our  20 exemption to increase the gathering limit to 100 people  21 has been approved.  22 As part of the exemption request, we committed to  23 the following. Specifically, we submitted the COVID  24 protocols, as adopted by the Nunavut Impact Review  25 Board. Those include the requirement to wear masks at  26 all times, to provide limited individual snacks, to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>1 adhere to social distancing to the extent possible, to  2 conduct temperature checks upon entry into the hall,  3 and to conduct contact-tracing through the noted  4 questionnaire, and to provide hand sanitizer for the  5 facility.  6 Mr. Chair, we ask anyone that is receiving snacks  7 at the back of the room to use the hand sanitizer  8 before going through the line.  9 So, Mr. Chair, we're grateful to the Chief Public  10 Health Officer for that exemption request this morning.  11 And that's my update. Thank you.  12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Stephanie.  13 Finally, to assist both the court reporter and our  14 interpreters, please wait to have a microphone before  15 you. Then state your name, speak clearly and slowly,  16 and avoid any use of abbreviations. We appreciate your  17 assistance in making sure your comments are recorded  18 and the Board's record of proceedings is accurate and  19 complete.  20 Prior to identifying and introducing all the  21 parties in attendance today, I will provide a brief  22 description of the application that is before the  23 Board. The application we'll be discussing today is  24 for amendments to the Type "A" Water Licence  25 Number 2AM-MEL1631 for the Meliadine Gold project,  26 requested by Agnico Eagle. The scope of the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>1 application is generally as follows:  2 • mining of additional deposits, Discovery,  3 Pump, F-Zone, WES -- what do you call it --  4 WES-NORMEG, that were included in the Final  5 Environmental Impact Statement, FEIS two  6 one two -- sorry, 2014, but they were not  7 part of the previous water licence -- but  8 were not part of the previous water licence  9 application. Sorry about that.  10 • update (increase) of the total dissolved  11 solids (TDS) threshold for the Meliadine Lake  12 • increase of freshwater consumption from  13 318,000 cubic metres per year to 741,706  14 cubic metres per year  15 • create additional laydown area  16 • expansion of Waste Rock Storage Facility 3  17 (WRSF3) to handle waste from additional  18 deposits  19 • construction of additional site access  20 roads to future deposits  21 • increase to existing security.  22 Now I am going to provide you with a brief  23 overview of the procedural history for the application  24 that is before the Board, which captures only the major  25 procedural steps.  26 • August 27, 2020: NWB received an application from</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>1 Agnico Eagle.  2 • August 28, 2020: NWB distributed application for an  3 initial completeness check.  4 • September 22, 2020: NWB received submissions from  5 KIA, CIRNA, and ECCC.  6 • September 23, 2020: NWB forwarded the submission to  7 Agnico Eagle.  8 • September 30, 2020: Agnico Eagle provides response  9 to the comments submitted by interveners, and the NWB  10 forwarded them to the parties for confirmation of  11 satisfaction.  12 • October 2 to 5, 2020: KIA, CIRNA, and ECCC confirmed  13 their satisfaction with the comments provided by the  14 applicants and deems the application documents  15 sufficient to move forward to the full technical review  16 stage of the process.  17 • October 7, 2020: NWB distributed the application for  18 a 30-day full public review. The NWB's correspondence  19 accompanying the notice of the application also  20 indicates that technical meeting (TM) and pre-hearing  21 conference (PHC) for the application were scheduled for  22 November 30 and December 1, 2020, and would be  23 conducted in person, in the closest community of Rankin  24 Inlet.  25 • November 5 to 8, 2020: NWB received technical review  26 comments for the application from the KIA, CIRNA, and</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>1 ECCC and forwarded the comment submissions to the  2 applicant.  3 • November 13, 2020: NWB received and distributed  4 Agnico Eagle's response to the interveners' comments,  5 along with additional documentation. NWB distributed  6 correspondence informing the parties that the form and  7 timelines for the previous scheduled TM and PHC had to  8 be modified to reflect the public health measures put  9 in place in Nunavut in response to an outbreak of  10 COVID-19 in Kivalliq region. The NWB advised that the  11 TM would proceed by audio and videoconference on  12 November 30, but that the community session and PHC had  13 been cancelled and would be re-scheduled at a later  14 date.  15 • On November 16, 2020, NWB distributed correspondence,  16 including the draft agenda for the TM scheduled for  17 November 30, 2020.  18 • November 26, 2020: NWB distributed the final agenda  19 for technical meeting (TM) and sent a Zoom invitation  20 to the confirmed attendees for the TM.  21 • November 30, 2020: NWB conducted the TM via video  22 and audio-conference.  23 • December 10, 2020: NWB issued following -- sorry,  24 follow-up guidance indicating the pre-hearing  25 conference and community session had tentatively been  26 re-scheduled to take place on January 19, 2021. NWB</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>1 also circulated a draft list of comments and the draft  2 list of issues, as reviewed and revised during  3 technical meeting.  4 • January 15, 2021: NWB distributed the final agenda  5 for the PHC and the community session and sent an  6 invitation to participants to join the PHC by video and  7 audio links and to join the community session by  8 attending at in-person hub in Rankin Inlet, hosted by  9 Agnico Eagle, or via video or audio link.  10 • January 19, 2021: NWB conducted the pre-hearing  11 conference via video and audio conference during the  12 day. NWB conducted the community session in the  13 evening from 6 to 10 PM, Central Standard Time, with  14 participants being able to choose in-person, video, or  15 audio links to join the meeting.  16 • January 29, 2021: NWB published a notice of public  17 hearing to be held in Rankin Inlet in the week of March  18 29, 2021.  19 • January 29 to 31, 2021: NWB received and distributed  20 Agnico Eagle's response to address the outstanding  21 commitments.  22 • February 26, 2021: NWB issue PHC reports and  23 distributed it to the Meliadine distribution list.  24 • March 12 to 25, 2021: NWB received PHC presentations  25 and final submissions received from all participants.  26 • March 24, 2021: NWB conducted an information session</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>1 at the local radio station in Rankin Inlet.  2 Complete details on all submissions received in  3 relation to the application and key procedural steps  4 are available on the NWB's FTP site. If you need any  5 assistance finding or reviewing any of the  6 documentation filed on the site, please check with our  7 manager of licensing, Richard Dwyer, sitting at the  8 back of the -- by the entrance, and he will help you  9 access the documents.  10 I will now move on to a list of issues to be  11 addressed at this hearing, as identified during the  12 technical meeting and pre-hearing conference for this  13 file.  14 1. Scope of the licensee -- licence, sorry. I didn't  15 say it properly. The scope of the licence:  16 (a) Amendments to the original scope of Licence  17 Number 2AM-MEL1631 to reflect the following proposed  18 changes.  19 I hope everybody can hear properly because the  20 noise at the back is kind of bothering.  21 • updated total dissolved solids (TDS)  22 threshold to Meliadine Lake  23 • increase annual freshwater consumption  24 • additional laydown area  25 • updated waste management strategy  26 • construction of site access road and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>1 • updated Interim Closure and Reclamation  2 Plan  3 2. Water use and management  4 (a) quantity of water requested  5 (b) management of water during freshet  6 (c) management of water during wet years  7 (d) groundwater management  8 3. Water Balance and Water Quality model and  9 prediction  10 4. Wastewater management and treatment  11 (a) surface contact water management  12 (b) saline water management  13 (c) effluent water treatment plant (EWTP)  14 (d) saline effluent treatment plant (SETP)  15 (e) reverse osmosis (RO) -- osmosis, sorry, osmosis  16 5. Requested effluent quality limits for total  17 dissolved solids (TDS), sorry.  18 (a) proposed maximum allowable concentration (MAC) and  19 maximum grab (MG) concentration  20 (b) toxicity of TDS due to chloride content  21 6. Waste management: update to waste management  22 strategy and waste rock storage facility  23 7. Adaptive management  24 (a) threshold and triggers and options for adaptive  25 management actions  26 (b) development of site-specific water quality</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>1 objective for chloride as a constituent of TDS  2 (c) adaptive management decision tree  3 8. Closure and reclamation planning  4 (a) update to Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan  5 9. Security: update to reclamation cost estimates  6 10. Water-user compensation  7 (a) confirmation from Kivalliq Inuit Association and  8 Agnico Eagle that there are no outstanding issues of  9 water-user compensation associated with the amendment  10 application.  11 11. Revisions to management plans: timing of  12 submissions and review timelines.  13  14 Identification and Introduction of the Parties  15 So now that I have given you the background to the  16 amendment application we will be discussing throughout  17 this public hearing and community session, I would like  18 to turn to Item 4 on the agenda, introduction of the  19 applicant and interveners participating in this public  20 hearing. I will now ask the applicant, Agnico Eagle,  21 to introduce their representative.  22 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My name  23 is Jamie Quesnel with Agnico Eagle. I'm Director of  24 Permitting &amp; Regulatory Affairs. Here in Rankin, we  25 have David Kritterdlik, our IQ coordinator; Pujjuut  26 Kusugak, director of Nunavut Affairs; I think Olivia is</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>1 here, Olivia Tagolik, our IIBA coordinator; we have  2 Christine Cowbel, our legal counsel, Lawson Lundell;  3 Michel Groleau, Superintendent, Permitting &amp; Regulatory  4 Affairs; Colleen Prather, technical advisor with  5 Agnico; Suzanne Leclair, Lead, Community Affairs; we  6 have Matt Gillman, Operations, Water Management;  7 Lonny Syvret, advisor, Nunavut Affairs; Martin Plante,  8 VP, Nunavut; Jen Range, project management.  9 From Golder Associates, we have John Faithful,  10 Receiving Environment; Gary Lawrence, Toxicology.  11 Remotely, we have a few others that have come in  12 through Zoom. With Agnico Eagle, we have Melissa  13 Bradley, Carl Charest, Gabriel-Antoine Côté, Philippe  14 Lapointe, Anick Veillette, Krystel Mayrand, and Dany  15 Jutras. Also remotely, we have a few other  16 consultants: Chris Chok, Kirk &amp; Company; from Golder,  17 we have Andrea Amendola; from Azimuth, we have Gary  18 Mann; from Tetra Tech, we have Bill Horne and Aurelien  19 Hospital. And that's our team. Thank you.  20 THE CHAIR: Thank you. I will now go to  21 the local associations and representative and  22 intervening parties to introduce the people who will be  23 representing them here today.  24 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Luis  25 Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association. We are represented  26 by our executive director in my right, Chief Operating</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>1 -- sorry, Chief Operating Officer, Niakrok; Jeff  2 Tulugak; Ashley Aupaluktuq, Lands Administrative  3 Coordinator; our consultants on the phone or on the  4 video, Jennifer King, legal counsel; Richard Nesbitt,  5 Aquatic Science; and Alan Sexton, geology engineer.  6 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  7 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  8 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs?  9 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Madam Chair. My  10 name is Spencer Dewar. I'm the Director of Resource  11 Management for Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  12 Affairs Canada. Today with me, I have Sarah Forte;  13 she's a Water Management Specialist. On the phone,  14 we're supported by David Zhong, our science and  15 regulatory advisor; and we're also being supported by  16 Gerd Wiatzka with Arcadis Canada.  17 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  18 Environment and Climate Change Canada.  19 MS. SHORE: Good morning. My name is  20 Victoria Shore. I'm a Senior Environmental Assessment  21 Officer with Environment and Climate Change Canada.  22 Also online with me today is Anne Wilson, our Senior  23 Water Quality Analyst, and Jennifer Sabourin, also an  24 Environmental Assessment Officer. Thank you,  25 Mr. Chairman.  26 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>1 I would also like to recognize Tunngavik  2 Incorporated, who is here as well. They are here and  3 observing at this proceeding.  4 State -- can you state your name? Go on  5 microphone.  6 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  7 Good morning, everyone. My name is Bert Dean.  8 I'm the Assistant Director of Wildlife and Environment  9 for Nunavut Tunngavik here in Rankin Inlet. Also with  10 me, our Chief Operating Officer, David Kunuk; and our  11 Director of Wildlife and Environment, Paul Inngaut;  12 Resource Management Coordinator, Raymond Mercer. And I  13 think that's the four of us here from NTI.  14 We'll be in and out of the hearings the next  15 couple of days. Paul and David are here in town for  16 other meetings, so we wanted to catch some of the  17 proceedings today and tomorrow as well as the public  18 session this evening. Thank you.  19 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  20 I also would like to recognize Kangiqliniq (Rankin  21 Inlet) Hunters &amp; Trappers Organization. Are they here?  22 Can you come to the microphone and state your  23 name?  24 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (NO VERBAL RESPONSE)  25 THE CHAIR: Okay, thank you.  26 If there are any other interveners who would like</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>1 to speak, please identify yourself and introduce your  2 representative. Is there anyone here who is not on my  3 list? Please come to the microphone. Thank you.  4 It is our tradition to give respect to our Elders.  5 Therefore, at any time during the proceedings, an Elder  6 may speak about the application that is before the  7 Board. I just ask that any Elder wanting to speak  8 about the application wait until the Board staff can  9 get you a microphone so that we can ensure we have a  10 complete record of what you have to say.  11 Are there any members of the general public who  12 would like to identify themselves and have a formal  13 request to speak to the Board during this public  14 hearing? Okay, there's none.  15 I also want to mention that any community member  16 who wish to ask questions or provide comments to the  17 Board about this application will also have an  18 opportunity to do so tonight during the community  19 session starting at 6, 6 PM.  20 Are there any representative from agencies,  21 associations, et cetera, who have not submitted  22 interventions but would like to speak? Okay, there's  23 none.  24 I will now turn to the identification of any  25 motions or any objection to the application that is  26 before the Board.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>1 Teresa, take the microphone.  2 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa  3 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.  4 Mr. Chair, I have no notification of any motions or  5 objections. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Teresa.  7 Now turn to Item 8 in the agenda, the presentation  8 by the applicant. Before we do so, we should take a  9 break, a 15-minute break for a health break. There's  10 a -- I think there's some refreshment in here now. And  11 if you people wish to go to smoke outside, you may do  12 so. We take a 15-minute break for now.  13 (ADJOURNMENT)  14 THE CHAIR: So we'll now proceed with the  15 applicants, with their presentation.  16 You can go ahead.  17 Before you do that, so legal counsel need to do  18 the procedures.  19 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa  20 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.  21 Mr. Chair, we will be affirming several witnesses  22 before they provide their presentation. And I also  23 have some exhibits that need to be marked before they  24 speak as well. So we'll start with the affirmation of  25 the witnesses. If I can have all of the witnesses for  26 this section please state and spell your name for the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>1 record, consecutively, and then I will administer the  2 affirmation.  3 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you. Jamie Quesnel,  4 J-A-M-I-E Q-U-E-S-N-E-L.  5 MR. GROLEAU: Michel Groleau, M-I-C-H-E-L  6 G-R-O-L-E-A-U.  7 MS. PRATHER: Colleen Prather, C-O-L-L-E-E-N  8 P-R-A-T-H-E-R.  9 MS. LECLAIR: Suzanne Leclair, "Suzanne,"  10 S-U-Z-A-N-N-E, L-E-C-L-A-I-R.  11 MR. FAITHFUL: John Faithful, J-O-H-N  12 F-A-I-T-H-F-U-L.  13 MR. LAWRENCE: Gary Lawrence, G-A-R-Y  14 L-A-W-R-E-N-C-E.  15 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you. To all the  16 witnesses, I will administer the oath, and then I will  17 ask you to say "I affirm," your name and "I affirm."  18 Do you solemnly affirm that the evidence about to be  19 given by you shall be the truth, the whole truth, and  20 nothing but the truth?  21 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel. I affirm.  22 MR. GROLEAU: Michel Groleau. I affirm.  23 MS. PRATHER: Colleen Prather. I affirm.  24 MS. LECLAIR: Suzanne Leclair. I swear.  25 MS. MEADOWS: Mr. Chair, for clarity of the  26 parties, if you wish to swear, I will provide you with</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>1 the Bible, if you wish to swear. Otherwise, please  2 state that you affirm.  3 MS. LECLAIR: Suzanne Leclair. I affirm.  4 MR. FAITHFUL: John Faithful. I affirm.  5 MR. LAWRENCE: Gary Lawrence. I affirm.  6 JAMIE QUESNEL, MICHEL GROLEAU, COLLEEN PRATHER, SUZANNE  7 LECLAIR, JOHN FAITHFUL, GARY LAWRENCE, Affirmed  8 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you very much. Now  9 we've got the party going on this side of the room and  10 a little bit of motion.  11 Mr. Chair, I have three documents to be marked as  12 the first exhibits in the public hearing, the first  13 consisting of a hard copy of the presentation about to  14 be presented by Agnico Eagle in English and in  15 Inuktitut in the same version.  16 EXHIBIT 1 - Hard Copy and Electronic Copy of  17 the PowerPoint Presentation By Agnico Eagle  18 Mines in English and in Inuktitut  19 MS. MEADOWS: The second exhibit that I  20 propose to file is a technical memo from Michel Groleau  21 -- or from Bill Horne of Tetra Tech to Michel Groleau  22 of Agnico Eagle. The "Subject" line is "Assessment of  23 Water Storage in Tiriganiaq II Open Pit, Meliadine  24 Mine, Canada." It is dated March 28th, 2021. It was  25 provided in electronic copy last night and will be  26 marked as an exhibit in this public hearing.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>1 EXHIBIT 2 - Hard Copy and Electronic Copy of  2 Technical Memo From Bill Horne of Tetra Tech  3 to Michel Groleau of Agnico Eagle, Dated  4 March 28, 2021  5 MS. MEADOWS: And the third is an extra  6 slide that had been provided at the back of the hearing  7 venue, that is -- it was my understanding that this  8 slide has already been filed, but that it was difficult  9 to read in the PDF copy of the slide, and so a  10 reformatted version has been provided in hard copy.  11 EXHIBIT 3 - Hard Copy of Reformatted Slide 38  12 From Agnico Eagle's Presentation  13 MS. MEADOWS: And those are the three  14 exhibits that I propose to file as the first three  15 exhibits in this public hearing. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  16 Those are my procedural matters.  17 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  18 So, Applicant, you may go ahead now.  19 Presentation by Agnico Eagle Mines  20 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Jamie  21 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle. Good morning. It's great to be  22 back in Rankin Inlet and get to see everyone again in  23 person for this public hearing. Thank you to the Board  24 and to everyone participating this week. We understand  25 the application required attention at a challenging  26 time for the Kivalliq, as we all continue to live with</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>1 the ongoing impacts of the pandemic on our normal  2 schedules.  3 Our presentation today presents a rationale for  4 our request to permanently adjust total dissolved  5 solids, or what some people call "TDS," limits under  6 the Type "A" water licence. What are total dissolved  7 solids? Total dissolved solids are naturally  8 occurring, and it occurs everywhere globally, including  9 the Rankin Inlet area. There are organic and inorganic  10 components that make up TDS. An example that has been  11 used, it's like mixing sugar in tea; it dissolves.  12 Based on predictions on the actual monitoring we  13 had the opportunity to carry out last summer, 2020, a  14 comprehensive scientific literature review, and  15 feedback received through the water management working  16 group that met during 2020, we have recommended to the  17 Board that they set a 3,500 maximum average  18 concentration and a 4,500 maximum grab concentration  19 for total dissolved solids.  20 As mentioned, the water licence application  21 involves an increase in freshwater consumption, an  22 increase in our security for the Closure Plan, some  23 other minor infrastructure items which we will describe  24 further in the presentation.  25 We will also describe our mid- to long-term  26 strategy to minimize discharges to Meliadine Lake.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>1 This is a response to the Kivalliq Inuit Association.  2 It is our hope that the waterline under the Nunavut  3 Impact Review Board that's being currently under  4 consideration, that this contingency could be  5 implemented in the future. The waterline is not part  6 of this application; however, it ties in to our  7 long-term strategy.  8 We have provided additional rationale to the Board  9 to support our approach on this point regarding storage  10 of water, which was presented by our external  11 engineers, Tetra Tech, which was just marked as an  12 exhibit. We have proposed updates to the water licence  13 to reflect the revised limits, infrastructure, and  14 management plan updates that were triggered by this  15 application.  16 We have also included suggested updated wording  17 for standard terms and conditions from other water  18 licences issued by the Nunavut Water Board in our draft  19 water licence. We will not be spending a lot of time  20 on the details of the draft water licence in our  21 presentation, but we encourage the Board to give full  22 consideration to the draft water licence, which we'll  23 be submitting as an exhibit in these proceedings.  24 I want to express my thanks, in particular, to  25 those community members that participated in our  26 consultation and engagement on this application both</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">32</p> <p>1 prior to and after our submission to the Nunavut Water  2 Board on August 27th. You have emphasized to us that  3 it is essential that Meliadine Lake stay healthy and  4 that it continues to be usable by the community for  5 drinking water, tea-making, and fishing.  6 This presentation will go over some of the work we  7 have done to confirm that Meliadine Lake will stay  8 healthy and what we plan to do in the future to  9 continue to engage with community members on this.  10 Thank you. And with those opening remarks, I will  11 begin our presentation.  12 Today, we'll have a few other presenters: Michel  13 Groleau will complete the introduction and status of  14 the application review, Suzanne Leclair will present  15 the consultation and engagement section, and I will  16 complete the project description and remainder of the  17 presentation. And at this time, I will turn the  18 presentation over to my colleague, Michel Groleau.  19 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  20 Michel Groleau, Agnico Eagle.  21 Thank you, Jamie.  22 So the next part of the presentation will cover  23 the introduction of the project. This slide is  24 presenting the project timeline. We made our  25 application to Nunavut Water Board on August 27, 2020,  26 at the -- close from the end of the discharge season of</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">33</p> <p>1 2020. This application and this project is important  2 for having water management at site that would be  3 effective and protective of the environment and the  4 land for the discharge season 2021. So we're expecting  5 positive decision on this application prior to freshet  6 2021.</p> <p>7 As presented by Jamie earlier in the presentation,  8 this project include the update of the total dissolved  9 solid thresholds to Meliadine Lake, the increase of  10 yearly freshwater use, the update of the waste rock  11 management strategy, additional laydown area,  12 construction of site access road, and update of the  13 Closure Plan.</p> <p>14 This slide is presenting a site layout showing the  15 different infrastructures included in our application.  16 We'll cover these specific areas more in detail later  17 in the presentation.</p> <p>18 Next section of the presentation is on the status  19 of the application review. During the -- we received  20 25 information requests in September 2020 from Kivalliq  21 Inuit Association, Environment and Climate Change  22 Canada, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  23 Canada, and the Nunavut Water Board. Most of the  24 information requests was regarding water management at  25 site, as presented on this slide.</p> <p>26 Then in November, we received technical comments</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">34</p> <p>1 by the intervener. 27 technical comments were reviewed  2 and replied by Agnico Eagle. The theme of those  3 technical comment were, again, around water management  4 at site.</p> <p>5 This slide is presenting the status of the review.  6 So at this stage of the process, and based on our  7 understanding and commitment made prior to the public  8 hearing, we considered that all the issue has been  9 resolved to date. Other discussion need to happen  10 regarding the use of the waterline and the operation of  11 the waterline. As this process is currently ongoing  12 with the Nunavut Impact Review Board, we will continue  13 discussion of those outstanding items with the involved  14 parties through this process.</p> <p>15 The next section is on consultation and  16 engagement, and I'll invite my colleague, Suzanne  17 Leclair, to continue the presentation. Thank you.</p> <p>18 MS. LECLAIR: Qujannamiik. Ullaakkut,  19 Mr. Chair. Suzanne Leclair with Agnico Eagle.</p> <p>20 Agnico Eagle's public participation and  21 consultation approaches include partnership with  22 impacted communities, Inuit organizations, regional  23 Inuit groups, Elders, land users, and other  24 stakeholders. Next slide, please.</p> <p>25 The Nunavut Water Board process is designed to be  26 aligned with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit guiding principles</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">35</p> <p>1 which include fostering good spirit by being open,  2 welcoming, and inclusive; decision-making through  3 discussion and consensus; working together for a common  4 cause; and respect and care for the land, water, and  5 environment. Next slide.</p> <p>6 Since May 2020 until March of this year, Agnico  7 Eagle had over 14 engagement activities leading to  8 consultation. Many of these events included community  9 open houses, communications, Facebook posts, radio  10 shows, announcement, and meetings.</p> <p>11 We also had a number of focus group. Focus group  12 included many meetings with Rankin Inlet Elders, were  13 spearheaded by our IQ coordinator, David Kritterdlik,  14 and many more meetings with the Rankin Inlet Elders  15 during the month of July, during the month of November,  16 and up until recently. Focus group also included  17 meetings with Rankin Inlet Kangiqliniq HTO. It also  18 included meetings with Rankin Inlet Community Lands and  19 Resources Committee, and the KIA Lands and Resources  20 department, and a Rankin Inlet women's focus group,  21 which also included cabin owners on Lake Meliadine.</p> <p>22 Our engagement activities supporting consultation  23 included also meetings, water management working group  24 meetings, a total of seven during the year; meetings  25 with the Inuit -- Kivalliq Inuit Association, a  26 teleconference done on a number of occasions; and a</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">36</p> <p>1 community -- and community meetings on March 18th of  2 last week. Next slide, please.</p> <p>3 This slide indicates a summary of working group  4 meetings, most notably from June 3rd right up until  5 November of last year, and the parties included Nunavut  6 Water Board, Kivalliq Inuit Association, Agnico Eagle  7 Mines, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  8 Canada, and Environment Canada and Climate Change. The  9 monitoring data shared with this water management  10 working group confirms that the diffuser is working as  11 planned and that the water being released into Lake  12 Meliadine is safe for the environment, for the fish,  13 and the food that fish eat. Qujannamiik.</p> <p>14 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Suzanne.</p> <p>15 I'll -- Mr. Chair, I'll continue with the  16 presentation. Next slide.</p> <p>17 This side shows additional areas for some mine  18 laydown areas and storage space in the central  19 location, near the portals and open pits. So that's  20 what the red circle is focusing on, some of the  21 infrastructure that's required. It's highlighting our  22 application, what some examples are, the garage area  23 and warehouse pads. Next slide.</p> <p>24 This slide is related to site access roads. On  25 the left side of the slide, it shows a site plan with  26 the road going to the east of the all-weather access</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">37</p> <p>1 road. And on the right side of the slide, it shows a  2 blow-up of that area. This is the Discovery spare road  3 going to the Discovery location. And Agnico is  4 planning the construction of the Meliadine Lake  5 community boat launch as part of this construction.  6 This slide is the continuation of site access  7 roads. The left side of the slide shows the mine site.  8 The right side of the slide is a blow-up as we zoom  9 into the mine site. These access roads are to support  10 future mining for the Pump, F-Zone, WES, and NORMEG  11 locations.  12 This slide highlights the waste rock storage  13 facility. This is Waste Rock Storage Facility  14 Number 3. Waste Rock Storage Facility Number 2 has  15 been combined with this.  16 This slide summarizes the updated Interim Closure  17 and Reclamation Plan. So some of the key areas have  18 been included with the Reclamation Plan: the Waste  19 Rock Storage Facility Number 3, Containment Pond 2,  20 associated berm with that containment pond, Channel 9  21 and 10, ore pad, the additional infrastructure that I  22 mentioned just earlier, the access and haul roads.  23 And, also, we've included security for the waterline.  24 I know it's not approved at this time, but we added the  25 security to this Closure Plan.  26 We've presented and worked with the Kivalliq Inuit</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">38</p> <p>1 Association and CIRNAC, and we've reached agreements on  2 the closure cost of security for \$69,687,246. And we  3 are working with CIRNAC and Kivalliq Inuit Association  4 to update our security management agreement. So the  5 associated letter of credit is to be updated, as we  6 split the security 50/50 with Kivalliq Inuit  7 Association and CIRNAC.  8 This slide is related to the updated freshwater  9 consumption. This infographic shows the total volume  10 of water that was assessed with the Nunavut Impact  11 Review Board during the environmental assessment. So  12 the total cylinder is the total volume that was  13 assessed, and that was just over 2 million cubic metres  14 per year. And on the right side of the cylinder is the  15 updated volume that we've included with this  16 application, approximately 742,000 cubic metres per  17 year. And the infographic is to display that it's much  18 less than has been assessed.  19 This slide just highlights the water management on  20 site. When we say "Melvin Bay," we are referring to  21 Itivia Harbour, so that's where the saline water -- and  22 then, also, we have, which is part of this application,  23 the freshwater discharge to Meliadine Lake.  24 The diversion of CP1 water to the waterline is  25 built into this application as an alternative. And,  26 again, the waterline is in front of -- in front of</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">39</p> <p>1 NIRB, the Nunavut Impact Review Board. It's not part  2 of this application, but it's an alternative. However,  3 until that waterline is approved, Agnico Eagle needs to  4 continue the release of water to Meliadine Lake. And  5 once the waterline is approved by the Nunavut Impact  6 Review Board, we can then minimize discharges to  7 Meliadine Lake. At this time, we are estimating the  8 waterline will be operational in 2023. That's based on  9 if we receive approval and if we can construct the  10 waterline prior to 2023. Next slide.  11 This slide just highlights that the surface  12 contact water is separate, independent than the saline  13 water, the groundwater, that we're managing at the  14 site. On the left side of the slide, it shows the  15 flow, how the water will be moved. There is a  16 connection, a dotted line, between CP1 and the saline  17 ponds, and that's the only connection between the two  18 systems.  19 On the right side of the slide, it's a plan view  20 that highlights the surface contact water pond,  21 CP1, and then -- that's in the lighter blue. Then, in  22 the darker blue, would be the saline ponds for the  23 underground water that is transported to Melvin Bay.  24 So it just shows the containment ponds are independent  25 of each other. Next slide.  26 This slide has some animation. And on the left</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">40</p> <p>1 side, it shows the flow patterns of the lake, Meliadine  2 Lake. You can see the mine site location, the  3 Meliadine mine, in the middle of the slide, in one of  4 the white bubbles. It shows the mixing zone in  5 Meliadine Lake. This is where our pipe for freshwater  6 discharge goes into the lake with our diffuser, and the  7 mixing zone is 100 metres radius, like a big hula hoop  8 around the diffuser. The area of the diffuser compared  9 to the entire area of the lake, our mixing zone is  10 0.029 percent of the total area of the lake. So in the  11 mixing zone, that's where our water gets mixed with the  12 lake.  13 Also, on this left side of the slide, you see,  14 like, a tap or faucet. That's the freshwater intake  15 for the mine. That water goes to the camp; that water  16 goes to the -- to the mill, for processing. So the  17 freshwater consumption volume we're asking is coming  18 from that tap that we have on that map.  19 Also, you can see the water going into the mine  20 site is downstream of the mixing zone. So we pump our  21 treated water from the containment pond into the mixing  22 zone, it gets mixed, and it travels downstream, and  23 that's where we have a tap to take in the water for the  24 camp and also for milling uses.  25 Other sampling locations we have is the mid-field.  26 We have reference -- three reference stations on the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">41</p> <p>1 lake: Reference Area 1, up to the northeast; Reference  2 Area 2 is an outflow, where it flows to the north, to  3 Peter Lake. And, also, you can see the arrows kind of  4 turning south towards Reference Area 3, and that's the  5 outflow towards Meliadine -- Little Meliadine Lake and  6 Meliadine River. So there's two outflows for Meliadine  7 Lake, to the north and to the south. And we're going  8 to show some numbers of those areas related to the  9 health of the lake.</p> <p>10 On the right side of the slide, on the upper -- on  11 the bottom side of the right side of the slide, it kind  12 of zooms in to the mixing area, the mixing zone. That  13 shows the pipe going into the lake and the water is  14 discharged.</p> <p>15 So based on this application, we're asking for an  16 increase of 3,500. So at the end of the pipe, that TDS  17 is at that number, 3,500. And at the edge of the  18 mixing zone -- which, on the upper portion of the right  19 side of the slide, we have sampling locations, that  20 hula hoop, the 100 metres around the diffuser. And at  21 that location, at the edge of the mixing zone, the TDS  22 drops down to about 120, 150 milligrams per litre of  23 TDS, so it's well mixed. The mid-field and reference  24 station is just further downstream.</p> <p>25 This slide is related to -- as we know, we had an  26 emergency amendment last year to the water licence, and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">42</p> <p>1 we discharged water to Meliadine Lake at an elevated  2 TDS concentration, and we had supplemental monitoring  3 related to that discharge.</p> <p>4 This was managed through the Water Quality  5 Management and Optimization Plan. We developed  6 end-of-pipe, edge-of-mixing-zone limits. We did  7 water -- comprehensive water quality and toxicity  8 testing over and above our regulatory requirement, to  9 really understand the water. And this was to verify  10 the appropriate long-term end-of-pipe and  11 edge-of-mixing-zone limits.</p> <p>12 Again, monitoring, which is supplemental to the  13 Aquatic Effects Monitoring program -- and based on  14 this, results showed no change to the health of the  15 lake; minor changes observed at the edge of the mixing  16 zone, which I just described; and, again, at the edge  17 of the mixing zone, it rapid -- it's very effective on  18 the dispersion from the distance of the diffuser. It  19 happens very quick, very rapidly.</p> <p>20 This slide shows the -- some of the results from  21 2020 dealing with the daily discharge. And you can  22 see, it changes through the season. So it's elevated  23 during freshet, it drops down, then it comes back up  24 later in the year. Next slide.</p> <p>25 This slide, again, shows the 2020 results. The  26 green circles is total dissolved solids, calculated;</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">43</p> <p>1 and the purple triangles is chloride; the black dots is  2 a percentage of chloride to TDS, so the percentage of  3 the triangles to the circles. So you can see that in  4 the early part of the year, during freshet, the TDS is  5 higher. Last year, it was closer to the 3,000  6 concentration. It drops down in July, and it trends  7 upwards to the end of the discharge season. And  8 chloride is typically 40 to 50 percent of total  9 dissolved solids. So it's a very stable ratio of  10 chloride to total dissolved solids.</p> <p>11 So, again, on the bottom right is just the flow of  12 the lake. In some of them, the mixing -- it shows the  13 mixing zone, the reference stations. The tap shows the  14 water coming into the mine site, the consumption of  15 water. The green dots on all the slides is the edge of  16 the mixing zone, that hula hoop around the pipe, the  17 diffuser; the star is mid-field; the diamond is the  18 reference stations; and then the triangle is the water  19 intake.</p> <p>20 If you look to the slide -- the figure in the  21 upper left, you can see the cluster of the green dots;  22 that's the edge of the mixing zone, of TDS. And you  23 can see, it drops down dramatically based on the scale  24 on the left side of that slide. So it's sitting, you  25 know, just a little bit above 40, up to 80 milligrams  26 per litre.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">44</p> <p>1 Also, with the water intake, you can see, during  2 the discharge season, say, between just prior --  3 usually it's from June. But on this slide, say, from  4 July to November, you can see the triangle is just  5 sitting in the lower end of the edge-of-the-mixing-zone  6 concentration.</p> <p>7 The Reference Stations 1, 2, and 3, which is the  8 blue diamonds, is much lower. And we have additional  9 slides to show that it's very similar to baseline  10 conditions. Again, on the right side of the slide,  11 that figure on the right side, above the map showing  12 the flow, is just the chloride concentrations at those  13 -- at those locations. Then on the bottom left side of  14 the slide, that figure is showing the percentage of  15 chloride.</p> <p>16 And part of the discharge in 2020, we did  17 additional acute and chronic toxicity, so it's a  18 process that we went through. We developed interim  19 total dissolved benchmarks. So we looked at historical  20 toxicity testing -- those are contained in our  21 literature reviews on total dissolved solids and  22 chloride -- compared to other mine sites.</p> <p>23 The Water Quality Management Optimization Plan was  24 developed in early 2020. Supplemental testing was done  25 on the critters in the lake, receiving environment  26 toxicity testing during the 2020 discharge. And we did</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">45</p> <p>1 an expanded monitoring program for the discharge last  2 year, for us and also members of the working group,  3 which included the Kivalliq Inuit Association, CIRNAC,  4 and also Environment Canada.</p> <p>5 And based on that, the site-specific water quality  6 objective of 1,000 milligrams per litre, which is at  7 the edge of the mixing zone, and also the maximum  8 average concentration of 3,500 milligrams per litre for  9 total dissolved solids was confirmed as protective of  10 aquatic life.</p> <p>11 And part of the Water Quality Management and  12 Optimization Plan, there were some key messages that  13 were developed with the water management working group  14 that reviewed the data during 2020. So the components,  15 the parameters, the make-up of the discharge water are  16 not being released at levels that are harmful in  17 Meliadine Lake. The monitoring data confirms the  18 diffuser is working as planned and the water being  19 released is not harmful to Meliadine Lake. And the  20 release of water that was released as planned and the  21 testing and continuous monitoring shows that harmful  22 effects on the environment, fish, and other aquatic  23 life are not occurring.</p> <p>24 And in 2020, the discharge volumes were a little  25 bit lower than planned, as precipitation last year was  26 lower than average. For example, in 2018, I think our</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">46</p> <p>1 total precipitation data was about 160 millimetres;  2 2019 was quite high, over 400, about 420 millimetres;  3 and last year was about 165. And these are other  4 outcomes of the Water Quality Management and  5 Optimization Plan. Next slide.</p> <p>6 Dealing with health of Meliadine Lake, a little  7 bit of the history. Also, we have posters on the  8 walls; we have a set of six posters. Maybe at a break,  9 if anyone has any questions, we can go there,  10 respecting the COVID protocols, and just explain the  11 posters.</p> <p>12 Continuing with the health of Meliadine Lake, a  13 little bit of the history. From the Final  14 Environmental Impact Statement, Meliadine Lake was  15 identified as an important drinking water source,  16 including for tea-making, important for domestic  17 fishing. The importance of clean water and the health  18 of fish was emphasized. And monitoring programs were  19 developed to evaluate water in the discharge and water  20 and aquatic life in Meliadine Lake. So that's what was  21 heard at that time.</p> <p>22 And as part of the environmental assessments in  23 the original licence, the Aquatic Effects Monitoring  24 program was developed with inputs from the Hunters &amp;  25 Trappers Organization at that time, Environment Canada,  26 CIRNAC, and also with the Kivalliq Inuit Association.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">47</p> <p>1 So we heard the importance of the lake, a  2 monitoring plan was developed, and also the Aquatic  3 Effects Monitoring program includes opportunities for  4 adaptive management and also to include traditional  5 knowledge and IQ. So everyone was focused on a goal  6 and developed this plan.</p> <p>7 And I'm just going to walk through some of the key  8 components and go through some of the results of the  9 plan that was agreed to, to monitor the health of the  10 lake.</p> <p>11 So this slide just show the little critters,  12 things that we look at. We look at the sediments  13 quality at the bottom of the lake; the benthic, which  14 is in the sediments. We have other things floating in  15 the lake. And that's all analyzed, baseline, and also  16 during the operation. The small fish absorb, eat some  17 of those critters in the lake. Large fish eats the  18 small fish, plus, they're in that water in Meliadine  19 Lake. And this is done to make sure that the water is  20 safe to drink, the fish are safe to eat, the lake is  21 healthy for fish and other organisms.</p> <p>22 So this slide shows predictions, which is in the  23 purple line, the solid purple line, that goes up and  24 comes back down. And this is from our environmental  25 assessment, the approved FEIS from 2014, that shows at  26 the edge of the mixing zone -- so the purple line shows</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">48</p> <p>1 the predictions from the FEIS, that TDS would be  2 approximately 176 milligrams per litre. The orange  3 dots show the monitoring data for total dissolved  4 solids at the edge of the mixing zone. And it's  5 trending very similar to what was predicted.</p> <p>6 And the blue dash line is related to the  7 application in front of the Water Board right now, at  8 3,500 milligrams per litre. It should be noted the  9 dotted blue line is related to continuous discharge of  10 3,500. However, like I've shown earlier, it's not a  11 continuous discharge at the upper number of total  12 dissolved solids. So this is a very conservative  13 prediction. However, it peaks at the same level as the  14 2014 FEIS.</p> <p>15 The orange line, the action level, is there to --  16 which is part of the Aquatic Effects Monitoring program  17 that was built from inputs from many interveners. If  18 we hit that action level, that's when we look at  19 adaptive management. And then the red line is the  20 benchmark of 500, which is the Health Canada limit for  21 aesthetic. So that's for total dissolved solids.</p> <p>22 The next slide is related to chloride. Again,  23 it's showing the predictions from the FEIS in the  24 purple line. The orange dots is the actual monitoring  25 from the programs, so it's trending below predictions.  26 And the blue dotted line is from our study in the lake,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">49</p> <p>1 similar to the TDS, at the edge of the mixing zone. So  2 everything is at or below predictions in the lake.  3 The next slide -- if you recall the locations of  4 the reference stations in that flow diagram of the  5 lake, we have a summary of our baseline data, which is  6 on the right side of this figure. Where you see the  7 yellow box, that's where -- 50 percent of the data is  8 sitting in that box. The dots are outliers, and the  9 little line is the 10 percent percent -- the 10th  10 percentile and the 90th percentile on the top line. So  11 when the box is very wide, that means there's a spread  12 of data. But when the box is very tight, that means 50  13 percent of the data is sitting very consistent.  14 So you can see baseline data on the right side  15 related to TDS. Our Reference Stations 1, 2, and 3 --  16 northeast of the lake, Reference 2 is northern outflow  17 towards Peter Lake, and Reference 3 to the south -- is  18 very similar to each other, but also within the middle  19 of the baseline conditions.  20 Then you can see, on the left side of the slide,  21 the mixing zone, the TDS is a little bit higher but  22 still within baseline, just above baseline. The  23 near-field and mid-field is dropping. So our water  24 gets mixed quite well. TDS concentrations drop  25 dramatically. And then near-field and mid-field, it  26 start -- it's dropping.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">50</p> <p>1 So this is related to results from baseline 2008  2 to 2011; we have reference stations data for 2016 to  3 2020; near-field, 2015 to 2020. And then this is all  4 related to the mixing zone in 2020, with the  5 concentrations that were discharged last year, which  6 was closer to 3,000. Next slide.  7 This slide shows -- it's a close-up of the  8 reference stations related to baseline. And you can  9 see the reference stations; it's pretty flat, not too  10 much going on there. But it's very -- they're  11 basically the same to each other and within baseline  12 conditions.  13 This slide is showing future predictions. If we  14 look at a model, we model -- we predict what the  15 conditions would be. With some of the slides I've  16 referred to, it showed the 2014 predictions versus the  17 twenty -- the predictions that we've completed for this  18 application. They're very similar, which is good. So  19 we do these studies to see how the water would move in  20 the lake and disperse and mix. So this slide really  21 summarizes some of the concentrations in the mixing  22 zone, our predictions. Some -- and against monitoring  23 benchmarks for aquatic and drinking water.  24 So we'll just focus on the TDS. You see, in 2020,  25 the average was 68, and then predictions, on average,  26 167. But, again, that's still below the limits, and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">51</p> <p>1 it's tracking based on the predictions of what was  2 presented in our environmental assessment and with the  3 additional monitoring.  4 Slide 43 -- next slide Michel, thank you.  5 This slide, which we have in posters, is part of  6 our Aquatic Effects Monitoring program. So that's a  7 plan that was developed with inputs from the  8 interveners at that time. And, basically, this looks  9 at the health of the lake. The green -- you can see  10 the black dots are actual monitoring of those  11 parameters. So we have TDS, we have chloride, we have  12 some metals, arsenic, copper. And based on the  13 stations, mid-field, near-field, and reference  14 stations, as per that map, everything is tracking based  15 on the green, so it's very similar to baseline. And  16 it's well below the levels to protect the health of the  17 aquatic life and ensure water is safe for people to  18 drink.  19 And you see can there's an orange line, which is a  20 trigger to look at adaptive management. And then we  21 have the red, which is some of the limits that we use  22 for certain parameters. We use 500 for TDS. And you  23 can see everything is tracking on the left-hand side.  24 Slide -- next slide, Michel.  25 So we talked about all the little critters that  26 the fish may eat, that's in the water, in the lake.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">52</p> <p>1 And this slide just summarizes the fish and some of the  2 other pieces that we look at, our experts look at, and,  3 again, it's below that green line. So it's showing the  4 community, the organisms, the little critters are very  5 healthy in that lake. And we look at this in this  6 detail to see if something is changing in the lake. If  7 we see changes here, it gives us an early warning that  8 something else may be going on. But we're not seeing  9 anything. And you can see, in the fish, there's really  10 no change. And, again, we have these in our posters  11 which we can get into more detail or through the  12 questioning.  13 This slide just shows us the flow of information  14 that we look at to look at the health of the lake, in  15 particular, Meliadine Lake. We have a discharge, we  16 have an effluent, so that's the pathway we have to look  17 at. So we summarized that in our presentation, based  18 on our discharge, the limits we're looking at, what  19 makes up that discharge.  20 The next component is dealing with exposure, some  21 of the media that we look at, so the water itself, the  22 sediments in the lake, the critters, the biological  23 component. So that's -- that was analyzed. So we gave  24 you a summary, Mr. Chair, on that. And everything is  25 healthy.  26 And then the potential receptors -- so we have</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">53</p> <p>1 different receptors that we briefly talked about, with  2 the fish, the benthics, and things like that. And you  3 can see from the report card that we have, through the  4 Aquatic Effects Monitoring program that was developed  5 with the interveners, the lake is very healthy.  6 So in conclusion, we continue to meet predictions  7 presented in the -- in our environmental assessments.  8 Meliadine Lake is healthy. Again, that's based on  9 results from the Aquatic Effects Monitoring program.  10 We have adaptive management IQ that's built in there,  11 based on if we hit a certain trigger or if we have to  12 add things to it. So the tool is there to adapt.  13 And the proposed discharge criteria continue to be  14 safe, conservative, and highly protective of the  15 environment, and that's based on 3,500 milligrams per  16 litre of TDS, the maximum average concentration that  17 we're proposing, and the 4,500 milligrams per litre TDS  18 maximum grab concentration. Thank you.  19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Applicant.  20 Now, open up for questions. I'd like to call  21 Kivalliq Inuit Association, if you have questions to  22 the applicant's presentation.  23 Kivalliq Inuit Association Questions Agnico Eagle Mines  24 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Luis  25 Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association. I would refer any  26 questions to Richard Nesbitt on the phone and some</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">54</p> <p>1 comments we would like to raise in the presentation.  2 Thank you.  3 MR. NESBITT: Thank you. Can you folks hear  4 me? This is Richard Nesbitt on behalf of the Kivalliq  5 Inuit Association. Hello?  6 THE CHAIR: Yes, go ahead.  7 MR. NESBITT: Thank you so much. My first  8 question to Agnico Eagle is with regard to the health  9 of Meliadine Lake. Mr. Chair, Agnico Eagle has  10 provided quite convincing information, both in this  11 presentation and through the annual reports over the  12 last year or two, describing the health of Meliadine  13 Lake from a Western-science perspective. I'm wondering  14 if Agnico Eagle can summarize how the health of  15 Meliadine Lake, over the last year in particular, with  16 the higher total dissolved solids discharge criteria --  17 how the health Meliadine Lake was evaluated using Inuit  18 Qaujimagatuqangit. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  19 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  20 Okay, now, I'd like to call on -- oh, go ahead.  21 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel  22 Groleau from Agnico Eagle.  23 Thank you, Richard, for your question. So as  24 referred by my colleague, Jamie Quesnel, the Aquatic  25 Effect Monitoring Plan was designed based on IQ. And  26 what we mean by that -- through consultation during the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">55</p> <p>1 2014 environmental impact assessment, it had been  2 raised that Meliadine Lake is important for the  3 community. We sat together; we developed that plan.  4 And with that plan, we are able to monitor the health  5 of the lake. So when -- HTOs, Hunter Trapper  6 Organization; Kivalliq Inuit Association;  7 Crown-Indigenous Relation Affair Canada; Environment  8 Canada; and us, Agnico Eagle, developed that plan to  9 monitor the health of the lake.  10 When we go back to the 2020 discharge season, we  11 still used and applied that plan to monitor the health  12 of the lake. Results we presented today within this  13 presentation show -- have shown the health of the lake  14 following the 2020 discharge season. I hope this is  15 addressing your question.  16 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Applicant.  18 Go ahead, Kivalliq.  19 MR. NESBITT: Thank you very much,  20 Mr. Chair.  21 Michel, thank you very much for your answer. From  22 what I understand, you had described that IQ, Inuit  23 Qaujimagatuqangit, had been incorporated into the  24 design of the plan insofar as Meliadine Lake was  25 indicated to be important and that monitoring should  26 take place in that lake. I'm trying to understand if</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">56</p> <p>1 Elders or other members of the community have been  2 brought with you to participate in the sampling to  3 provide ongoing input into the evaluation of the health  4 of Meliadine Lake beyond just the designation that the  5 lake is important for monitoring and to be protected.  6 So, specifically, have there been any ongoing  7 interactions or ongoing engagement with the community  8 to continue to evaluate the health of Meliadine Lake in  9 addition to the Western-science parameters that you  10 have discussed today?  11 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  12 Go ahead, Applicant.  13 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel  14 Groleau, Agnico Eagle.  15 Thank you, Richard, for the clarification. So,  16 now, the inclusion of traditional knowledge and IQ is  17 an important of the part of the Aquatic Effect  18 Monitoring Plan.  19 As an example, we are starting to develop a  20 community-based monitoring program with the community.  21 We had the first meeting in the last two weeks to  22 review sampling location, set up a tea and  23 water-tasting event. And we're looking to organize a  24 fish-sampling event in May with the inputs of the Inuit  25 &amp; Trapper Organization, other committee members. And  26 through this process, we met different focus group,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">57</p> <p>1 meeting with Elders, as described by my colleague,  2 Suzanne Leclair. I hope this is answering your  3 question.  4 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  5 MR. NESBITT: Thank you, Michel. That  6 absolutely answers quite a bit of my question. Thank  7 you. I'm looking forward reviewing the findings from  8 particularly the tea and water-tasting in Agnico  9 Eagle's forthcoming annual reports.  10 My second question is with regard to the  11 discharges -- the ongoing discharges to Meliadine Lake  12 once the waterlines potentially have been approved. We  13 have heard from a number of community members over the  14 course of this process that there is ongoing concern  15 with potential impacts from the project to Meliadine  16 Lake. And Agnico Eagle has indicated that discharges  17 will be minimized to Meliadine Lake once the waterlines  18 have been approved by NIRB.  19 I wonder if Agnico Eagle can provide a discussion  20 or some information about how those discharges -- or  21 how much of those discharges will be decreased, which  22 is to say how much water will continue to be discharged  23 to Meliadine Lake under normal operating conditions,  24 going forward.  25 And, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to clarify that I'm  26 asking this question in the context of the Water Board</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">58</p> <p>1 discussions here today, due to the interactions between  2 the waterline and the ongoing water management at the  3 Meliadine site and because the waterline has been  4 included as a potential alternative in the current  5 application before the Board. Thank you.  6 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Please state your  7 name before you speak, for the record, please. Thank  8 you.  9 MR. NESBITT: Apologies, Mr. Speaker. This  10 was, again, Richard Nesbitt on behalf of the Kivalliq  11 Inuit Association.  12 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Jamie  13 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.  14 Thank you, Richard, for your question. Related to  15 the impacts on the lake, as you've mentioned and as we  16 presented, the lake is healthy, with our monitoring  17 program, that is, designed with our Aquatic Effects  18 Monitoring Program, so the results are showing that.  19 Dealing with the normal operating conditions,  20 which has been defined, we don't -- our long-term  21 strategy, which has also been defined in the approved  22 Groundwater Management Plan that's been reviewed by all  23 interveners, our long-term strategy is not to store  24 water.  25 And as the waterline is in front of the Nunavut  26 Impact Review Board, once that waterline is approved or</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">59</p> <p>1 may be approved and we're under normal operating  2 conditions, we will minimize discharges to Meliadine  3 Lake. So when there's capacity, the waterline will  4 divert that water.  5 There's a lot of variables based on adaptive  6 management. If everyone in this room can guarantee us  7 the precipitation per year, moving forward, I think we  8 can provide more certainty. But that's why we would  9 minimize our discharges to Meliadine Lake. So between  10 now and if we receive approval for the waterline, when  11 it's constructed and operational, we'll be discharging  12 to Meliadine Lake.  13 Additional storage is not a long-term strategy for  14 any water, for saline or surface water. And, again,  15 once the waterline is built, the adaptive management  16 components will kick in, based on -- if we have the  17 capacity to move water to the waterline, we will, based  18 on normal operating conditions. Hopefully that answers  19 your question, Richard. Thank you.  20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Applicant.  21 KIA?  22 MR. NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt, Richard  23 Nesbitt on behalf of the Kivalliq Inuit Association.  24 THE CHAIR: Please state your name before  25 you --  26 MR. NESBITT: Sorry. Richard Nesbitt on</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">60</p> <p>1 behalf of the Kivalliq Inuit Association.  2 Jamie, thank you very much for that answer. A  3 couple points I would like to raise in response: First  4 of all, we do understand that the lake is healthy,  5 based on the Western-science perspective. I think we  6 are looking forward to the results of your  7 community-based monitoring program that is, as Michel  8 said, just starting up, to understand whether the lake  9 is also considered healthy from the community's  10 perspective, through Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.  11 Secondly, while we do understand that there are  12 certainly many variables that will determine how much  13 and when the water from the CP1 will be discharged to  14 Meliadine Lake and when it can be diverted to the  15 waterline, KIA's technical interventions have  16 highlighted that we still feel that there are a number  17 of uncertainties in the interpretation of how the  18 Adaptive Management Plan is worded. That creates  19 uncertainty as to how the proponent will respond with  20 those variables. We can dive more into those  21 particular uncertainties as KIA provides their  22 technical presentation. And I will leave it for there  23 -- for now. Thank you very much.  24 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  25 Applicant?  26 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">61</p> <p>1 we'll wait until the Kivalliq Inuit Association  2 presentation --  3 THE CHAIR: Please state your name for the  4 record.  5 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.  6 Thank you, Mr. Chair. We'll wait until the Kivalliq  7 Inuit Association's technical presentation, and we can  8 discuss some of their comments at that time. Thank  9 you.  10 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  11 We will move on. I'd like to call  12 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, if you  13 have questions to the applicant.  14 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair.  15 Spencer Dewar, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  16 Affairs Canada. No questions. Matna.  17 THE CHAIR: Thank you. I also would like  18 to call NTI, if you have any questions to the  19 applicant. Okay, I think that there's none.  20 And then I'd like to also call Kivalliq -- sorry,  21 Kangiqliniq Hunters &amp; Trappers, if they're here. No?  22 Okay.  23 Is there comments or questions from the public --  24 MS. MEADOWS: Mr. Chair --  25 THE CHAIR: -- to the applicant?  26 Go ahead. Teresa, go ahead.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">62</p> <p>1 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa  2 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.  3 Mr. Chair, I believe Environment and Climate Change  4 Canada is on -- is attending by Zoom and that they may  5 have questions. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  6 THE CHAIR: I'm sorry, I can't hear on my  7 left side. Sorry about that. Okay, yes, give them the  8 opportunity to ask questions.  9 Climate Change -- Environment and Climate Change  10 Canada, go ahead.  11 MS. SHORE: Hi, Victoria Shore,  12 Environment and Climate Change Canada. We have no  13 questions. Thank you.  14 THE CHAIR: Okay, thank you. Thank you  15 very much. Okay, thank you for that.  16 And then I'd also like to ask Water Board staff if  17 they have questions. Go ahead.  18 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I do  19 believe that the staff have a question or two for the  20 applicant. Thank you.  21 Nunavut Water Board Staff Questions Agnico Eagle Mines  22 MR. KHARATYAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This is  23 Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board. Just one  24 clarification for record, yes: Agnico Eagle, on the  25 Slide 25, you mentioned about the -- more than  26 2 million cubic metres of water per year, of freshwater</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">63</p> <p>1 per year, assessed, to be used. Just, yes, looking at  2 these numbers, clarification for record where this  3 number is coming from.  4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, staff.  5 Applicant, go ahead.  6 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.  7 I think you're referring to the slide with the  8 cylinder. That number comes from the FEIS, the 2014  9 FEIS. It's milligrams per litre -- no, cubic metres,  10 sorry, cubic metres of water.  11 MR. KHARATYAN: Karén Kharatyan, Water Board.  12 Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you, Agnico Eagle.  13 From Meliadine Lake?  14 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.  15 Yes, from Meliadine Lake, yes.  16 MR. KHARATYAN: One more clarification. This  17 is Karén Kharatyan. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  18 Can you -- I think you have these rough numbers.  19 We would like to have, for our record, how much is the  20 volume of Meliadine Lake, and how much of -- or how  21 many thousand cubic metres enters every year and flows  22 from the lake.  23 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.  24 We'll just -- do you want the answer -- can we submit  25 it as an exhibit, or do you want us just to read it  26 into the record or ...</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">64</p> <p>1 MR. KHARATYAN: This is for record. Karén  2 Kharatyan, Water Board.  3 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.  4 After lunch -- we'll just defer that response and see  5 if we can get back to you after lunch with those  6 numbers. And just to confirm, you want the volume of  7 Meliadine Lake, the recharge volumes -- and what was  8 the third item?  9 THE CHAIR: Use your microphone and state  10 your name.  11 MR. KHARATYAN: Karén Kharatyan, Water Board.  12 Recharge and discharge flowing from the lake, entering  13 and flowing out.  14 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.  15 Okay, thank you. We'll report back after lunch.  16 THE CHAIR: Legal counsel, go ahead.  17 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa  18 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.  19 Mr. Chair, this is just a confirmation with respect to  20 information that the Board received from Kivalliq Inuit  21 Association yesterday, that issues of water-user  22 compensation between the Kivalliq Inuit Association and  23 Agnico Eagle have been negotiated and have been  24 concluded. It is just confirmation that Agnico Eagle  25 also agrees that issues of water-user compensation have  26 been dealt with.</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">65</p> <p>1 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, Applicant.</p> <p>2 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.</p> <p>3 Yes, we've reached an agreement, a water compensation</p> <p>4 agreement, with the Kivalliq Inuit Association.</p> <p>5 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa</p> <p>6 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.</p> <p>7 Those are my questions. Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>8 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>9 Okay, I think we're done with staff.</p> <p>10 Panel members, do you have questions? Okay,</p> <p>11 there's none.</p> <p>12 Okay, thank you, Applicant, for your presentation.</p> <p>13 Stephanie, go ahead.</p> <p>14 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I</p> <p>15 believe when we transferred over to Environment and</p> <p>16 Climate Change Canada, we may have neglected to go back</p> <p>17 to the public. So you might want to just ask one more</p> <p>18 time if there's any questions from the public.</p> <p>19 THE CHAIR: Yes, thank you.</p> <p>20 Okay, any further comments or questions to the</p> <p>21 applicant from anywhere in the public?</p> <p>22 Okay, we will start interveners. Should we take a</p> <p>23 lunch break now and then come back at 1:00? So we'll</p> <p>24 start with the intervener, with the Kivalliq Inuit</p> <p>25 Association, at 1:00. Thank you.</p> <p>26 (LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT AT 11:23 AM)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">66</p> <p>1 (PROCEEDINGS RECOMMENCED AT 1:03 PM)</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: Good afternoon. We will</p> <p>3 reconvene from the lunch break. Before we go for</p> <p>4 lunch, we ended with Applicant's -- for the</p> <p>5 presentation. Now we'll start with the interveners.</p> <p>6 So we will have Kivalliq Inuit Association to have</p> <p>7 their presentation. Before we do that, legal counsel</p> <p>8 will take the procedures. Thank you.</p> <p>9 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa</p> <p>10 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board. So</p> <p>11 if I can have the witnesses for the Kivalliq Inuit</p> <p>12 Association state and spell your name for the record,</p> <p>13 please.</p> <p>14 MR. MANZO: My name is Luis Manzo, L-U-I-S</p> <p>15 M-A-N-Z-O, and -- I affirm. Mr. Chairman -- and</p> <p>16 probably Richard Nesbitt will have to swear from the</p> <p>17 other end, on the phone.</p> <p>18 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa</p> <p>19 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact Review</p> <p>20 Board (sic). So if we can go to Richard Nesbitt, who</p> <p>21 is a consultant with the Kivalliq Inuit Association; he</p> <p>22 is attending by Zoom. So if we can have Mr. Nesbitt on</p> <p>23 the screen.</p> <p>24 MR. NESBITT: Hello. Richard Nesbitt here.</p> <p>25 If you can all see me and this is sufficient, my name</p> <p>26 is Richard, R-I-C-H-A-R-D, Nesbitt, N-E-S-B-I-T-T, and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">67</p> <p>1 I affirm.</p> <p>2 MS. MEADOWS: Teresa Meadows, legal counsel</p> <p>3 for the Nunavut Water Board. Thank you. We have you</p> <p>4 on screen now, and I will administer the oath.</p> <p>5 It's my understanding that Mr. Manzo will be</p> <p>6 sworn. So please place your left hand on the Bible and</p> <p>7 raise your right hand. Do you swear that the evidence</p> <p>8 about to be given by you shall be the truth, the whole</p> <p>9 truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?</p> <p>10 MR. MANZO: I swear.</p> <p>11 LUIS MANZO, Sworn</p> <p>12 MS. MEADOWS: And, Mr. Nesbitt, because I</p> <p>13 don't have a holy object in front of you that I can</p> <p>14 confirm, do you solemnly affirm that the evidence about</p> <p>15 to be given by you shall be the truth, the whole truth,</p> <p>16 and nothing but the truth?</p> <p>17 MR. NESBITT: I so affirm.</p> <p>18 RICHARD NESBITT, Affirmed</p> <p>19 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa</p> <p>20 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.</p> <p>21 Mr. Chair, I have the presentation materials, a hard</p> <p>22 copy of the presentation about to be presented by the</p> <p>23 Kivalliq Inuit Association, and I propose to mark that</p> <p>24 as the next exhibit in this public hearing. And those</p> <p>25 are my procedural matters. Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>26 EXHIBIT 4 - Hard Copy and Electronic Copy of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">68</p> <p>1 the PowerPoint Presentation By Kivalluq Inuit</p> <p>2 Association in English and in Inuktitut</p> <p>3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Teresa. So you may</p> <p>4 start with your presentation, Kivalliq Inuit</p> <p>5 Association. Go ahead.</p> <p>6 Presentation by Kivalliq Inuit Association</p> <p>7 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.</p> <p>8 Thank you, members of the Board.</p> <p>9 Thanks, Agnico Eagle staff and interveners.</p> <p>10 KIA represents Inuit and administers certain</p> <p>11 provisions of the Nunavut Agreement in the Kivalliq</p> <p>12 region. KIA's mission is to represent Inuit in a</p> <p>13 fair and democratic manner in the development,</p> <p>14 protection, administration and advancement of</p> <p>15 their rights and benefits and to promote economic,</p> <p>16 social, political, and cultural well-being.</p> <p>17 The aim of Inuit-owned land management is to</p> <p>18 administer those lands to promote self-reliance and</p> <p>19 the cultural and social well-being of Inuit now and in</p> <p>20 the future. Inuit-owned lands must be managed</p> <p>21 in such a way as to sustain and enhance the value of</p> <p>22 the land.</p> <p>23 The objective of this review was to ensure the</p> <p>24 potential impacts and benefits was assessed</p> <p>25 comprehensive -- it was comprehensively assessed,</p> <p>26 ensure the IQ values were incorporated into the impact</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">69</p> <p>1 determination, mitigation, project design, and  2 monitoring.  3 Review history. AEM submitted an amendment  4 application to their Type "A" water licence in August  5 27, 2020, seeking permission for the following  6 amendments:  7 • update total dissolved solids threshold to the  8 Meliadine Lake  9 • increased annual freshwater consumption  10 • construction of additional laydown areas  11 • update waste management strategy  12 • construction of site access roads and  13 • update of Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan  14 KIA Land complete the initial technical review in  15 September 22, highlighting 13 information requests and  16 initial technical concerns. AEM responded to KIA  17 initial set of 13 information requests, resolving most  18 by:  19 • providing additional clarifications regarding TDS  20 measurement approaches, toxicity monitoring, water  21 management, and geotechnical concerns  22 • reiterating their commitment to include IQ through  23 all phases of the mine  24 • committing to update their Freshet Management Plan to  25 reflect the decommission of the P-areas or ponds areas.  26 The following three information requests remain</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">70</p> <p>1 unresolved and were carried forward to the next  2 technical review stage:  3 • AEM has not adequately addressed KIA's request to  4 investigate opportunities for improved source control  5 from runoff to prevent the need for increased discharge  6 criterion.  7 • AEM have not clearly committed to divert all site  8 contact water away from Meliadine Lake using the  9 proposed waterlines currently under review by the  10 Nunavut Impact Review Board.  11 • Concerns remain surrounding the viability of the  12 proposed short- and medium-term saline groundwater  13 management strategy.  14 KIA Lands submit our technical review to the  15 Nunavut Water Board in November 6, 2020, highlighted  16 five new technical concerns and five new areas:  17 • develop an effluent and receiving environment  18 site-specific water quality objective for chloride  19 • justification for the use of average values  20 for the water quality model  21 • missing source term for runoff from the tailings  22 storage facility in the water quality model  23 • potential insufficient design capacity of the CP1 and  24 D-CP1  25 • inclusion of soil and water quality objectives in  26 closure criteria for Rankin Inlet facility.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">71</p> <p>1 AEM responded to those technical concerns November  2 13, fully resolving Issue 5.  3 The current status of the technical concerns. All  4 of the KIA information requests and technical  5 submissions has been resolved through discussions  6 during the Nunavut Water Board technical meeting in  7 November 30, 2020; AEM's submission of new and update  8 management plans, new supporting documentation further  9 demonstrating the proposed discharge criteria will be  10 protective of the aquatic life.  11 AEM's specific submission in response to  12 commitments made to KIA were:  13 • draft amended water licence framework  14 • Adaptive Management Plan  15 • updated Groundwater Management Plan  16 • updated Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan  17 • technical memorandum confirming the suitability of  18 5,000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids (TDS)  19 maximum grab sample EQC.  20 KIA's review of these submissions documents has  21 resulted in 12 new technical comments. AEM responded  22 to those comments in March 8, resolving 5 of them.  23 Outstanding new technical comments, draft amended  24 water licence. KIA new Technical Comment Number 1 --  25 next page, please -- use of the waterlines to transport  26 water provided an alternative approach to water</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">72</p> <p>1 management on site that optimize the benefit to the  2 Meliadine Lake for Rankinmiut. It would be appropriate  3 for the Board to include terms and conditions  4 pertaining to the waterlines and the Adaptive  5 Management Plan insofar as they impact the management  6 and use of inland waters and interaction with the  7 receiving freshwater environment.  8 KIA's proposed language at E(2): The licence may  9 not discharge effluent into Meliadine Lake unless there  10 is insufficient capacity in the waterline as well as  11 insufficient storage capacity in the collection ponds  12 and containment ponds.  13 KIA Number 3, new Number 3: KIA doesn't agree  14 with Agnico Eagle's proposed amendment entitling them  15 to deemed approval of any plan submission that the  16 Board does not respond to with 60 days. Risks of  17 deemed approval: restricting the Nunavut Water Board's  18 discretion; eliminating public participation  19 and consultation on potentially important plan  20 amendments.  21 KIA new Number 4: Granting Agnico Eagle the  22 ability to request a security change at any time would  23 give them sole discretion to initiate that process,  24 placing KIA and the Nunavut Water Board at risk of  25 being overburdened with reviews.  26 KIA Number 5: Agnico Eagle has proposed removing</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">73</p> <p>1 their obligation to conduct activities in a manner so  2 as to minimize impacts on surface drainage, leaving in  3 only their obligation to undertake any corrective  4 action requirements. KIA submits that Agnico Eagle  5 must be required to both minimize impacts on surface  6 drainage (preventative actions) and take immediate  7 corrective measures in response to an impact.  8 Adaptive Management Plan. Like the Road  9 Management Plan and other plans, the Adaptive  10 Management Plan can -- should be implemented under both  11 the water license and Nunavut Impact Review Board  12 project certificate.  13 KIA is concerned how excess saline groundwater is  14 stored in Tiriganiaq-2, will be handled under the  15 Adaptive Management Plan until the waterlines are  16 available and Tiriganiaq-2 is dewatered. This lack of  17 clarity continues to introduce uncertainty as to how --  18 this lack of clarity continues to introduce uncertainty  19 as to how normal operating conditions will be defined  20 under the Adaptive Management Plan until Tiriganiaq-2  21 has been dewatered via the waterline.  22 Minimizing discharge to Meliadine Lake is  23 insufficient to address the concerns of Rankinmiut.  24 Discharge into Meliadine Lake should only be considered  25 if absolutely necessary.  26 KIA TC Number 9: Discharges to both Meliadine</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">74</p> <p>1 Lake and Melvin Bay are planned during the freshwater  2 and marine ice-free seasons, but these discharge  3 windows do not align with the discharge needs  4 pertaining to CP1 required to both avoid compromising  5 the CP1 dike as well as discharging to the Meliadine  6 Lake. KIA requests AEM clarify how surface contact  7 water will be managed during freshet to avoid  8 discharges to Meliadine Lake during that period.  9 KIA recommends AEM link commencing annual  10 operations of waterlines in Adaptive Management Plan  11 Table 1, Note 1, to the temperature, as has been done  12 with the conclusion of the annual operation conditions.  13 KIA New 10: KIA requested AEM prioritize  14 discharge of surface contact water to Melvin Bay even  15 under the lower bound scenarios, when only one  16 waterline is operational, given the saline groundwater  17 storage capacity provided through Tiriganiaq-2 allows  18 for significant operational flexibility in the  19 management of site water. This prioritization of  20 surface contact water discharge to Melvin Bay may  21 become particularly necessary during freshet, to avoid  22 discharge to Meliadine Lake.  23 Thanks, Mr. Chairman.  24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, KIA.  25 Okay, should we open for questions, comments?  26 Okay, I'd like to start with the applicant. Do you</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">75</p> <p>1 have questions to the KIA presentation? Before you  2 speak, please state your name for the record.  3 Agnico Eagle Mines Questions Kivalliq Inuit Association  4 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Jamie  5 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle. We responded to a lot of the  6 comments in our final written submission, and with the  7 water licence, we'll be providing an update of that.  8 But we still continue to stand by our responses and  9 encourage the Board to give full consideration in their  10 final decision.  11 Dealing with Point E(2), the language in the water  12 licence, we just disagree with those points raised by  13 KIA. And, also, for point of clarity, we provided the  14 Tetra Tech memo as an exhibit today, just related to  15 storage of water. So that's not a long -- like we've  16 mentioned, it's not a long-term strategy. And we feel  17 it creates a risk for the operation by storing  18 additional water.  19 So I just wanted to give a few points of clarity.  20 I'm not sure if we have any questions on the  21 presentation. It's just that we have our submissions  22 provided, related to the water licence, and we'll  23 provide that -- the final version later today. And  24 we've provided our concerns with storage of water based  25 on additional risks that it may -- that it will cause  26 the operation -- based on the opinion from our expert</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">76</p> <p>1 from Tetra Tech.  2 And in our responses for discharge in Meliadine  3 Lake, it's in our final submissions, why we have to  4 continue to discharge until the waterline is built.  5 And, also, dealing -- if the waterline is approved  6 during the freshet -- it's in our final written  7 submissions -- there's, again, a chart that shows why  8 we have to continue to discharge during spring freshet.  9 Storage of water at that time creates a risk for the  10 operation, based on what the Kivalliq Inuit Association  11 has proposed. So at that time, no additional  12 questions. Thank you.  13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Applicant.  14 KIA?  15 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  16 would request Richard Nesbitt, if he has any standing  17 concerns and respond to Agnico Eagle comments.  18 MR. NESBITT: Thank you -- Thank you,  19 Mr. Chair. Richard Nesbitt here, on behalf of the  20 Kivalliq Inuit Association.  21 Jamie, I appreciate the clarifications you  22 provided in your commentary there. One additional  23 clarification I would like to provide on behalf -- or  24 pertaining to KIA's proposal regarding discharges to  25 Meliadine Lake and Melvin Bay: We do understand that  26 Agnico Eagle needs to continue discharging to Meliadine</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">77</p> <p>1 Lake prior to the construction of the waterline. The  2 discussion that we put forward in our submission was  3 not intended to propose both freshwater and saline  4 water be stored in Tiriganiaq-2. We do understand the  5 risks that your expert highlighted, and we do  6 understand that there was a desire not to incur those  7 risks, if possible.  8 What we are trying to propose is that, when  9 possible -- we know that there's a period during  10 freshet when some discharges will be required, to  11 Meliadine Lake. But at the time the waterline becomes  12 available, while there are still going to be some water  13 in CP1 that will require discharge to Meliadine Lake,  14 that volume is substantively dewatered by about July,  15 based on the 2020 monitoring of dewatering of CP1.  16 So we're not suggesting so much that you store  17 water in Tiriganiaq-2 for a longer period. We are  18 suggesting that while there is still water in CP1 that  19 needs to be discharged, that Agnico Eagle would,  20 whenever possible, discharge that via the waterline to  21 Melvin Bay and then continue the dewatering of  22 Tiriganiaq-2 and the saline effluent contained therein  23 in the dryer portion of the summer, when the need to  24 discharge water from CP1 is significantly lower than  25 during freshet, and in the period immediately before  26 freeze-up, when both water -- or both containment ponds</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">78</p> <p>1 need to be dewatered as much as possible.  2 I hope that provides a little more clarification  3 for the Board and their consideration with what KIA has  4 proposed and in reference to the Tetra Tech memo that  5 we received last night.  6 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  7 Applicant?  8 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Jamie  9 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle. We just want to refer to our  10 response, KIA, "New-TC-9." We provided a chart related  11 to discharge of Meliadine Lake. So there's a period of  12 time, if the waterline is approved, that we'll still  13 have to discharge during the freshet. So that's what  14 the Table New-TC-9-1 on page 18 of our final written  15 submission refers to. We'll still be discharging  16 during the freshet because we do have commitments for  17 -- based on the waterline, to ensure the integrity of  18 the waterline is up to standard before we discharge  19 every season. That's a commitment. And that has to be  20 done at proper temperatures, and that would take about  21 two weeks.  22 So during freshet, say mid-June, we would still  23 have to discharge to Meliadine Lake until the waterline  24 is operational. And if we're under normal operating  25 conditions, then we can divert that water.  26 You know, like I said earlier, it'd be great if we</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">79</p> <p>1 can predict the precipitation. So we may have a dry  2 summer, we may have a wet summer. So this is why we  3 have to stay ahead of discharging our volume of water  4 and not storing water so we're not creating additional  5 risk to the site and especially on the integrity of our  6 infrastructure, which was discussed at the emergency  7 amendment.  8 So we have to ensure we have that flexibility.  9 And if we do have the capacity in the waterline, we're  10 going to minimize that discharge to Meliadine Lake.  11 But we need the flexibility to manage our water on the  12 site. And the Tetra Tech memo relates to risks that  13 would be created if we're storing additional water in  14 Tiri-2 pit. Again, it's a pit that's temporarily  15 paused for mining, to store water. The operation would  16 like to get back to mining that pit once we get under  17 normal conditions.  18 So I just wanted to clarify those few pieces  19 related to the water management, related to our  20 existing application to discharge of water to Meliadine  21 Lake, and also the flexibility we'll have if and when  22 the waterline is approved. So I just wanted to say, in  23 summary, if we're under normal operating conditions,  24 which does not include storage of water, long term, and  25 we do have capacity in our waterline, if and when  26 approved, we'll minimize the discharge to Meliadine</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">80</p> <p>1 Lake, and we'll divert that water to the waterline.  2 So it's been defined in our responses. And we do  3 have an expert stating some risks based on additional  4 storage of water with the Tiri-2 pit. So, hopefully,  5 that provides additional clarification.  6 MR. NESBITT: Richard Nesbitt on behalf of  7 the Kivalliq Inuit Association. Thank you for that,  8 Jamie. I think the combination of the clarifications  9 we have both provided and the information currently  10 before the Board should be sufficient, although, of  11 course, we'll hear if the Nunavut Water Board staff has  12 any questions, as they cycle around.  13 I also want to, as a concluding statement here,  14 say that we will also be reviewing and commenting -- or  15 we'd like to review and comment on the new draft water  16 licence when it is submitted. As Jamie and our  17 presentation both indicated, we still have some  18 concerns with various aspects of the wording, and we  19 would appreciate an opportunity to see and comment on  20 how our recommendations have been incorporated into the  21 draft.  22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, KIA.  23 Is Applicant done with questioning that  24 intervener? Okay, thank you.  25 Now, I'd like to call Crown-Indigenous Relations  26 and Northern Affairs, if you have questions to the KIA.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">81</p> <p>1 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>2 Spencer Dewar, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern</p> <p>3 Affairs Canada. We have no questions at this time.</p> <p>4 Thank you.</p> <p>5 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>6 Now I would like to call Environment and Climate</p> <p>7 Change Canada, if you have questions.</p> <p>8 MS. SHORE: Victoria Shore, Environment</p> <p>9 and Climate Change Canada. We have no questions.</p> <p>10 Thank you.</p> <p>11 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>12 I'd like to call the public. You have questions</p> <p>13 from the public? Okay, I think there's none.</p> <p>14 So, Stephanie, go ahead.</p> <p>15 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>16 Stephanie Autut, Nunavut Water Board. Mr. Chair, the</p> <p>17 staff and legal counsel do have some questions at this</p> <p>18 time.</p> <p>19 Nunavut Water Board Staff Questions Kivalliq Inuit</p> <p>20 Association</p> <p>21 MR. KHARATYAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Karén</p> <p>22 Kharatyan, Water Board. We have a few questions for</p> <p>23 confirmation. But before these questions, I will make</p> <p>24 a few comments for clarification for parties and KIA.</p> <p>25 Starting from Technical Comment Number 1, where KIA</p> <p>26 proposed licence terms, conditions regarding the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">82</p> <p>1 waterline for diversion of surface contact water</p> <p>2 through this waterline to Melvin Bay, just to be very</p> <p>3 clear, waterline is not part of this application.</p> <p>4 Waterline is actually part of project proposal before</p> <p>5 the Nunavut Impact Review Board.</p> <p>6 The Board -- I'm not very sure that the Board will</p> <p>7 be on a position to direct the company to do -- to</p> <p>8 conduct an activity that is outside our Board mandate.</p> <p>9 While we appreciate the KIA position that asks, at the</p> <p>10 extent possible, the company, yes, should divert this</p> <p>11 surface contact water to Melvin Bay marine environment,</p> <p>12 we can't actually direct them to do this. We will</p> <p>13 encourage the applicant to utilize this waterline, when</p> <p>14 and if approved by Nunavut Impact Review Board, to</p> <p>15 divert also surface contact water, but this will be</p> <p>16 encouragement.</p> <p>17 And, also, with respect to Adaptive Management</p> <p>18 Plan, this Adaptive Management Plan wasn't requirement</p> <p>19 for licence application or package. And the Board</p> <p>20 position about approval or rejecting this Adaptive</p> <p>21 Management Plan was, this is not for our review because</p> <p>22 it has action items that are outside of Board mandate.</p> <p>23 We can't really show any position on these items,</p> <p>24 especially when these items are still are with Nunavut</p> <p>25 Impact Review Board. So there is no even a guarantee</p> <p>26 that this will be accepted. We don't know. So we</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">83</p> <p>1 can't really direct, again, the company to do activity</p> <p>2 that are outside the water mandate.</p> <p>3 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>4 KIA?</p> <p>5 MR. MANZO: Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit</p> <p>6 Association. Thank you for the comments and the</p> <p>7 clarification with both applications. It's unfortunate</p> <p>8 that the CP1 component, which part of the water</p> <p>9 management, is in the Adaptive Management Plan. And I</p> <p>10 assume the proponent will submit some daily management</p> <p>11 plan for the whole, entire water management regime.</p> <p>12 And I maybe agree and disagree in this point. But</p> <p>13 I suggest that that component from CP1 will correspond</p> <p>14 to the water (INDISCERNIBLE) should be updated into the</p> <p>15 management plan of the existing -- an existing</p> <p>16 management plan for Agnico, under the water licence. I</p> <p>17 don't see no problem in using that component from CP1,</p> <p>18 which is corresponded to contact water, into the</p> <p>19 existing management plan.</p> <p>20 MR. KHARATYAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Karén</p> <p>21 Kharatyan, Water Board.</p> <p>22 Just again for clarification, the waterline</p> <p>23 component of these activities or water management</p> <p>24 activities doesn't need to be approved by Water Board.</p> <p>25 This is with Nunavut Impact Review Board. It doesn't</p> <p>26 trigger any amendment to water licence.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">84</p> <p>1 However, from our understanding, and the NWB's</p> <p>2 expectation is, we know that this -- if and when</p> <p>3 approved, this will impact some of their management</p> <p>4 plans. So some of their management plans, like Spill</p> <p>5 Contingency Plan, Water Management Plan, should need to</p> <p>6 be updated and -- for Board approval. And our</p> <p>7 expectation is that this adaptive management actions</p> <p>8 will be incorporated within the relevant management</p> <p>9 plans, once -- if and when the waterline is actually</p> <p>10 approved by Nunavut Impact Review Board. Thank you.</p> <p>11 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Karén.</p> <p>13 KIA?</p> <p>14 MR. MANZO: Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit</p> <p>15 Association. Thank you for the clarification, and I</p> <p>16 appreciate the response. Thanks.</p> <p>17 MR. KUFLEVSKIY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have</p> <p>18 a few confirmations to ask. Sergey Kuflevskiy, Nunavut</p> <p>19 Water Board. I have a few questions to ask from the</p> <p>20 KIA. They're more confirmations.</p> <p>21 But before I do that, I just wanted to follow up</p> <p>22 on Karén's comment, adaptive -- about the Adaptive</p> <p>23 Management Plan. And I'll just share my screen and</p> <p>24 show what Agnico Eagle committed to during -- after the</p> <p>25 technical meeting. And all the parties have a chance</p> <p>26 to look at the commitment list and agreed to that.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">85</p> <p>1 So if you may remember, at the technical meeting,  2 it was decided that the Adaptive Management Plan is not  3 a part of this application. And I'm just -- if you  4 look at the screen, you can see in the last column,  5 we're actually stating that the Adaptive Management  6 Plan is a part of the NIRB's process, and we only  7 requested Agnico Eagle to submit a copy of the Adaptive  8 Management Plan to the Nunavut Water Board. And once  9 the -- so this basically -- to clarify your question  10 and Karén's comment, that the Adaptive Management Plan  11 is not actually a part of this application.  12 And when this was discussed with the parties back  13 in November and December last year, everybody agreed to  14 this, that this should stay as part of the NIRB's  15 application and we should only be informed when this  16 plan is approved and the associated management plans  17 should be updated.  18 And now I have a few more questions. I'll share a  19 different screen.  20 MR. NESBITT: Sorry, is it possible to  21 respond to that particular point raised by Sergey  22 there?  23 MR. KUFLEVSKIY: Thank you, Richard. Please  24 respond.  25 MR. NESBITT: Thank you. Richard Nesbitt,  26 on behalf of the KIA.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">86</p> <p>1 Yes, Sergey, thank you very much for highlighting  2 that commitment. One of the contributing factors to  3 our agreement to that was the understanding that, while  4 usually the NIRB process would go ahead of the Water  5 Board process, we did understand that the management of  6 water at the Meliadine site and the waterlines have yet  7 to be approved, and so it's difficult to incorporate an  8 as-yet-to-be-approved component into the waterline.  9 That said, KIA's comments with respect to the  10 Adaptive Management Plan are focused specifically on  11 the components that impact the management of inland  12 waters at the Meliadine site. Our comments are not  13 pertaining to the actual discharges of that water to  14 the marine environment, which is why we are still  15 putting forward the idea that the components of the  16 Adaptive Management Plan, again, pertaining to inland  17 waters, are under the Water Board's jurisdiction and so  18 can be considered by the Board as part of these  19 proceedings.  20 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  21 Karén, go ahead.  22 MR. KHARATYAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Karén  23 Kharatyan, Water Board.  24 Just to clarify, Richard, discharge, even fresh --  25 of freshwater to Melvin Bay is outside the Water Board  26 jurisdiction. So we never mentioned that this</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">87</p> <p>1 diverting of surface contact water to Melvin Bay will  2 require Water Board approval. We stated, even during  3 technical meeting, that some adaptive management  4 actions, if the waterline is approved by Nunavut Impact  5 Review Board, will be reflected within the relevant  6 management plans to be submitted to Water Board. I  7 hope this was clear. Thank you.  8 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  9 MS. KING: This is Jennifer King, legal  10 counsel for Kivalliq Inuit Association. I have a  11 question for the Water Board. When you say that the  12 waterline is outside of the Water Board's mandate, I  13 hear that you're saying that that's because it's not  14 yet approved by the NIRB. But are you saying something  15 in addition to that, that the waterline is, in general,  16 not within the jurisdiction of the Water Board? And on  17 what (AUDIO FEED LOST).  18 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  19 Legal counsel for Water Board.  20 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa  21 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board. So  22 Mr. Chair, there are two aspects to that question. The  23 first is that, yes, the scope of the water licence  24 amendment that we're currently considering does not  25 include the pipeline, does not include the waterline,  26 and is focused on the amendments associated with the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">88</p> <p>1 change to the total dissolved solids and the other  2 amendments, the scope, as discussed. So the water  3 pipeline is not within the discussions of this  4 application, full stop.  5 There is a recognition of the interrelationship  6 between water management, overall, at the site and the  7 Nunavut Impact Review Board project proposal -- or  8 project proposal that's before the Nunavut Impact  9 Review Board, involving the water pipeline. But the  10 discharge and that pipeline itself are not within the  11 scope of the Water Board's water licence because the  12 Water Board does not have jurisdiction over discharges  13 into the marine environment. And the infrastructure,  14 so the water pipeline itself, does not have unique  15 water-crossings of freshwater.  16 And so, as Karén has referenced, based on the  17 Water Board's understanding of the scope of the water  18 pipeline proposal, no additional amendments to the  19 waterline are contemplated in order for that project to  20 go ahead.  21 So, Mr. Chair, that is the rationale for -- and  22 the basis for why Karén outlined what the Board's  23 approach to the Adaptive Management Plan has been under  24 this water licence application. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  25 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  26 Okay, any further questions from staff? Go ahead.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">89</p> <p>1 MR. KUFLEVSKIY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This is  2 Sergey Kuflevskiy, Nunavut Water Board. I now wanted  3 to confirm a few commitments -- a few comments that  4 were resolved, with conditions, during the technical  5 meeting. And I just wanted to confirm that the KIA  6 still agrees to -- that those comments -- those  7 conditions should be included into the licence.  8 I will now share my screen just so that everybody  9 can see the comments. So this is just a summary of the  10 commitments that were made during the technical  11 meeting. Number 1 is coming from the information  12 request, Number 2, from KIA, and this is to update the  13 Water Management Plan and the Water Balance and Water  14 Quality model six months prior to starting the  15 discharge of saline water.  16 Number 2 is in line with the Part E, Item 12, of  17 the current water licence, and it's basically asking to  18 update the water balance on annual basis and provide  19 the updates in the annual reports.  20 Item Number 3 is coming from Technical Comment  21 Number 5, submitted by KIA during the technical review.  22 And this condition imposes the listed plans to be  23 updated, as part of the update to the Interim Closure  24 and Reclamation Plan.  25 And the last condition that KIA suggested to be  26 included into the water -- into the amended water</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">90</p> <p>1 licence is the detailed geotechnical investigation to  2 characterize the overburden in the vicinity of CP2 to  3 determine depths of the bedrock.  4 So these are -- this is my summary of the  5 conditions that were imposed after the technical  6 meeting, and these conditions were included in the list  7 of conditions with the pre-hearing conference decision.  8 So I just wanted to confirm with the Kivalliq Inuit  9 Association that they still agreed that these  10 conditions should stand so we just have it on record.  11 Thank you.  12 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  13 KIA, go ahead.  14 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Luis  15 Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association. Yes, those  16 conditions still stand. Thank you.  17 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  18 Any other further questions from Water Board  19 staff?  20 MR. KUFLEVSKIY: Yes, that's all my questions.  21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  22 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  23 Go ahead.  24 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa  25 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.  26 Mr. Chair, I just have one question, and it is in</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">91</p> <p>1 respect of correspondence that was provided yesterday  2 by the Kivalliq Inuit Association. My understanding is  3 there was a copy to Agnico Eagle, and it is in respect  4 of the water-user compensation.  5 As I referred to, when I asked the same question  6 to Agnico Eagle, based on this correspondence, it  7 states that the Kivalliq Inuit Association has reached  8 an agreement with Agnico Eagle Mines Limited on the  9 Meliadine water compensation amendment, whereby Agnico  10 Eagle Mines Limited agrees to pay compensation for loss  11 or damage to the water that may be caused by the  12 Meliadine mine project.  13 And so I'm asking whether or not the Board can  14 file this confirmation letter from the Kivalliq Inuit  15 Association as an exhibit in this public hearing,  16 recognizing that it's confirmation that there are no  17 outstanding issues of water-user compensation for the  18 Kivalliq Inuit Association.  19 MR. MANZO: I will elaborate for  20 clarification. Yes, we reached an agreement, and  21 that's correct. The outstanding agreement between the  22 AEM and KIA have a water quality provision, which is  23 subject to when the action is happen. So that will  24 also (INDISCERNIBLE) in the future, so that's amended  25 because we don't know the activities that may cause  26 impact in water quality, on the project. Therefore,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">92</p> <p>1 that is still as an agreement, so just to make sure  2 that is clear. Thank you.  3 MS. MEADOWS: So just for the record, and  4 because I require this and the Board requires this  5 confirmation on the record, there are no outstanding  6 issues of water-user compensation between Agnico Eagle  7 and the Kivalliq Inuit Association; is that correct?  8 MR. MANZO: That's correct.  9 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you.  10 EXHIBIT 5 - Letter from the Kivalliq Inuit  11 Association dated March 26, 2021  12 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Those  13 are my questions.  14 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  15 Any Panel members' questions? Okay, thank you.  16 There's no more questions.  17 Thank you, KIA, for your presentation.  18 Now, I'll open up for another intervener.  19 Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs, if you have a  20 presentation, you may do so now. Before doing that,  21 legal counsel will do procedures.  22 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa  23 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board. If  24 I can have the witnesses state and spell their name for  25 the record, please.  26 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair. I'm</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">93</p> <p>1 Spencer Dewar, S-P-E-N-C-E-R D-E-W-A-R. And then I'll 2 turn it over. 3 MS. FORTE: Hello. My name is Sarah 4 Forte, S-A-R-A-H F-O-R-T-E. 5 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair. I'd 6 also like to have David Zhong, our science and 7 regulatory advisor, sworn in or affirmed and also Gerd 8 Wiatzka with Arcadis sworn in or affirmed. I do 9 believe they're on Zoom. 10 MR. ZHONG: David Zhong, D-A-V-I-D 11 Z-H-O-N-G. Thank you. 12 MR. WIATZKA: It's Gerd Wiatzka here. Can 13 you hear me? 14 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes. 15 MR. WIATZKA: So it's "Gerd," G-E-R-D 16 W-I-A-T-Z-K-A. 17 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you for the witnesses 18 who are on -- appearing by Zoom. I will administer 19 the -- and for the witnesses here who wish to be 20 affirmed, I will administer the affirmations, and then 21 I ask that you state your name and "I affirm." 22 Do you solemnly affirm that the evidence about to 23 be given by you shall be the truth, the whole truth, 24 and nothing but the truth? 25 MS. FORTE: Sarah Forte, I affirm. 26 MR. ZHONG: David Zhong, I affirm.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">94</p> <p>1 MR. WIATZKA: Gerd Wiatzka, I affirm. 2 SARAH FORTE, DAVID ZHONG, GERD WIATZKA, Affirmed 3 MS. MEADOWS: Mr. Dewar, if I can get you to 4 put your left hand on the Bible and raise your right 5 hand. Do you swear that the evidence about to be given 6 by you shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing 7 but the truth, so help you God? 8 MR. DEWAR: I swear. 9 SPENCER DEWAR, Sworn 10 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa 11 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board. 12 Mr. Chair, I have presentation materials for 13 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs that I 14 propose to file as the next exhibits in this public 15 hearing. And those are all my procedural matters, 16 Mr. Chair. 17 EXHIBIT 6 - Hard Copy and Electronic Copy of 18 the PowerPoint Presentation By 19 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 20 Affairs in English and in Inuktitut 21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, legal counsel for 22 Water Board. 23 Okay, you may go ahead now, Indigenous and 24 Northern Affairs Canada, with your presentation. 25 Presentation by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 26 Affairs Canada</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">95</p> <p>1 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair. 2 Ullaakkut. My name is Spencer Dewar. I'm the Director 3 of Resource Management with Crown-Indigenous Relations 4 and Northern Affairs Canada in Nunavut. I'd like to 5 thank the Nunavut Water Board for this opportunity to 6 make a presentation and intervention regarding Agnico 7 Eagle's application to amend their water licence for 8 the Meliadine mine. 9 I'm joined today by Sarah Forte, Water Management 10 Specialist, and on the phone, we have David Zhong, 11 science and regulatory advisor, and Gerd Wiatzka, with 12 Arcadis Canada. 13 On behalf of Crown-Indigenous Relations and 14 Northern Affairs Canada, I'd like to recognize the 15 Water Board's work in facilitating this licence 16 application review process and Agnico Eagle's efforts 17 to responding to our questions and concerns. Next 18 slide. 19 I will start with a brief overview of 20 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs 21 Canada's responsibilities with respect to the licence 22 applications and contributions made during this 23 process. Following that, I will speak to the topics of 24 the technical review as identified by the Nunavut Water 25 Board. I will speak to each of the topics with the 26 exception of the water-user compensation because it's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">96</p> <p>1 not within Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 2 Affairs Canada mandate. 3 Overall, we have raised seven technical comments. 4 The issues identified have been resolved through 5 discussions at the technical meeting and updated 6 materials submitted by Agnico Eagle. Next slide, 7 please. 8 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs 9 Canada has a broad mandate for the co-management of 10 freshwater resources and the management of Crown land 11 in Nunavut under the Nunavut Agreement and the listed 12 acts and regulations on this slide. In addition, 13 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada 14 administers and enforces regulatory authorizations that 15 pertain to Nunavut's Crown land and freshwater 16 resources. 17 The department participates in water licence 18 processes administered by the Nunavut Water Board, 19 along with interested parties, providing technical 20 advice and expertise for the Board's consideration. 21 Where applicable, Crown-Indigenous Relations and 22 Northern Affairs Canada also issues land use permits 23 and leases for Crown land. Next slide, please. 24 Earlier, the Nunavut Water Board listed the 25 interventions, to date, in this water amendment 26 process. This slide details Crown-Indigenous Relations</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">97</p> <p>1 and Northern Affairs Canada's contributions as well as  2 acknowledging discussions with the Kivalliq Inuit  3 Association and Agnico Eagle relative to reclamation  4 security. These discussions occurred outside the  5 Nunavut Water Board's process, but the conclusions are  6 reported in our final written submission and in this  7 presentation. Next slide, please.</p> <p>8 This first topic proposed by the Board is licence  9 scope. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  10 Canada agrees that the scope has been consistent  11 throughout this process. The department submitted a  12 single comment regarding the scope of the licence, and  13 it was resolved by Agnico Eagle, clarifying that only  14 the access roads to the additional deposits are to be  15 considered. There is nothing covering potential mining  16 of future deposits. Next slide, please.</p> <p>17 Under this application amendment, Agnico Eagle is  18 requesting the authorization of a 133 percent increase  19 in water use, to draw a total of over 740,000 cubic  20 metres of water per year. Crown-Indigenous Relations  21 and Northern Affairs Canada does not have concerns with  22 the capacity of Meliadine Lake to provide the requested  23 quantity of water. Our technical comment was regarding  24 water management and the inclusion of the waterline to  25 Melvin Bay, which is not part of this application. As  26 such, this concern has been resolved. Next slide,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">98</p> <p>1 please.</p> <p>2 The department submitted two comments regarding  3 Water Balance and Water Quality model and predictions.  4 Our technical comment was resolved -- our first  5 technical comment was resolved by Agnico Eagle,  6 providing us with information on thresholds for reverse  7 osmosis treatment of saline water and an explanation  8 for water diversion on site, of which can be found in  9 Agnico Eagle's Saline Effluent Treatment Plant Design  10 report.</p> <p>11 On our other issue, Crown-Indigenous Relations and  12 Northern Affairs is looking for better identification  13 of sources of total dissolved solids in contact water  14 on site to allow for better management and mitigation.  15 Agnico Eagle is developing a sampling program for 2021  16 to answer uncertainties and will communicate the  17 results in its 2021 annual report. We recommend that  18 this be added as a condition in an amended water  19 licence to help keep track of this commitment. Next  20 slide, please.</p> <p>21 Plans for the waterline to move wastewater from  22 the site to Melvin Bay are currently under review by  23 the Nunavut Impact Review Board. However, the  24 waterline is included in the reclamation cost estimate  25 discussed in this current water licence amendment. The  26 department's technical comment on this topic was a</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">99</p> <p>1 request for information on spill planning for the  2 planned waterline. It has been resolved because Agnico  3 Eagle specified that the waterline is not part of this  4 application. Issues related to spills will be  5 addressed through the Nunavut Impact Review Board  6 process. Next slide, please.</p> <p>7 Agnico Eagle has requested that effluent quality  8 criteria be amended to allow for increased total  9 dissolved solids in the treated water discharged  10 through the diffusers to Meliadine Lake. Of note, this  11 slide has a maximize grab sample of 5,000 milligrams  12 per litre, but the limit now under consideration is  13 4,500 milligrams per litre, as presented by Agnico  14 Eagle this morning. Crown-Indigenous Relations and  15 Northern Affairs Canada supports the objective of  16 minimizing the discharge of effluents to Meliadine Lake  17 and is of the opinion that this can be achieved once  18 the waterline is in place.</p> <p>19 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  20 Canada had two technical comments regarding the total  21 dissolved solid thresholds and the validation of  22 proposed criteria. These were both resolved by Agnico  23 Eagle providing more information, including further  24 modeling results and a revised Water Quality  25 Optimization Plan. Next slide, please.</p> <p>26 The proposed amendment changes where waste rock</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">100</p> <p>1 and overburden would be -- overburden will be placed.  2 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  3 Canada's technical comment on this topic was resolved  4 by Agnico Eagle clarifying that the waste rock for  5 Waste Rock Storage Facility 3 has already been  6 characterized. It was evaluated for placement into  7 Waste Rock Storage Facility 2 and will simply be going  8 to a different facility, and it does not include any  9 rock from additional deposits. Next slide, please.</p> <p>10 In the concurrent Nunavut Impact Review Board  11 process, Agnico Eagle has produced an Adaptive  12 Management Plan for water management at the Meliadine  13 mine. We've reviewed and suggested changes to the  14 plan's goals and triggers through the Nunavut Impact  15 Review Board process. The first version, dated  16 February 2021, covers both saline and contact water  17 discharge through the proposed waterline between the  18 mine site and Melvin Bay.</p> <p>19 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  20 Canada supports the use of the adaptive management  21 approach to only discharge compliant contact water into  22 Meliadine Lake. Our understanding is that the Adaptive  23 Management Plan indicates discharge into Meliadine Lake  24 would only be contemplated at the "caution" level.</p> <p>25 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  26 Canada recognizes that until the Nunavut Impact Review</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">101</p> <p>1 Board has made a decision, it will not be possible to  2 determine what changes might be necessary to the water  3 licence. Should the Nunavut Impact Review Board  4 approve the waterline to Melvin Bay, site wastewater  5 management will change. At a minimum, this needs to be  6 reflected in the plans approved under the water  7 licence, and it may require further changes. Next  8 slide, please.</p> <p>9 Agnico Eagle updated their Interim Closure and  10 Reclamation Plan, and Crown-Indigenous Relations and  11 Northern Affairs Canada noted some elements to reflect  12 the proposed site changes and the proposed waterlines  13 were lacking in the updated plan. We recognize the  14 waterline is still undergoing a review by the Nunavut  15 Impact Review Board, but have included a conservative  16 estimate for its reclamation. If the Nunavut Impact  17 Review Board does not approve the waterline, it would  18 be up to Agnico Eagle to request a reduction in  19 security to the Nunavut Water Board if this water  20 licence was approved.</p> <p>21 The department worked with the Kivalliq Inuit  22 Association and Agnico Eagle and has reached a final  23 security amount of just over \$69 million.  24 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada,  25 the Kivalliq Inuit Association, and Agnico -- and  26 Agnico Eagle agree and propose that the security be</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">102</p> <p>1 held, subject to a security management arrangement.  2 Next slide, please.</p> <p>3 Revision to management plans. The existing  4 management plans require revisions to reflect the  5 proposed changes. Within -- with the changes discussed  6 for this water licence amendment, the department would  7 be looking to review revised versions of the Waste  8 Management Plan, the Water Management Plan, the Interim  9 Closure and Reclamation Plan. And if the Nunavut  10 Impact Review Board approves the waterline to Melvin  11 Bay, a water licence amendment may be necessary.</p> <p>12 But at a minimum, CIRNAC would be looking to  13 review revised versions of the following plans prior to  14 waterline operation: Water Management Plan, Spill  15 Contingency Plan, and Groundwater Management Plan.  16 Next slide, please. Let's get these fast computers.</p> <p>17 So, in conclusion, Agnico Eagle, the Kivalliq  18 Inuit Association, and Crown-Indigenous Relations and  19 Northern Affairs Canada have worked to -- have worked  20 to plan minimizing discharges to Meliadine Lake through  21 the use of a waterline. Crown-Indigenous Relations and  22 Northern Affairs Canada recommends that lake discharges  23 be used as a last resort. And then I'd like to finally  24 state that Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  25 Affairs Canada's technical comments for the water  26 licence amendment have been addressed by Agnico Eagle.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">103</p> <p>1 Matna.</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you for your  3 presentation, CIRNAC.</p> <p>4 Open up for questions. I'd like to start with the  5 applicant. If you have a question to the presentation  6 of CIRNAC, you may go ahead.</p> <p>7 Agnico Eagle Mines Questions Crown-Indigenous Relations  8 and Northern Affairs Canada</p> <p>9 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Jamie  10 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle. I just want to go back to  11 Slide 11 and just to get some clarity on that slide. I  12 just want to make sure, on Slide 11, the second bullet  13 supports adaptive management approach to eliminate  14 discharge to Meliadine Lake under normal operating  15 conditions while also allowing Agnico Eagle site water  16 management flexibility. And, also, you mentioned  17 "caution" level.</p> <p>18 So with the "caution" level component that you  19 mentioned, we responded to that in the final written  20 submission, Number 7. I just wanted to confirm that  21 you agree with our response, our final written  22 submission.</p> <p>23 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair.  24 Spencer Dewar, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  25 Affairs Canada.</p> <p>26 I realize we're talking about adaptive management,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">104</p> <p>1 and I understand most of this is to be discussed  2 through the Nunavut Impact Review Board process. So we  3 understand, sort of, that -- I think we have a clearer  4 understanding of how Agnico Eagle plans to discharge  5 into the Meliadine Lake, and it'll make efforts to  6 minimize that. And I think that's the overall goal, is  7 that we work to minimize that as best as we can.</p> <p>8 This comment was sort of written in relation to  9 the Adaptive Management Plan, which is now before the  10 Nunavut Impact Review Board, and I know there'll be  11 further discussions there. And we understood that it  12 would be at the "caution" level where you were looking  13 for additional discharge into Lake Meliadine. Almost  14 -- that would be almost a technique to avoid an  15 emergency situation.</p> <p>16 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>17 Go ahead, Applicant.</p> <p>18 MR. QUESNEL: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  19 Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.</p> <p>20 I think our response provides a little bit more  21 clarity to that. I just want to make sure everyone  22 sees our response. I know it's adaptive management,  23 which we'll discuss further, related to the waterline.  24 So we don't -- I don't -- we're not totally aligned on  25 that interpretation. We agree that we're going to  26 minimize discharge to Meliadine Lake, but the triggers</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">105</p> <p>1 are different than what you're mentioning in the  2 "cautionary" level.  3 So we'll just leave it as that because that's  4 going to be in front of the Nunavut Impact Review  5 Board. I just wanted to make sure that our response is  6 clear to CIRNAC, related to that comment. Thank you.  7 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  8 CIRNAC?  9 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair. I do  10 believe it's -- Spencer Dewar, Crown-Indigenous  11 Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.  12 I do believe it is clear that you'll continue to  13 discharge into Meliadine Lake. There's a few times  14 when it's necessary, because when the waterline comes  15 online, you'll need to prep it in the spring during  16 freshet, and there will be times when you'll have to --  17 you'll be required to do it. But you've committed to  18 not doing that as much as you possibly can, when there  19 is residual capacity in the waterline, once operated.  20 Right?  21 So I think we understand when you'd use it and how  22 you're authorized to use it. And then, I guess, our  23 comment here was in relation to how the adaptive  24 management would be used in more of an emergency  25 situation. Matna.  26 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">106</p> <p>1 Any further questions from the applicant?  2 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No  3 further questions. Thank you.  4 THE CHAIR: Okay, thank you. I'd like to  5 call -- now I'd like to call the Climate -- Environment  6 and Climate Change Canada, if you have a question to  7 the CIRNAC.  8 Sorry --  9 MS. SHORE: Victoria --  10 THE CHAIR: -- before you start, I'd like  11 to call Kivalliq Inuit Association first before you --  12 before you go on.  13 Kivalliq Inuit Association Questions Crown-Indigenous  14 Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  15 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Luis  16 Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association. No questions at  17 this time. Thank you.  18 MR. NESBITT: Sorry, Luis, we do have one  19 question, if you wouldn't mind.  20 MR. MANZO: Sorry, Mr. Chairman.  21 Go ahead, Richard.  22 MR. NESBITT: Thank you. Richard Nesbitt on  23 behalf of the Kivalliq Inuit Association. First of  24 all, CIRNAC and Spencer, thank you for your  25 presentation. It was encouraging to hear the  26 statements regarding, if the waterline is approved,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">107</p> <p>1 that, at minimum, the plans you would outline would  2 need to be updated and, potentially, there would need  3 to be some reconsideration within the water licence  4 itself.  5 I'm wondering if CIRNAC would support a term  6 condition in the water licence requiring Agnico Eagle  7 to submit those updated plans with inclusion of the  8 waterline, should it be approved. Thank you.  9 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  10 CIRNAC, go ahead.  11 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair.  12 Thank you, Richard. Spencer Dewar -- I've always  13 wanted to be named "Richard." Spencer Dewar,  14 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.  15 I mean, this is almost a regulatory procedure.  16 I'm not sure that the Water Board is specifically  17 indicating terms and conditions that require that would  18 be necessary. But I -- we certainly support Agnico  19 Eagle needing to update those plans. So I leave it to  20 the Board on how they decide to license that. Matna.  21 MR. NESBITT: Thank you for that, Spencer, I  22 appreciate your response.  23 THE CHAIR: Any further questions from  24 Kivalliq Inuit Association?  25 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Luis  26 Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association. No more questions.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">108</p> <p>1 Thank you.  2 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  3 Now I'd like to call Environment and Climate  4 Change Canada. If you have questions, you may go ahead  5 now. Environment and Climate Change Canada, do you  6 have any questions to the CIRNAC presentation?  7 MS. WILSON: It's Anne Wilson. I'm not  8 sure if Victoria is having technical difficulties, but  9 no questions from us. Thank you.  10 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  11 Water Board staff, go ahead.  12 Nunavut Water Board Staff Questions Crown-Indigenous  13 Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  14 MR. KHARATYAN: Karén Kharatyan, Water Board.  15 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  16 Just one follow-up regarding KIA's question to  17 CIRNAC with respect to potential proposal from CIRNAC  18 regarding a licence term requiring the applicant to  19 submit updated management plans. I'd like to just  20 clarify that licence already have terms and conditions  21 requiring the applicant to submit updated management  22 plans whenever they have operational changes. So this  23 is already covered by existing licence, and there is  24 no spec -- there is no need of specific term, condition  25 requiring this.  26 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">109</p> <p>1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Karén.  2 CIRNAC, go ahead.  3 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair. I do  4 believe Karén was just stating a fact. This was  5 already inherent, and no response was required?  6 THE CHAIR: Water Board, go ahead.  7 MR. KHARATYAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Karén  8 Kharatyan, Water Board.  9 I would like to clarify also one statement that  10 CIRNAC made regarding the potential amendment to water  11 licence after approval of waterline by Nunavut Impact  12 Review Board. I stated that, based on our current  13 assessment of this waterline or pipeline project  14 proposal before the Nunavut Impact Review Board, we  15 don't see a need of further amendment to the licence  16 because the information that we have is that there is  17 no additional water use and there is no potential waste  18 disposal associated with this waterline.  19 So water-crossings are completely through the  20 bridges that are already bridging the activity approved  21 by water licence -- by Water Board, and so why we are  22 saying that we don't see the need of potential  23 amendment.  24 However, if the design of this waterline changes  25 during review of -- review process with Nunavut Impact  26 Review Board and it happens that Agnico Eagle is</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">110</p> <p>1 proposing different or additional water-crossing, et  2 cetera, that are not part of activity approval, yes,  3 there may be need for water amendment. So just to  4 clarify that my statement about not seeing a need for  5 water amendment is based on the information that we  6 have right now. Thank you.  7 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Karén.  9 CIRNAC, go ahead.  10 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair.  11 Spencer Dewar, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  12 Affairs Canada.  13 Thank you, Karén, for sharing your opinion or  14 observations on the current process. Yes, we're just  15 putting out there that there is a possibility that the  16 Nunavut Impact Review Board's review may augment, sort,  17 of, how the water licensing occurs downstream. No pun  18 intended. Matna.  19 THE CHAIR: Any further questions from  20 Water Board? Okay, thank you.  21 Panel members, any questions? Okay.  22 Is there a question from public to CIRNAC's  23 presentation? I take that there's none. Thank you.  24 Thank you for your presentation, CIRNAC.  25 Now, I'd like to call Environment and Climate  26 Change Canada to have your presentation.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">111</p> <p>1 Okay, before we go on to that, for your  2 presentation, we take a break. We take a 10-minute  3 break before we have Environment and Climate Change  4 Canada have their presentation, 10-minute break.  5 (ADJOURNMENT)  6 THE CHAIR: Good afternoon. We may  7 reconvene from the break. We'll have Climate Change --  8 Environment and Climate Change Canada will have a  9 presentation. Before we go on to that, I'll have legal  10 counsel -- Nunavut Water Board legal counsel to have  11 procedure -- take the procedural matters. Thank you.  12 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa  13 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.  14 Mr. Chair, if I can have the witnesses state and spell  15 their names for the record, please.  16 MS. SHORE: Victoria Shore,  17 V-I-C-T-O-R-I-A S-H-O-R-E.  18 MS. MEADOWS: I'll administer the  19 affirmation, and then if you can state your name and  20 then say "I affirm." Do you solemnly affirm that the  21 evidence about to be given by you shall be the truth,  22 the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?  23 MS. SHORE: Victoria Shore, I affirm. And  24 I believe Anne Wilson should affirm as well.  25 VICTORIA SHORE, Affirmed  26 MS. MEADOWS: If we can switch to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">112</p> <p>1 Ms. Wilson, if she can state and spell her name for the  2 record.  3 MS. WILSON: Thank you. It's Anne Wilson,  4 A-N-N-E W-I-L-S-O-N.  5 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Ms. Wilson. Do you  6 solemnly affirm that the evidence about to given by you  7 shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but  8 the truth?  9 MS. WILSON: I do affirm.  10 ANNE WILSON, Affirmed  11 MS. MEADOWS: Teresa Meadows, legal counsel  12 for the Nunavut Water Board. Mr. Chair, I also have --  13 the next exhibit in these proceedings will be the  14 presentation by Environment and Climate Change Canada,  15 and that presentation is in English and Inuktitut, and  16 that will be filed as the next exhibit in this public  17 hearing. And those are my procedural matters,  18 Mr. Chair.  19 EXHIBIT 7 - Hard Copy and Electronic Copy of  20 the PowerPoint Presentation By Agnico Eagle  21 Mines in English and in Inuktitut  22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Teresa.  23 Now, Environment and Climate Change Canada, you  24 may go ahead with your presentation now.  25 Presentation by Environment and Climate Change Canada  26 MS. SHORE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">113</p> <p>1 Good afternoon. As I stated earlier, my name is  2 Victoria Shore, and I am a Senior Environmental  3 Assessment Officer with Environment and Climate Change  4 Canada. Before I start, I would like to thank the  5 Nunavut Water Board for the opportunity to intervene in  6 this water licence process, as well as Agnico Eagle and  7 the other interveners. In particular, I'd like to  8 thank everyone for their flexibility. Typically, we  9 would want to be there in person, but we appreciate the  10 ability to participate remotely, given the current  11 circumstances.</p> <p>12 I will start by presenting the department's  13 mandate, briefly touch on the acts and legislation  14 relevant to Environment and Climate Change Canada, and  15 then I'll pass things over to our Senior Water Quality  16 Analyst, Anne Wilson, to provide an overview of  17 Environment and Climate Change Canada's technical  18 review regarding Agnico Eagle's application for a  19 Type "A" water licence amendment.</p> <p>20 Environment and Climate Change Canada's mandate is  21 to preserve and enhance the quality of the natural  22 environment, including water, air, and soil quality; to  23 conserve Canada's renewable resources, including  24 migratory birds; to conserve and protect Canada's water  25 resources; to forecast daily weather conditions; to  26 enforce regulations; and to coordinate environmental</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">114</p> <p>1 policies and programs for the Federal government.  2 Environment and Climate Change Canada's mandate is  3 governed by the Department of the Environment Act, the  4 Canadian Environmental Protection Act, the "Pollution  5 Prevention" provisions of the Fisheries Act; the  6 Migratory Birds Convention Act and --  7 THE CHAIR: Excuse me. Legal counsel from  8 Water Board raise her hand.  9 Go ahead.  10 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa  11 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.  12 Sorry to interrupt, Victoria, but can you please  13 share your screen with the participants on Zoom so that  14 we can see the slides that you're speaking about?  15 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  16 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  17 Okay, continue.  18 MS. SHORE: I am -- Victoria Shore,  19 Environment and Climate Change Canada. I'm very sorry.  20 I thought I had done that. I will try and rectify that  21 now. I seem to be having a bit of trouble.  22 Would it be possible, Sergey, for you to share the  23 presentation for us as well? Thank you.  24 Victoria Shore, Environment and Climate Change  25 Canada. Would you like me to restart so that you can  26 see the slides while I'm speaking?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">115</p> <p>1 MR. KHARATYAN: Karén Kharatyan, Water Board.  2 Yes, Victoria, please, if -- yes, start again.  3 Thank you.  4 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  5 MS. SHORE: Okay. Victoria Shore,  6 Environment and Climate Change Canada. I'll just start  7 at the overview slide. So I will start by presenting  8 the department's mandate, briefly touch on the acts and  9 legislation relevant to Environment and Climate Change  10 Canada, and then I'll pass things over to our Senior  11 Water Quality Analyst, Anne Wilson, to provide an  12 overview of Environment and Climate Change Canada's  13 technical review regarding Agnico Eagle's application  14 for a Type "A" water licence amendment. Next slide.  15 Environment and Climate Change Canada's mandate is  16 to preserve and enhance the quality of the natural  17 environment, including water, air, and soil quality; to  18 conserve Canada's renewable resources, including  19 migratory birds; to conserve and protect Canada's water  20 resources; to forecast daily weather conditions; to  21 enforce regulations; and to coordinate environmental  22 policies and programs for the Federal government. Next  23 slide.  24 Environment and Climate Change Canada's mandate is  25 governed by the Department of the Environment Act, the  26 Canadian Environmental Protection Act, the "Pollution</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">116</p> <p>1 Prevention" provisions of the Fisheries Act, the  2 Migratory Birds Convention Act, and the Species at Risk  3 Act. I'll now pass things over to Anne Wilson to  4 provide the overview for our technical review.  5 MS. WILSON: Thank you. If we can go on to  6 the next slide. So at the technical meeting in  7 November, ECCC presented two technical comments which  8 have now been resolved. The first one was in relation  9 to the management of the treatment sludges from the  10 Actiflo plant treating the CP1 water. This was a  11 concern because it represents a source of contamination  12 in the sediments, at closure. And Agnico Eagle has  13 confirmed that sludge won't be disposed of in CP1 in  14 2021 and that they will identify future options for  15 disposal in their Water Management Plan, going forward.  16 We had also raised questions about the water  17 balance, which did not appear to include the additional  18 volumes of water applied for in the licence amendment.  19 Agnico Eagle has provided clarification on the fate of  20 the additional volumes, and we are satisfied that the  21 water balance appropriately accounts for site water  22 flows. Next slide, please.  23 Great. So we are now on Slide 6. Thank you for  24 that. And the issue of the total dissolved solids  25 effluent quality criteria has been the subject of many  26 discussions. And the view of the ECCC was that the use</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">117</p> <p>1 of a lower maximum grab concentration would be more  2 protective of the receiving environment as well as  3 being in line with observed and evaluated  4 concentrations, which were lower.  5 In response, Agnico Eagle has proposed a lower  6 maximum grab concentration of 4,500 milligrams per  7 litre, calculated TDS. This is an improvement, and the  8 acceptability of this number can be reviewed through  9 ongoing toxicity testing as well as  10 receiving-environment monitoring. Agnico Eagle has  11 also confirmed that they will be using Ceriodaphnia  12 dubia for some toxicity testing, as specified under the  13 Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations. The  14 results from monitoring and toxicity testing can  15 provide an indication of any need to revisit the  16 proposed EQC.  17 ECCC does note that the Adaptive Management Plan  18 proposed in the Water Quality and Management Operations  19 Plan includes sufficiently conservative action levels.  20 We expect those can address the potential for effects  21 of discharging at the higher TDS levels for the  22 maximize grab concentration.  23 However, I would just like to, for clarity,  24 mention that in discussions with Agnico Eagle, we did  25 confirm that there are currently two Adaptive  26 Management Plans. There's the one that's in the WQMOP</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">118</p> <p>1 Version 4 plan as well as the Adaptive Management Plan  2 submitted to NIRB, which deals with water flows and  3 triggers for chloride objectives. And the Version 4  4 WQMOP plan is the one that provides the triggers which  5 we feel are appropriate and will allow for protection  6 in this case.  7 With respect to chloride, Agnico Eagle has  8 committed to monitoring and evaluating chloride  9 concentrations in the discharge and the mixing zone and  10 has proposed that objectives be set based on the  11 thresholds that are identified. And this should  12 address concerns with identifying the need to set  13 objectives, should chloride levels increase. Next  14 slide, please.  15 ECCC reviewed the responses from Agnico Eagle to  16 our comments on the draft water licence. Now, I'm just  17 going to mention a couple of them here. We didn't list  18 them all out. For Part B.10, Agnico Eagle has  19 suggested deemed approval of plans be used, and ECCC  20 has some concerns with that approach. Agnico Eagle has  21 proposed a 60-day period for deemed approval to be  22 effective, and it does seem that, within that or a  23 shorter period, we would be able to turn reviews around  24 and provide feedback to the Board for their approval  25 and that it shouldn't be necessary to have deemed  26 approval. But this will be for the Board to decide.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">119</p> <p>1 With respect to Part E.14, which pertains to the  2 water quality model updates, Agnico Eagle has provided  3 clarification that they will be using annual averages  4 of regulated parameters. When these are within 10  5 percent of the maximum average concentration, the  6 modeling will be done. And they've also provided a  7 commitment to review and do model updates for the  8 unregulated parameters should they increase by more  9 than 20 percent year over year, and the draft water  10 licence version that was just provided a little while  11 ago today has an updated wording to that effect in it.  12 And the last note, that in this recent update of  13 the water licence draft, they do propose a definition  14 of "acutely lethal" which needs to be corrected, as it  15 does not specify the tests as defined in the Metal and  16 Diamond Mining Effluent Regs; it refers to "effluent"  17 definition. So that was just a correction to note.  18 Next slide, please.  19 And with that, I would just like to thank the  20 Board for your attention. And this concludes our  21 presentation, and we're happy to take any questions.  22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Environment and  23 Climate Change Canada, for your presentation.  24 We will now open up for questions, comments. I'll  25 start with the applicant. If you have questions to  26 Environment and Climate Change Canada during their</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">120</p> <p>1 presentation, you may go ahead now. Thank you.  2 Agnico Eagle Mines Questions Environment and Climate  3 Change Canada  4 MR. QUESNEL: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  5 Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.  6 And we're just going to have Gary Lawrence ask you  7 a question on Slide 6. So I'll just turn this over to  8 our colleague, Gary Lawrence, from Golder Associates.  9 MR. LAWRENCE: Yes. Gary Lawrence, Golder  10 Associates, speaking here for Agnico Eagle. I just  11 have one question on Slide 6, and it relates to the  12 final written statement, Issue 3C. I agree with the  13 content of this slide. I just wanted to confirm  14 understanding of the two triggers that could require  15 development of a chloride site-specific water quality  16 objective. Could ECCC confirm that those two triggers  17 are either, number one, meeting or exceeding 75 percent  18 of the long-term CCME guideline for protection of  19 freshwater aquatic life, that translates to  20 90 milligrams per litre chloride, or, number two, that  21 the proportion of chloride, as a proportion of  22 calculated total dissolved solids, meets or exceeds 60  23 percent?  24 So could CC -- ECC -- enough Cs there, three Cs --  25 confirm that those triggers, as applied to the  26 discharge into Meliadine Lake would be the decision</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">121</p> <p>1 rules for requiring a chloride site-specific water  2 quality objective?  3 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  4 Environment and Climate Change Canada, you want to  5 respond?  6 MS. WILSON: Thank you. It's Anne Wilson.  7 I'll respond to that. And, yes, I can confirm, as per  8 the outline in Table 3 of the submitted Adaptive  9 Management Plan, that is our understanding of the  10 triggers. And it would be based on annual averages of  11 the discharge chloride concentration reaching 60  12 percent or the receiving environment, edge of mixing  13 zone, exceeding 75 percent of the long-term CCME  14 guideline, again, based on the annual average.  15 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  16 Applicant, do you have further questions?  17 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Jamie  18 Quesnel at Agnico Eagle. No further questions. Thank  19 you.  20 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  21 Now, Kivalliq Inuit Association, do you have any  22 questions, comments?  23 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Luis  24 Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association. No question at this  25 time.  26 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">122</p> <p>1 CIRNAC, do you have any questions?  2 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair.  3 Spencer Dewar, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  4 Affairs. No questions. Thank you. Matna.  5 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  6 Nunavut Water Board staff, you have any questions?  7 Nunavut Water Board Staff Questions Environment and  8 Climate Change Canada  9 MR. KUFLEVSKIY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sergey  10 Kuflevskiy, Nunavut Water Board. I just wanted to  11 confirm if -- and I'll bring up the slide again, the  12 same slide, Number 6. Considering that Agnico Eagle is  13 committed to reduce the 5,000 milligrams per litre  14 maximum grab sample concentration to 4,500 milligrams  15 per litre, does the Environment and Climate Change  16 Canada want to keep this statement, as stated in the  17 slide, the same, that the ongoing review of sublethal  18 toxicity testing should be conducted and extensive  19 monitoring should be conducted, because in your final  20 submissions, Environment and Climate Change Canada  21 stated that these extensive monitoring procedures will  22 be required if the number is kept at 5,000?  23 So right now Agnico Eagle is committing to reduce  24 the number. Does this change anything, or Environment  25 and Climate Change Canada is firm on their request?  26 Thank you.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">123</p> <p>1 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  2 Environment and Climate Change Canada, respond.  3 MS. WILSON: Thank you. It's Anne Wilson.  4 And to respond to that, the number of twenty -- sorry,  5 of 4,500 was not evaluated explicitly as the 3,500 was.  6 And I think it will be important to continue to monitor  7 the receiving environment as well as track effluent  8 concentrations of TDS.  9 The other aspect of this is that we are using  10 calculated as opposed to measured TDS, and there is a  11 little bit of a difference in that, up to 25 percent  12 higher if you had looked at the measured. So I believe  13 there is adequate monitoring laid out between the  14 Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan as well as the Metal  15 and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations environmental  16 effects monitoring as well.  17 So the statement stands, but I think we have it  18 substantially covered with what will be going on for  19 routine environmental monitoring at the site.  20 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  21 Water Board staff, go ahead.  22 MR. KUFLEVSKIY: Thank you, Anne. This answers  23 my question.  24 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  25 Nunavut Water Board Panel members?  26 Thank you, Environment and Climate Change Canada,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">124</p> <p>1 for your presentation. Thank you very much.  2 Okay, I need some guidance here at the moment,  3 with our agenda, at least five minutes' break.  4 (ADJOURNMENT)  5 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Five minutes up  6 already. Five minutes already gone, just like one  7 minute.  8 Okay, thank you for today's sitting here. So our  9 legal counsel -- our Nunavut Water Board legal counsel  10 had at least two procedural matters that need to be  11 dealt with at the moment, so she will take the floor.  12 Thank you.  13 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa  14 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.  15 Mr. Chair, we have two procedural matters, as you said.  16 The first is the deferred question that Agnico Eagle  17 deferred to after lunch, and the question was a  18 question from the Nunavut Water Board, asking -- with  19 respect to the total volume of Meliadine Lake and then  20 asking with respect to the discharge rates and the  21 recharge rates in Meliadine Lake.  22 So if Agnico Eagle is prepared to address that and  23 provide their answer into the record, that's the first  24 procedural matter. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  25 THE CHAIR: Thank you. So we'll have --  26 adjourn for now, but we'll come back here tonight at</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">125</p> <p>1 6:00 for a community session.</p> <p>2 Oh, one more -- okay, you got -- you still have</p> <p>3 something to do? Okay, go ahead.</p> <p>4 MS. MEADOWS: Sorry, Mr. Chair. So that was</p> <p>5 the question to Agnico Eagle, if they are ready to</p> <p>6 respond. So I think they can provide a response right</p> <p>7 now, and then there's one more matter. And then I'll</p> <p>8 be quiet, I promise.</p> <p>9 THE CHAIR: You're going too fast.</p> <p>10 Go ahead.</p> <p>11 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen</p> <p>12 Prather with Agnico Eagle.</p> <p>13 The first question was, "What is the volume of</p> <p>14 Meliadine Lake?" We've calculated the volume, assuming</p> <p>15 the average depth of Meliadine Lake is 6 to 8 metres,</p> <p>16 the surface area is 107 square kilometres. That</p> <p>17 information was provided in the Final Environmental</p> <p>18 Impact Statement, Chapter 7, Section 7.3.1.2. Based on</p> <p>19 that, the estimated range of lake volume is 642 million</p> <p>20 to 856 million -- so six four two zero zero zero zero</p> <p>21 zero zero to eight five six zero zero zero zero zero</p> <p>22 zero -- cubic metres.</p> <p>23 The second question: "What is the annual</p> <p>24 discharge volume from Meliadine Lake?" Again, from the</p> <p>25 Final Environmental Impact Statement, Table 7.3-28, the</p> <p>26 annual discharge volume of Meliadine Lake is 84,700,000</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">126</p> <p>1 -- so eight four seven zero zero zero zero zero --</p> <p>2 cubic metres. That discharge volume is 10 to 13</p> <p>3 percent of the estimated lake volume that I just</p> <p>4 mentioned.</p> <p>5 Third question: "What is the recharge volume of</p> <p>6 Meliadine Lake?" Again, from the Final Environmental</p> <p>7 Impact Statement, Table 7.3-A211, we know that the lake</p> <p>8 level at the Meliadine Lake outlet is similar in May,</p> <p>9 so before the ice comes off, and again in October,</p> <p>10 before the ice comes back on. From that, we know that</p> <p>11 the annual recharge of the lake is at least similar to</p> <p>12 or greater than the annual outflow volume plus lake</p> <p>13 evaporation.</p> <p>14 Just one thing to clarify -- just one moment. And</p> <p>15 just for one more point of clarification, the mine site</p> <p>16 discharge volume on an annual basis is 700,000 to</p> <p>17 1,000,000 cubic metres per year. Thank you.</p> <p>18 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>19 Legal counsel, go ahead.</p> <p>20 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa</p> <p>21 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.</p> <p>22 Mr. Chair, the next procedural matter is that the</p> <p>23 Nunavut Water Board has just received from Agnico</p> <p>24 Eagle, and circulated on the public registry, the draft</p> <p>25 water licence framework, the updated draft that Agnico</p> <p>26 Eagle committed to file during this public hearing. I</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">127</p> <p>1 propose to mark that as the next exhibit in this public</p> <p>2 hearing.</p> <p>3 EXHIBIT 8 - Agnico Eagle Mines Draft Water</p> <p>4 Licence Framework Dated March 26, 2021</p> <p>5 MS. MEADOWS: And the Board recognizes that</p> <p>6 the interveners need to have some time to take a look</p> <p>7 at the updated draft and provide their comments back to</p> <p>8 the Board to speak to the amendments. And so we are</p> <p>9 proposing that the Board would adjourn now, return back</p> <p>10 at 6:30 for the community information session tonight,</p> <p>11 and tomorrow morning, first thing, the hearing would</p> <p>12 reconvene with parties speaking to that exhibit, the</p> <p>13 amended -- or suggested amendments to the water licence</p> <p>14 framework, and the conclusion of the hearing tomorrow.</p> <p>15 Any of the parties who have not been able to</p> <p>16 access their email, please come and see us, and we will</p> <p>17 make sure that you get an electronic copy of the</p> <p>18 document so that you can review it and provide your</p> <p>19 comments tomorrow. Any parties who anticipate that</p> <p>20 this timing will create difficulty for them are also --</p> <p>21 please indicate to the Board by email that you are</p> <p>22 having difficulty with the timeline.</p> <p>23 And recognizing that we are actually ahead of</p> <p>24 schedule, which does not happen very often, I might</p> <p>25 add, at least in recent experience, we recognize that</p> <p>26 parties may benefit from a later start tomorrow morning</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">128</p> <p>1 so that they will have an opportunity to review and</p> <p>2 comment. And so we will reconvene at 9 tomorrow</p> <p>3 morning instead of 8:30, just to give you an extra 30</p> <p>4 minutes to get your comments together or get your</p> <p>5 coffee.</p> <p>6 So with that, Mr. Chair, those are -- that is the</p> <p>7 second procedural matter that I have. Parties who wish</p> <p>8 to get a copy of that document, please come and see us.</p> <p>9 Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>10 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>11 So we'll come back here at -- we're starting at</p> <p>12 6:00 tonight with the community session. So we'll be</p> <p>13 back here before 6. Thank you.</p> <p>14 (DINNER ADJOURNMENT AT 3:35 PM)</p> <p>15 (PROCEEDINGS RECOMMENCED AT 6:11 PM)</p> <p>16 Community Session</p> <p>17 Opening Remarks by Nunavut Water Board Chair and</p> <p>18 Nunavut Water Board Staff</p> <p>19 THE CHAIR: Welcome. Welcome to community</p> <p>20 session tonight for the Nunavut Water Board public</p> <p>21 hearing for application filed by Agnico Eagle Mines</p> <p>22 Limited to amend their existing Type "A" Water Licence</p> <p>23 Number 2AM-MEL1631. My name is Lootie Toomasie, and</p> <p>24 I'm the Chair of Nunavut Water Board and the hearing</p> <p>25 Chair for this public hearing.</p> <p>26 I would like to note that some parties are joining</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">129</p> <p>1 the public hearing via Zoom conference call, so I would  2 like to ask those participants who are calling in to  3 mute their microphone to avoid any unnecessary noises.  4 I would also like to remind everyone to please turn off  5 your cell phones or put them on "silent" before we  6 begin.  7 Before we proceed with tonight's session, please  8 let us begin with a prayer. Let's stand. We pray.  9 (PRAYER)  10 THE CHAIR: On housekeeping, for those of  11 you who were not here this morning when we start the  12 public hearing, I have a few brief housekeeping and  13 introductory remarks, and then I will turn the  14 microphone over to the executive director and the staff  15 of the Nunavut Water Board, the applicant, and  16 interveners.  17 Before I do so, I would like to remind everyone  18 that we are currently in the middle of the global  19 pandemic, so we will be discussing safety measures a  20 lot. As everyone can appreciate, due to the public  21 health restrictions associated with COVID-19 pandemic,  22 our proceeding may be look different than usual, as we  23 have had to modify our normal plans to keep us all  24 safe. And then I'll pass it on to Stephanie for this.  25 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  26 So I'll repeat the message that I offered this</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">130</p> <p>1 morning. Appreciating that there is public interest  2 related to water management at the Meliadine site, the  3 Board made application to the Chief Public Health  4 Office, seeking an exemption to the 50-person gathering  5 limit here in the community hall. This morning I was  6 advised by the Chief Public Health Officer that our  7 exemption to increase the gathering limit to 100 people  8 has been approved.  9 As part of that exemption request, the Board  10 committed to the following: We committed to wearing  11 masks at all times, providing limited snacks,  12 encouraging social distancing to the extent possible,  13 conducting temperature checks, and receiving contact  14 information for attendees, and providing hand sanitizer  15 as needed.  16 So, Mr. Chair, we're grateful to the Public Health  17 Office for that exemption. And I hand the floor back  18 to you. Thank you.  19 THE CHAIR: Thank you.  20 Also, please note that there's interpreter --  21 interpretation available throughout this hearing, and  22 earpieces can be obtained from the table located just  23 by the door, as you came into this room. Channel -- I  24 don't have an indicator of which channel -- Channel 1,  25 I guess.  26 MR. DEMPSTER: Channel 1 is floor, Channel 2</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">131</p> <p>1 is English, Channel 3 is Inuktitut.  2 THE CHAIR: Put your microphone on.  3 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you --  4 MR. DEMPSTER: Channel --  5 MS. MEADOWS: -- Mr. Chair. Teresa  6 Meadows --  7 MR. DEMPSTER: Hello?  8 MS. MEADOWS: -- legal counsel for the  9 Nunavut Water Board. So Ryan will correct me if I'm  10 wrong, but Channel 1 is the floor, Channel 2 is  11 English, and Channel 3 is Inuktitut. Thank you,  12 Mr. Chair.  13 THE CHAIR: Thank you. I would also like  14 to ask everyone to sign in and leave your contact  15 information on the sheet located at the table by the  16 entrance. Additionally, there are COVID-19 screening  17 questionnaire forms available; please fill them out.  18 This is a requirement imposed by Department of Health  19 for contact-tracing purpose, so we would appreciate  20 your help making sure this information is provided.  21 As you all know -- already know about this  22 building, but I want to mention, the washrooms are  23 located just outside the hall. There are two exits,  24 one behind me and one located as you came in.  25 And there will be snacks and refreshment available  26 at the table -- along the side table. Please help</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">132</p> <p>1 yourself for the refreshment. Please remember to wash  2 your hands and use hand sanitizer prior to touching the  3 snacks. Also, the snacks are individually packaged, so  4 please try and take only the items you are going to  5 consume.  6 There are agendas for the hearing and this  7 community session available at the table as you came  8 in. Please pick one and follow along.  9 Before we proceed to the presentations on the  10 agenda, I would like to introduce the Board members and  11 staff who are joining me here today. I will be  12 chairing this Panel. And with me today, as members of  13 the decision-making Panel responsible for this file,  14 are Board members Ross Mrazek, on my right; on my  15 left is Sakiasie Sowdlooapik.  16 Several staff members who have contributed to the  17 NWB administration and technical review of this  18 amendment application are present, along with legal  19 counsel to the NWB, and I introduce the individuals  20 attending today. When I say your name, please wave so  21 that people will know who you are: Stephanie Autut,  22 Executive Director; Karén Kharatyan, Director of  23 Technical Services; Richard Dwyer, Manager of  24 Licensing, at the back, at the entrance; Sergey  25 Kuflevskiy, Technical Advisor; Teresa Meadows from  26 Meadow Law -- Meadows Law, sorry, Meadows Law, legal</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">133</p> <p>1 counsel to the Board.</p> <p>2 In addition, we have interpreters available and</p> <p>3 simultaneous interpretation throughout the hearing:</p> <p>4 Rose-Mary -- sorry, Mary Rose Angoshadluk and John</p> <p>5 Ayaruaq. They're from Rankin Inlet. For audio</p> <p>6 support, we have with us Ryan Dempster from PIDO. If</p> <p>7 you experience any difficulty with your headsets, Ryan</p> <p>8 will be able to help you.</p> <p>9 To ensure the accurate record of the proceedings</p> <p>10 is kept, we have with us a court reporter, Tran</p> <p>11 Huynh -- I had a hard time pronouncing this, sorry</p> <p>12 about that -- is from Dicta Court Reporting</p> <p>13 Incorporated. To assist Tran, I ask that all parties</p> <p>14 please state your name prior to speaking.</p> <p>15 Additionally, since we are in the middle of the</p> <p>16 global pandemic right now, I would like to ask everyone</p> <p>17 not to approach Tran, the court reporter, and Ross, the</p> <p>18 Board member, directly because they traveled here from</p> <p>19 outside of Nunavut. Instead, please direct your</p> <p>20 question to Teresa, and she will relay them to Tran and</p> <p>21 Ross.</p> <p>22 With that, I will now turn the microphone over to</p> <p>23 Stephanie Autut, the executive director, to give you an</p> <p>24 overview of tonight's session.</p> <p>25 Stephanie.</p> <p>26 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">134</p> <p>1 Mr. Chair, before I get started, I'm going to ask legal</p> <p>2 counsel to weigh in on one matter, please.</p> <p>3 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Teresa</p> <p>4 Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board.</p> <p>5 Mr. Chair, it's my understanding that we do have media</p> <p>6 present, joining this proceeding tonight via Zoom, so</p> <p>7 they will be observing.</p> <p>8 And while we are very happy to have media joining</p> <p>9 us to cover these proceedings and to communicate about</p> <p>10 these proceedings with members of the public who are</p> <p>11 not able to be here, the Board would like to remind</p> <p>12 everyone that we ask that media and parties not make</p> <p>13 any comments regarding the Board's potential</p> <p>14 conclusions on this matter in any way, as the Board is</p> <p>15 currently engaged in decision-making and is here to</p> <p>16 hear evidence and hear from the community. And this</p> <p>17 proceeding is intended to facilitate the community</p> <p>18 asking questions and getting answers from the proponent</p> <p>19 and from the other interveners here.</p> <p>20 Since the Board cannot comment on pending matters</p> <p>21 that are before them, we ask that the media also</p> <p>22 respect that. And if they do have any general</p> <p>23 inquiries with respect to Board procedure or process,</p> <p>24 the Board asks that those questions be directed to the</p> <p>25 Board's executive director, Stephanie Autut, and she</p> <p>26 will be able to assist with responses as appropriate.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">135</p> <p>1 So thank you, Mr. Chair. I just wanted to let</p> <p>2 everyone know that media is present and is covering, by</p> <p>3 Zoom, these proceedings. Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>4 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Teresa, and thank</p> <p>5 you, Mr. Chair.</p> <p>6 The Board will start tonight's session with a</p> <p>7 presentation by the Nunavut Water Board's technical</p> <p>8 staff, which will be followed by a presentation by the</p> <p>9 applicant, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited ("Agnico Eagle"</p> <p>10 for short).</p> <p>11 Following that, we will have presentations by the</p> <p>12 following interveners: the Kivalliq Inuit Association,</p> <p>13 who is here in person and will be providing a formal</p> <p>14 presentation; Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern</p> <p>15 Affairs, who is here in person and will be providing a</p> <p>16 formal presentation; and Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>17 Canada, who is joining us by Zoom and will be providing</p> <p>18 a formal presentation.</p> <p>19 Mr. Chair, I'd like to ask at this time if anyone</p> <p>20 from NTI would like to make a presentation. That's a</p> <p>21 "no." Thank you.</p> <p>22 And is there anyone presented from the HTO that is</p> <p>23 interested in presenting to the Board?</p> <p>24 Mr. Chair, that's a "no" as well.</p> <p>25 After each presentation, we will invite anyone who</p> <p>26 wishes to ask questions or provide the Panel with their</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">136</p> <p>1 comments to step up to the microphone and speak on the</p> <p>2 record. If you are an Elder, you can speak at any time</p> <p>3 throughout these proceedings. We just ask that you</p> <p>4 raise your hand to be recognized by the Chair and wait</p> <p>5 to speak until a member of our staff can get a</p> <p>6 microphone for you so that we can ensure your comments</p> <p>7 are included on the record.</p> <p>8 For everyone here tonight, I encourage you all to</p> <p>9 ask questions or share your comments with the Board by</p> <p>10 stepping up to the microphone. You can direct your</p> <p>11 questions to the staff of the Nunavut Water Board; the</p> <p>12 applicant, Agnico Eagle; and the interveners, the</p> <p>13 Kivalliq Inuit Association, Crown-Indigenous</p> <p>14 Relations/Northern Affairs, or Environment and Climate</p> <p>15 Change Canada.</p> <p>16 As Mr. Chair said at the start of the public</p> <p>17 hearing this morning, it is very important to the</p> <p>18 Nunavut Water Board that we have an accurate record of</p> <p>19 the information, questions, and comments that we hear</p> <p>20 during this public hearing. So we ask that, to assist</p> <p>21 our interpreters and the court reporter, please wait</p> <p>22 until you have a microphone before you speak. Then</p> <p>23 state your name and speak directly, clearly, and slowly</p> <p>24 into the microphone. Please be mindful of the</p> <p>25 interpreters as you go and avoid the use of acronyms or</p> <p>26 abbreviations if you can.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">137</p> <p>1 We appreciate your participation and assistance in  2 making sure we are all heard and understood in this  3 hearing and that this hearing is conducted in a  4 productive and respectful manner.  5 I will now turn the microphone over to the Board's  6 technical staff to walk you through how this amendment  7 and renewal application has progressed to this point.  8 Sergey?  9 Presentation by the Nunavut Water Board  10 MR. KUFLEVSKIY: Thank you, Stephanie.  11 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  12 I would like to welcome everybody at this hall to  13 discuss the application that was submitted by Agnico  14 Eagle Mines Limited, with respect to an amendment of  15 their -- to their existing water licence for the  16 Meliadine project. Now I will share my presentation on  17 the screen so that you can follow along. And we also  18 have printouts of all presentations at the table by  19 that wall, so you can take a copy and follow along the  20 copy of the presentation or look at the screen on the  21 wall.  22 Okay, I would like to cover the following topics  23 during my presentation tonight. First of all, I will  24 give you a brief background information on the Nunavut  25 Water Board and the authorizations that the Nunavut  26 Water Board may issue. Then I will explain how the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">138</p> <p>1 Type "A" water licence and process works at the Nunavut  2 Water Board. Then I'll follow -- I'll move to the  3 scope of the application submitted by Agnico Eagle, and  4 I will summarize the application procedural history.  5 This will follow by a summary of the participation  6 from interveners and public participation. And I will  7 finish my presentation explaining what the next steps  8 of the application -- of the process are going to be.  9 And we will have contact information of every staff  10 member sitting here today, for your convenience, so  11 that if you have any questions or comments and you, for  12 some reason, did not ask these questions today, you can  13 send an email later.  14 So, first of all, what is the Nunavut Water Board  15 and what do we do? The Nunavut Water Board is an  16 institution of public government, established under  17 Article 13 of the Nunavut Agreement. The Nunavut Water  18 Board has responsibilities and powers over the  19 regulation, use, and management of freshwater in the  20 Nunavut Settlement Area. And this part is very  21 important, that the Nunavut Water Board oversees only  22 the freshwater environment in Nunavut.  23 The object of the Nunavut Water Board -- the  24 objectives of the Nunavut Water Board are to provide  25 for the conservation and utilization of freshwater in  26 Nunavut, except in national parks, in a manner that</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">139</p> <p>1 will provide the optimum benefit from those waters for  2 Nunavut's residents in particular and Canadians in  3 general. Again, I would like to emphasize the fact  4 that the Nunavut Water Board is only responsible for  5 freshwater in Nunavut.  6 And the next slide will summarize the type of  7 authorizations that Nunavut Water Board can generally  8 issue. The first is the authorization without a  9 licence, and this is for projects that require very  10 little quantities of water to be withdrawn from the  11 freshwater environment; usually, it is less than 50  12 cubic metres per day.  13 The next type of authorization that the Nunavut  14 Water Board can issue is a Type "B" water licence. And  15 I'm just going to wait for the slide to change. So the  16 Type "B" water licence is usually issued for the  17 licence -- for the projects that require between  18 50 cubic metres of water per day up to 299 cubic metres  19 of water per day.  20 And the next type of authorization is a Type "A"  21 water licence. These types of licences are usually  22 issued for large projects that require a lot of water,  23 more than 300 cubic metres of water used per day. And  24 this week's public hearing is for a Type "A" water  25 licence, based on the criteria set out in Schedule 2  26 and 3 of the Regulations.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">140</p> <p>1 As I emphasized previously, the Nunavut Water  2 Board is responsible only for freshwater in Nunavut.  3 And this is why I would like to bring your attention to  4 this slide, because there was a lot of confusion in the  5 community about two proposals that Agnico Eagle has  6 submitted within the last year.  7 So number one is the discharge of contact water  8 into the -- into Meliadine Lake. Meliadine Lake is a  9 freshwater environment, and this is where -- and this  10 is within the Nunavut Water Board's jurisdiction. It  11 is very important not to confuse this application that  12 we're gathered to discuss here today with the proposal  13 that is currently being reviewed by the Nunavut Impact  14 Review Board, and that proposal is for the discharge of  15 saline water from the underground, through the  16 pipeline, into the Melvin Bay.  17 So, again, it is very important to understand that  18 these are two different project proposals. And today  19 we're here to discuss the discharge into the Meliadine  20 Lake and not the pipeline project that's to do with  21 discharge of saline water into Melvin Bay, into the  22 marine environment.  23 On the next slide, when it shows up -- so on the  24 next slide, I'll briefly summarize the scope of  25 application for your convenience so that you understand  26 what you're here to comment on today. So Agnico Eagle,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">141</p> <p>1 as part of this application, is seeking approval for  2 the following proposed changes: First of all, Agnico  3 Eagle is asking to update and, to be specific, to  4 increase the total dissolved solids thresholds for  5 Meliadine Lake. So this is number one. The limits of  6 the total dissolved solids that will potentially be  7 discharged into Meliadine Lake can potentially be  8 increased.</p> <p>9 The second point -- the second item of their  10 application is the increase to the authorized annual  11 freshwater consumption. So Agnico Eagle is asking to  12 withdraw more freshwater for their needs than they were  13 authorized to do, as part of their current water  14 licence.</p> <p>15 The next three items on the slide are to do with  16 their internal infrastructure. So this is to just  17 change locations of some infrastructure, move some  18 parts to other locations, so just change of the  19 infrastructure. And the last item on the slide is the  20 update to the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan.</p> <p>21 So, again, just to -- what you need to take from  22 this slide is the main four groups of items that Agnico  23 Eagle is applying to change: the increase to the total  24 dissolved solids or to the quality of the water that  25 Agnico Eagle will potentially be discharging into the  26 Meliadine Lake, the freshwater intake, internal</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">142</p> <p>1 infrastructure, and the Closure and Reclamation Plan.  2 These are the items that Agnico Eagle is applying for,  3 as part of this application process that we are  4 discussing here tonight.</p> <p>5 Now I will briefly go over the procedural history  6 of the file just so you understand what the process  7 looks like and how much time it usually takes. Agnico  8 Eagle first submitted their application back in August  9 of last year. Typically, the Nunavut Water Board has  10 nine months to process the application.</p> <p>11 I am emphasizing this fact because, during the  12 previous community session, we received some questions  13 from the community members, asking why the Nunavut  14 Water Board is rushing to issue this amendment. And,  15 in fact, this application was submitted back in August.  16 And the Water Board has certain timelines that we need  17 to follow. And according to these timelines that are  18 outlined in the legislation, the Nunavut Water Board  19 has nine months to process the application and either  20 approve the licence or deny it.</p> <p>21 So the next slide will basically show a flowchart  22 of the activities that the Water Board conducts from  23 the start of the application submission. So once the  24 application is submitted, it goes out to the public for  25 review. So this is the first -- the first chance, when  26 the public and the interveners have an opportunity to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">143</p> <p>1 comment on the application, to provide their comments  2 and ask questions.</p> <p>3 And if the interveners or the members of the  4 public are missing some information or if they want to  5 know something that was not included into the  6 application package, this is when they can usually ask  7 the proponent to submit additional information. The  8 application packages usually stand for 30 days so that  9 everybody has enough time to go over the provided  10 paperwork and submit their requests.</p> <p>11 Following this -- following receipt of the  12 comments, the Nunavut Water Board sends all comments  13 back to the applicant to respond to the comments and  14 provide additional information. Once the information  15 is provided, this information goes back to the parties  16 who provided the comments and questions.</p> <p>17 And once the parties are satisfied that the  18 application is good enough to be sent out for a full  19 technical review, the Nunavut Water Board posts a  20 notice of application and gives the public and the  21 interveners another 30 days to submit technical  22 comments. So this is -- this is the second chance,  23 when everybody is asked to provide their comments, and,  24 generally, the public and the interveners have 30 days  25 to do that.</p> <p>26 Once the comments are received by the Nunavut</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">144</p> <p>1 Water Board, once the parties submit the comments --  2 and when I say "the parties," I really mean the --  3 anybody. Even the members of the public can provide  4 their comments, and these comments will be included.  5 And the applicant will have to respond to those  6 comments and questions.</p> <p>7 So once these comments are received by the Nunavut  8 Water Board, they're sent back to the proponent, and  9 the proponent responds to these comments. And there's  10 quite a bit of back-and-forth between the proponent and  11 the interveners.</p> <p>12 So once the interveners confirm that they're okay  13 with the answers provided by the proponent, the Nunavut  14 Water Board holds a technical meeting and pre-hearing  15 conference. This step is usually conducted in two  16 days, side by side. So technical meeting is usually  17 conducted in one day, and the next day, the Nunavut  18 Water Board usually conducts a pre-hearing conference.</p> <p>19 Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, this  20 procedure was slightly modified by the Nunavut Water  21 Board. So the technical meeting was held by  22 teleconference on November 30 of last year because the  23 Nunavut Water Board could not travel to the community  24 of Rankin Inlet, because no public gatherings were  25 allowed.</p> <p>26 The pre-hearing conference was moved to January,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">145</p> <p>1 when the restrictions were lifted. As part of the  2 pre-hearing conference procedure, the Nunavut Water  3 Board also held a community session on January 19th.  4 So back in January of this year, the Nunavut Water  5 Board conducted a pre-hearing conference and a  6 community session.  7 The community session was conducted at this hall,  8 and there was another hub organized by Agnico Eagle.  9 And we also had -- and, like, a teleconference link  10 posted so that anybody could call in from their homes,  11 using the internet. So, again -- so this happened on  12 January 19th, the pre-hearing conference and the  13 community session.  14 After that, the Nunavut Water Board issued a  15 Pre-Hearing Conference Decision Report. And following  16 that, the applicant had some time to submit the  17 responses to the commitments made during the technical  18 meeting and pre-hearing conference.  19 And on this flowchart, you can clearly see that --  20 so following those steps, technical meeting,  21 pre-hearing conference, and the community session  22 associated with technical meeting and pre-hearing  23 conference, following those steps, the parties prepare  24 for the public hearing.  25 The notice is posted -- the notice of public  26 hearing is posted on the -- in the newspaper and is</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">146</p> <p>1 sent out to the distribution list. And our  2 distribution list includes all local organizations,  3 like your local stores, the hamlet. So these posters  4 are posted 60 days prior to the public hearing. And  5 this is the current stage, the public hearing. This is  6 where we are today.  7 Even after the public hearing -- so the public  8 hearing is not the final step of the process. So after  9 that, after the public hearing, the Nunavut Water Board  10 will issue a decision to approve or disapprove the  11 application, and this decision is going to be sent to  12 the Minister of Northern Affairs. So the final say  13 will be on the Minister of Northern Affairs.  14 Again, I wanted to emphasize the fact that this is  15 not a final step in the process. So this is where  16 we're getting your feedback, your comments, and these  17 comments are going to be very valuable in  18 decision-making.  19 So now, on the next slide, I will provide a  20 summary of the parties who contributed to the review of  21 the file. Of course, the applicant provided their  22 application and additional information, as well as  23 Kivalliq Inuit Association, Crown-Indigenous Relations  24 and Northern Affairs, and the Environment and Climate  25 Change Canada. All of these parties contributed to the  26 review process for the application. And when I say</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">147</p> <p>1 they contributed, it really means that they  2 participated in the formal and informal discussions  3 that aimed at resolving relevant issues and that they  4 provided the Board and the proponent with valuable  5 technical information on relevant issues.  6 As I said previously, when we send out our notice  7 of application, we welcome any party. We welcome  8 anybody to provide their comments. So on this slide,  9 you can see that any member of the public is encouraged  10 to participate in the public hearing and in this  11 community session and in all steps of the -- in all  12 procedural steps of the application.  13 Anybody who is interested can also submit and  14 provide their written comments or ask us where you can  15 find the documents to be reviewed. So we can navigate  16 you to a specific folder on our website, on our public  17 registry, because all of the documents that the  18 applicant submits or that are submitted by the members  19 of the public, everything is stored on the website of  20 the Water Board, and it is available for public, to be  21 reviewed.  22 So on the next slide, I will basically summarize  23 the next steps of the process for this file. So once  24 this public hearing is over and once we're done with  25 the community session, the Board will consider all of  26 the comments received and will be in discussions to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">148</p> <p>1 make a decision on the file. So the Board usually  2 takes around 30 to 45 days to decide on their final --  3 to provide their final decision, which is going to be  4 posted to the distribution list.  5 I would also like to know (sic) that if you want  6 to be added to the distribution list, you can come to  7 our manager of licensing, at the registration table,  8 and he can -- and ask him to add you to the  9 distribution list so that you can receive the  10 correspondence from the Water Board and be informed  11 about the -- and get the updates on the file.  12 I would also like to emphasize how important it is  13 for the members of the community to provide their  14 comments tonight. Your comments are very critical for  15 our Board to make a decision. And this is why the  16 Water Board went on the -- on Facebook and posted  17 extensively, inviting every member of the community to  18 come and participate. And we also had a radio show a  19 few weeks ago on your local station in Rankin Inlet,  20 where the Water Board provided a summary of the  21 application and also advertised this community session  22 and the public hearing in general.  23 Saying all that, I would like to thank everybody  24 who came tonight. And I really hope that you're going  25 to ask questions and provide your feedback because it  26 was -- it is very important for us to hear what you</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">149</p> <p>1 think about this amendment application, because you  2 live in this community and nobody would know better  3 than you how critical this application is.  4 So my presentation was specifically about the  5 Water Board process and the steps that we have been --  6 that have been followed in order to reach the public  7 hearing. Following my presentation, the applicant will  8 give you a summary of their -- a technical summary of  9 their file, and you will be able to ask questions  10 directly from the applicant, if you have any questions.  11 Additionally, the interveners, Crown-Indigenous  12 Relations/Northern Affairs, and the Environment and  13 Climate Change Canada, and the Kivalliq Inuit  14 Association will present as well, and you will be able  15 to ask them any questions as well.  16 On this slide, I have contact information for all  17 people who are -- all staff members of the Nunavut  18 Water Board who are present here today. So if you have  19 any questions, or if you need copies of the  20 presentations, or you want to know the link where this  21 application can be found on the Water Board's website,  22 you can contact anybody from this list.  23 This is all I wanted to say tonight. Thank you  24 very much for coming here. And I really mean thank  25 you, because it is very important for us to see that  26 the public is interested in this application and the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">150</p> <p>1 public is willing to provide their feedback on this  2 application. Thank you.  3 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Sergey.  4 So we're going to open the floor to questions  5 right now for anyone who would like to ask Sergey about  6 the Water Board process and about the presentation that  7 we've just seen. And if there's no questions specific  8 to that presentation, we're then going to carry on to  9 have the applicant give a -- give their comments for  10 tonight. So are there any questions from the floor  11 right now for Sergey? If not, okay, thank you.  12 So at this time, we're going to have the applicant  13 make a brief presentation about the amendment  14 application that we're discussing at this point, so  15 Jamie.  16 EXHIBIT 9 - Electronic Copy of the Community  17 Session PowerPoint Presentation By Agnico  18 Eagle Mines in English and in Inuktitut  19 Presentation by Agnico Eagle Mines  20 MS. LECLAIR: Unnukkut. Qujannamiik,  21 Mr. Chair. My name is Suzanne Leclair, on behalf of  22 Agnico Eagle. We'll start with the presentation  23 overview. Perhaps we can move to the next slide.  24 So tonight we'll be reviewing the consultation and  25 engagement, the project description details, we'll talk  26 about the health of Meliadine Lake, and we'll have some</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">151</p> <p>1 closing remarks. Next slide. Next slide, please.  2 Agnico Eagle's public participation and  3 consultation approach includes partnership activities  4 with impacted communities, Inuit organizations,  5 regional Inuit groups, Elders, land users, and other  6 stakeholders. The Nunavut Water Board process is  7 designed to be aligned with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit  8 guiding principles which include fostering good spirit  9 by being open, welcoming, and inclusive;  10 decision-making through the discussion and consensus;  11 working together for a common cause; respect and care  12 for the land, water, and environment. Next slide.  13 Between May and March 2021, Agnico Eagle held over  14 14 various events which included community open house,  15 communications, radio shows, announcement, and  16 meetings. We also had various focus group which were  17 very insightful. With the help of our IQ coordinator,  18 David Kritterdlik, we met many times with the Elders of  19 Rankin Inlet, with Kangiqliniq Hunters &amp; Trappers  20 Organization. We also met, as part of our focus group,  21 with the Community Lands and Resources committee and  22 the KIA Lands department. We also met with the women's  23 focus group and the focus group of women who are also  24 cabin owners at Lake Meliadine.  25 We even recently met again with Rankin Inlet  26 Hunters &amp; Trappers Organization on March 18th. We also</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">152</p> <p>1 had many meetings -- over seven meetings with our water  2 management working group from June to November 2020.  3 Next slide, please.  4 Our water management working group included the  5 Nunavut Water Board, Kivalliq Inuit Association,  6 Crown-Indigenous Relations/Northern Affairs Canada,  7 Environment Canada and Climate Change, and Agnico  8 Eagle. The summary of these working group meetings  9 were -- we shared the monitoring data with the water  10 management working group, and the monitoring data  11 confirmed that the diffuser is working as planned and  12 that the water being released in Lake Meliadine is safe  13 to the environment, is safe for the fish, and safe for  14 the food that fish eat. Next slide, please. And next  15 slide, please.  16 MS. AUTUT: So just to remind the room,  17 we're at the mercy of the internet with respect to the  18 changing of the slides. So there is a delay because of  19 the number of people on the internet for the Zoom call.  20 Thank you.  21 MS. LECLAIR: Thank you. For this  22 presentation project timeline, I will ask my colleague,  23 Michel Groleau, to speak to these slides.  24 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel  25 Groleau, Agnico Eagle.  26 Thank you, Suzanne.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">153</p> <p>1 So this slide present the project timeline. I'll  2 go briefly through this, as Sergey from the Nunavut  3 Water Board went into those detail. The big thing here  4 for us is regarding the approval of the project. What  5 we are aiming is having a decision prior to spring  6 2021. As water will -- as the snow will start to melt  7 and we'll start seeing water at the site, we would like  8 to have those change approve so we can operate  9 efficiently and be protective of the environment, the  10 water, and the land for this next summer. Next slide,  11 please.  12 I'll go, then, through the project component. So  13 our application include a review of the discharge limit  14 for total dissolved solids in Meliadine Lake, an  15 increase in the freshwater use, an update in our waste  16 rock management strategy, additional laydown area,  17 construction of roads, and an update of our Closure  18 Plan.  19 The next slide show the Meliadine project site  20 layout. So this particular slide highlight the area  21 where the new -- our stockpile will be built, in red,  22 in the middle of that circle. And the laydown area  23 would be used to build garage and pads to store some  24 material on site.  25 On the next slide, I will present the access road  26 that we would like to build to access new deposit that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">154</p> <p>1 were previously assessed in 2014, as part of our  2 environmental assessment, reviewed and approved by the  3 Nunavut Impact Review Board in 2015. So on that slide,  4 on the left, we're seeing an image showing the  5 Discovery spare road, going to the east of the existing  6 road. We have a zoom-in on that road on the right, and  7 this road is going to what we call the "Discovery  8 deposit." In the middle of that road, there's a  9 community boat launch that is planned to be built to  10 access Meliadine Lake.  11 The next slide is showing the other roads that we  12 are planning to build. Those one are closer from the  13 existing mine. And our plan, to access those other  14 deposit that we call "Pump," "F-Zone," "WESMEG," and  15 "NORMEG." So we can see those road in black on the  16 figure on the right. And the figure on the left show  17 how close they are from the existing project.  18 This slide show the extension of the Waste Rock  19 Pile Number 3. So Waste Rock Pile Facility 2 was  20 removed from our project to make -- to be replaced by a  21 newer stockpile and laydown area that I present  22 earlier. So this extension of the Waste Rock Pile 3 is  23 planned to replace that capacity we lost in storage of  24 our waste rock.  25 So the next slide present the closure and -- plan  26 that we updated. This one take in account the change</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">155</p> <p>1 on the waste rock storage facility. We added some  2 ponds and channel to collect the water around the waste  3 rock pile; the reclamation of the ore pad, the  4 landfarm, and the laydown area; the reclamation of the  5 roads that I presented earlier; and we have also some  6 security for the reclamation of the waterline, even if  7 this one is not included as part of this amendment.  8 We reached an agreement on the closure security  9 agreement with CIRNAC, Crown-Indigenous Northern Affair  10 Canada, and the Kivalliq Inuit Association. And the  11 final number is \$69,687,246, and this amount is shared  12 evenly between the Kivalliq Inuit Association and  13 Crown-Indigenous Northern Affair Canada.  14 The next slide present the increase in yearly  15 freshwater use. In 2014, when we were looking at the  16 project with the Nunavut Impact Review Board, we assess  17 a quantity of water to be used by the mine that was way  18 larger than what we currently use; it was around  19 2 million cubic metre per year. Right now, in the  20 licence, we're allowed to take 318,000 cubic metre per  21 year, so that would be the section at the bottom of  22 this cylinder.  23 What we are asking to Nunavut Water Board is to  24 increase that freshwater consumption to 740,000 cubic  25 metre per year. So you can see that we're still below  26 the amount we discussed in 2014. This has represented</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">156</p> <p>1 one-third of this total number.  2 The next slide is summarizing the water management  3 at site. At the surface, the camp, the waste rock  4 pile, and other facilities are exposed to rain and  5 snow. In order to collect the water that get in  6 contact with those infrastructure, we have ditches,  7 pond to collect that water, that -- and then we move  8 that water in Collection Pond 1. So it's the light  9 blue pond on the top of the figure.  10 From the underground mine that we can see at the  11 bottom-left of that slide, we're seeing water trickling  12 from the ground. This water is having a different  13 composition than the water at the surface. This water  14 is closer from the seawater. This is why we call it  15 the "saline water." And we collect this water in  16 saline pond, so it's separated from the water from the  17 surface. And it's collected in those dark blue pond at  18 the bottom of the figure. This water is moved back to  19 Melvin Bay with truck right now. And the water at the  20 surface is discharged in Meliadine Lake. This is the  21 water in light blue.  22 We are currently evaluating the opportunity to  23 discharge more water to the sea with the waterline  24 project. As mentioned by Sergey from the Nunavut Water  25 Board, this project is evaluated by the Nunavut Impact  26 Review Board. If this project is approved, we will</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">157</p> <p>1 look at the opportunity to take that light blue water  2 from the surface and direct it to the sea and minimize  3 our discharge to Meliadine Lake. However, today, this  4 waterline is not approved, but we're looking forward to  5 implement this new practice on site.  6 I will ask my colleague, Colleen, to continue the  7 presentation and present you the status of Meliadine  8 Lake. Thank you.  9 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  10 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  11 And thank you, Michel.  12 This slide here, on the left, it represents  13 Meliadine Lake. It represents the movement of water in  14 Meliadine Lake. So a few key things to look at on this  15 slide here: We have -- showing you the location of the  16 Meliadine mine, we have the little yellow dot which  17 illustrates where we discharge our water. If you look  18 up to the top-right, you can see the illustration of  19 where we discharge the water. It's roughly 100 metres,  20 described as a hula hoop.  21 Then the water from there mixes and moves in the  22 lake. It moves downstream to a mid-field area, and  23 then the water continues to move through the lake.  24 This figure also illustrates three reference areas  25 where we collect data. Of notice is Reference Area 2  26 at the top-left of the lake -- that's one of the outlet</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">158</p> <p>1 areas -- and Reference Area 3, down towards the bottom,  2 is the second outlet of the lake. These locations were  3 collected -- or, sorry, selected very specifically in  4 order for us to monitor water before it leaves the  5 lake. Next slide, please.  6 The next slide is going to illustrate -- Slide  7 Number 20 is some of the monitoring data we collected  8 in 2020. This slide specifically looks at the  9 discharge quality: the green circles, total dissolved  10 solids; the triangles are chloride; and the black dots,  11 which are not showing on that slide. I was going to  12 say the black dots are the percentage of chloride to  13 total dissolved solids. And a key point is, these data  14 were always below the discharge criteria. Next slide.  15 The next slide, Slide 21, shows some more of the  16 data we collected in 2020. These data are focused on  17 the receiving environment. So you can see the green  18 circles, again, represent the mixing zone where we  19 discharge water; the stars represent the mid-field,  20 which are a little further down; and the diamonds  21 represent the reference area in the lake. In addition,  22 there are the triangles, which represent the water  23 intake.  24 So if you remember, on the map, we intake the  25 water between where we discharge it and our mid-field  26 location. This intake water is water that is used by</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">159</p> <p>1 the mine for processing. And these results show us --  2 the top-left are the total dissolved solids that we  3 measure within the lake. And as you can see, with the  4 green circles, our total dissolved solids in the lake  5 ranging between 40 and 80 milligrams per litre. Next  6 slide.  7 So Slides 22 and 23 represent some key messages  8 that came out of our water management working group.  9 So Suzanne mentioned our water management working group  10 was a collaboration with the Kivalliq Inuit  11 Association, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  12 Affairs, Environment and Climate Change Canada, the  13 Nunavut Water Board, and Agnico Eagle. The purpose of  14 that group was to meet monthly to review the discharge  15 data and to review the data that were collected in  16 Meliadine Lake.  17 So as you can read, there's a few key messages I  18 would like to just draw your attention to: consensus  19 that the concentrations in the discharge is not harmful  20 to aquatic life, and, on the next slide, discharge  21 volumes were lower than planned. Also, through this  22 working group, we discussed alternatives -- alternative  23 uses for the discharge water, currently. Some of those  24 alternatives include recirculation.  25 So the next slide -- the next few slides, I'm  26 going to focus a little bit on the Aquatic Effects</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">160</p> <p>1 Monitoring program and the history of the health of  2 Meliadine Lake. So what we heard from the assessment  3 in 2014: Meliadine Lake is important. It's a source  4 for drinking water, it's a location for fishing. It  5 is -- the importance of clean water and the health of  6 the fish were emphasized. As a result, monitoring  7 programs were developed to protect that.  8 If I go to the next slide, 25, this here -- and  9 you'll see there's posters of this on the wall as well.  10 This represents the aquatic linkages within Meliadine  11 Lake. So we monitor the water. The water can  12 influence the critters or the plankton that live in the  13 water. The water can influence the sediment and the  14 benthic invertebrates. Those critters are consumed by  15 small fish. Small fish are consumed by bigger fish.  16 So from this, we designed the study to look at  17 those different organisms to understand that -- if the  18 water is safe to drink, if the fish are safe to eat,  19 and if the lake is healthy for fish and other  20 organisms. Next slide, please.  21 The next slide here shows -- this is Slide 26.  22 It's a summary of the Aquatic Effects Monitoring  23 program. So you can see the green line at the bottom  24 represents our baseline conditions. You can see the  25 orange dots represent data that were collected prior to  26 the mine in operation and are collected currently.</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">161</p> <p>1 These are all -- these are from our mixing zone area.</p> <p>2 You can see the purple line represents what we</p> <p>3 predicted in the 2014 assessment, in terms of changes</p> <p>4 in water quality. You can see that our monitored data</p> <p>5 are tracking that very nicely, very well. You can also</p> <p>6 see -- there's a blue line where we've made some</p> <p>7 updates to our water modeling. But the maximum</p> <p>8 predictions are in alignment with what we talked about</p> <p>9 back in 2014.</p> <p>10 Now, when we look at the water data, we compare it</p> <p>11 to guidelines or benchmarks. So the red line at the</p> <p>12 top represents a benchmark. The orange line represents</p> <p>13 a lower level that we use to determine if we have to</p> <p>14 implement change. As you can see, the monitoring data</p> <p>15 are well below the benchmark.</p> <p>16 The next slide, 27, it shows the results for</p> <p>17 chloride. The previous slide showed the results for</p> <p>18 total dissolved solids. Our monitoring data for</p> <p>19 chloride are showing the same story as for total</p> <p>20 dissolved solids: They are what we predicted in 2014,</p> <p>21 and they are well below our benchmarks. Next slide,</p> <p>22 please.</p> <p>23 This next slide here shows a variety of data. So</p> <p>24 if I'll start on the far right, it shows baseline data.</p> <p>25 So those are data that were collected 2008, 2009, 2011.</p> <p>26 This figure is talking about total dissolved solids.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">162</p> <p>1 You can see the yellow box there; that shows us the</p> <p>2 range of where half of the data fall. And then you can</p> <p>3 see the dots at the top and the bottom that show the</p> <p>4 minimum and maximize numbers that we've recorded.</p> <p>5 On the left side, we have the mixing zone data.</p> <p>6 Those are the data from 2020. As you can see, those</p> <p>7 are within the same range of baseline. And we also</p> <p>8 show on this figure results for the near-field, the</p> <p>9 mid-field, and those three reference areas. And, once</p> <p>10 again, we're showing these data relative to the</p> <p>11 benchmark, substantially lower than the benchmark.</p> <p>12 Next slide.</p> <p>13 The next slide, 29, is the same set of data. I</p> <p>14 just wanted to draw your attention to our reference</p> <p>15 areas. Again, Reference Area 2 is close to the north</p> <p>16 outlet, which flows into Peter Lake. Reference Area 3</p> <p>17 is close to the south outlet, which flows into Little</p> <p>18 Meliadine River -- or Little Meliadine Lake and</p> <p>19 Meliadine River. And as you can see, what we're</p> <p>20 measuring today is in the same range as our baseline</p> <p>21 data. Next slide.</p> <p>22 The next two slides, 30 and 31, are the report</p> <p>23 cards for the health of the lake. This one here shows</p> <p>24 us the health of water quality. And what we're showing</p> <p>25 on this figure -- and, again, we also have it on the</p> <p>26 posters on the side. In the water, we measure many,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">163</p> <p>1 many parameters. But what we can see is the little</p> <p>2 black dots represent what we've measured. And for</p> <p>3 almost all of the parameters, those black dots are the</p> <p>4 same as our background baseline concentrations.</p> <p>5 We also see the red lines on the far right, and in</p> <p>6 all cases, we are well below those benchmarks. So we</p> <p>7 know the water quality is protective of aquatic life</p> <p>8 and human use. Next slide, please.</p> <p>9 This slide here shows a summary of some of the</p> <p>10 biological monitoring. What it's showing us is where</p> <p>11 we measure and monitor the biological components near</p> <p>12 the discharge and in reference areas. We know that the</p> <p>13 biological community is healthy, and it either has not</p> <p>14 changed from baseline or there's been a minor change in</p> <p>15 plankton, but it's not related to the mine; it's</p> <p>16 related -- it's due to natural conditions. In summary,</p> <p>17 the biological community is healthy, and it has not</p> <p>18 been affected by the mine. Next slide.</p> <p>19 So this slide just speaks to -- we've talked a</p> <p>20 little bit about the effluent; we've talked about the</p> <p>21 quality of it. We discharge that water to the lake.</p> <p>22 We measure the water, we measure the biological</p> <p>23 components. And what we've seen is that there's either</p> <p>24 minor changes that we've expected in water quality, but</p> <p>25 no changes or minor changes in the biologicals. Last</p> <p>26 slide, Number 33.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">164</p> <p>1 So just -- I wanted to summarize that what we're</p> <p>2 seeing in our monitoring data for Meliadine Lake is</p> <p>3 that it continues to meet the predictions that we</p> <p>4 talked about in the original assessment. Meliadine</p> <p>5 Lake is healthy. We are monitoring it with an aquatic</p> <p>6 program that was developed with community stakeholders</p> <p>7 and regulators; it was developed with traditional</p> <p>8 knowledge. That's how we selected the different</p> <p>9 locations in the lake to monitor.</p> <p>10 The proposed discharge criteria continue to be</p> <p>11 safe, conservative, and highly protective of the lake.</p> <p>12 And the discharge criteria we've requested for total</p> <p>13 dissolved solids, of 3,500, again, continue to be</p> <p>14 protective of the lake. Thank you.</p> <p>15 MS. AUTUT: Okay. So thank you, Agnico</p> <p>16 Eagle, specifically Suzanne, Michel, and Colleen, for</p> <p>17 that presentation. Before we go to a break, we'd like</p> <p>18 to ask if there are any questions from the audience,</p> <p>19 from the public for the applicant. If anyone has</p> <p>20 questions, now would be a good opportunity.</p> <p>21 Can you go to the mic?</p> <p>22 The Public Questions Agnico Eagle Mines</p> <p>23 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hello, I have a question --</p> <p>24 inlet. I -- between Chester and -- I grew up between</p> <p>25 Rankin and Chester. And even way before the white</p> <p>26 people came up here, we would be brought by our Elders,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">165</p> <p>1 and that's how we were. And, like, the reasons for --  2 I understand regarding the water and the fish --  3 especially at Meliadine, where they're thinking of  4 mining, I don't hear -- I don't even hear on radio.  5 Who knows about the water? It's not the best  6 anymore. I believe it is coming from the mining. If  7 you can answer -- if you can say something, I would  8 like to get a clarification because I don't -- if I  9 don't understand what's happening, I can't say  10 anything. I would like a clarification on this.  11 MS. AUTUT: Thank you for your questions.  12 I'm going to ask the applicant if they would like to  13 respond.  14 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  15 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  16 And thank you for the question.  17 As I was trying to demonstrate in the  18 presentation, we collect and we monitor the lake very  19 closely. We monitor the lake at various locations.  20 And as I was showing in some of the figures is -- what  21 the information is telling us is that there have been  22 some changes in the water at the discharge location,  23 but it is still within the range of baseline, so prior  24 to the mine. And what it's telling us is that the  25 quality is below our guidelines, it is protective of  26 aquatic life, and it is still protective of continued</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">166</p> <p>1 traditional use. And I hope that answers your  2 question. Thank you.  3 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I have heard that Meliadine --  4 there's some -- I keep hearing there's a leak to the  5 lake, that water is poured into Meliadine. Where is it  6 coming from? Is it -- if it's dirty water or what. I  7 would like to get a clarification on that, what water  8 is being poured into the lake.  9 MS. AUTUT: Thank you. We'll go to the  10 applicant for a response.  11 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel  12 Groleau, Agnico Eagle.  13 Thank you for your question. So we were having a  14 slide showing up the different location for the  15 discharge of water. So our discharge to Meliadine  16 Lake, it's at only one area. We have a controlled  17 discharge, and water is treated before being  18 discharged.  19 So there's criteria from Environment Canada, from  20 the Nunavut Water Board that we have to respect to make  21 sure the water quality is safe for the environment and  22 for traditional use of the lake, harvesting, and for  23 the biological life, for the fish and other organism.  24 I hope this is answering your question.  25 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you for that  26 clarification. I have been a Board member for KIA for</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">167</p> <p>1 many years. Ever since I started my Board  2 directorship, we had a lot of mining companies that  3 wanted to look into our land to see, along -- working  4 along with the Lands department and the Clerks  5 department, we would try and get clarification from --  6 and we would always try and tell them how -- like, we  7 should have some community members if we -- today we  8 hear something that's not good for us to hear. Like --  9 I would like to thank you for allowing me to speak up.  10 MS. AUTUT: Thank you for your questions  11 and comments.  12 Anyone else from the floor? Sir, step to the mic.  13 Please tell us your name before you speak. Thank you.  14 MR. TAQAUGAQ: It's Sakkataaq Taqaugaq. I'm  15 from Rankin Inlet. We were looking at these slides,  16 and the ones that we looked at, seeing, were too tiny.  17 It's really hard to read them.  18 And, also, Agnico Eagle wanting a licence for a  19 water licence amendment application, I would like to --  20 I think you need to let people of Rankin Inlet  21 understand. First of all, you have to educate. What  22 kind of water do we have at Meliadine? I'm a little  23 bit disappointed with -- disappointed with AEM simply  24 because they have not educated the community as to what  25 type of -- what the quality of water is, that is  26 running down Meliadine River.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">168</p> <p>1 I believe that if they're going to be educated,  2 then they have to provide substance. They have to  3 provide actual evidence that they are educating the  4 people. Maybe provide people, by educating them, such  5 as our Elder here who just spoke -- by providing him  6 with a certificate that this was the length of time you  7 spent educating him so that he could pass on the  8 education you have provided him to the general public.  9 Thank you for allowing me to speak.  10 MS. AUTUT: Thank you for your comments.  11 Would the applicant like to respond?  12 MS. LECLAIR: Qujannamiik, Thomas. Suzanne  13 Leclair for Agnico Eagle. Thank you, Thomas, for your  14 comment.  15 I think, when we met last night, the purpose of  16 that meeting was to have a discussion on what kind of  17 information would be good for the community to see and  18 read. So by having these discussion that you allowed  19 us last night, it was very useful for us to get your  20 feedback.  21 We also talked last night about community-based  22 water monitoring and possible interest from the  23 community. And I think that might be something that  24 the community would be interested in participating, as  25 part of a community-based water monitoring program, to  26 see for themselves the results of the water sampling.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">169</p> <p>1 So perhaps that would be part of the education system 2 that we could implement here in Rankin Inlet. 3 Qujannamiik. 4 MS. AUTUT: Thank you. 5 There was an Elder who raised his hand. Would you 6 like to come to the mic, please? And if you could tell 7 us who you are, what your name is. Thank you. 8 MR. TATTY: My name is John Tatty. I'm 9 from Rankin Inlet. I have a question in regards to -- 10 regarding the -- that was supposed to come from -- once 11 it starts pouring -- and is it going to be only saline, 12 or is it already going to be treated and then have to 13 pour to Melvin Bay? Or is it going to be treated out 14 here, when it comes here, to be similar -- taste of the 15 salt water that we already have at Melvin Bay? I'd 16 like to get information on that, please, and thank you. 17 MS. AUTUT: Okay, thank you. So 18 recognizing that that is part of the Nunavut Impact 19 Review Board process and not necessarily this process 20 tonight, I think it's a good opportunity to still 21 address the question, so I'll ask Agnico, please, to 22 respond. Thank you. 23 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel 24 Groleau, Agnico Eagle. 25 So to answer the question that we received, yes, 26 the water is treated. It's treated at the site. So we</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">170</p> <p>1 have a treatment plant for the saline water, to make it 2 similar to seawater. So when it's discharged, it's 3 having the same composition than the water from the 4 Melvin Bay. I hope it's answering your question. 5 Thank you. Matna. 6 MR. TATTY: From -- it's going to be 7 treated at the worksite near -- at Meliadine? 8 MS. AUTUT: Agnico? 9 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel 10 Groleau, Agnico Eagle. 11 Yes. Thank you for your comments. We believe 12 that it's the best approach to treat it at the site 13 before it's pumped to the Melvin Bay. Matna. 14 MR. TATTY: Thank you for answering my 15 question. 16 And the Water Board -- I would like to say to the 17 Water Board -- I'm not too sure what the Inuktitut name 18 is. [OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN] What's methane gas? 19 [OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN]. 20 That methane gas has -- I think you need to 21 monitor that at Meliadine. There are more fish dying 22 because there's going to be a lot more methane gas. 23 Like, we don't -- like, during the winter, under the 24 ice, there's fish -- the gas -- there's gas. I'm 25 pretty sure you could -- if you can monitor that during 26 the winter. I don't know how much methane gas is there</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">171</p> <p>1 or is it -- if it gets any bigger, I am pretty sure it 2 will ruin more fish. Thank you. 3 MS. AUTUT: Thank you. 4 I believe he may have been referring to methane 5 gas. Is that a possibility? And if so, can someone 6 possibly address the question? 7 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel 8 Groleau from Agnico Eagle. 9 Thank you for your question. So there's a 10 different phenomenon that can impact the lake, that can 11 impact the fish. So it's important to work together to 12 understand those different phenomenon. We're having an 13 impact with the mine. We're mitigating our impact with 14 treatment, with understanding the lake by doing 15 monitoring, collecting data. 16 If people in the community, hunters, fishers, 17 harvester, are observing phenomenon that are impacting 18 lakes, we can help by working together to understand 19 those phenomenon together. So what you referred as 20 "methane gas," if you see those thing happening, we 21 have -- we're here to support you, to understand those 22 phenomenon. 23 So my colleague, Suzanne, was referring to the 24 community-based monitoring program. This is the 25 platform where we can have that discussion and identify 26 how we can help to understand those thing. So we</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">172</p> <p>1 invite you to participate to those program. And we're 2 welcoming your comments. Matna. 3 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Michel. 4 Any other -- sir, just step up to the mic, please, 5 and tell us your name. Thank you. 6 MR. ANGOSHADLUK: My name is Thomas Angoshadluk. 7 Maybe if you guys make a movie of what the water 8 movement -- you guys do, then maybe there will be a 9 better understanding of what the movement -- or what 10 kind of process it takes. That's one of the things I 11 want to say to you guys. 12 And the other question I have is for the Water 13 Board. You guys were talking about Crown land and 14 Nunavut land. Does this intervene into Crown land, the 15 water, with their -- with their application? If so, 16 what is the Federal government saying about that? 17 Thank you. 18 MS. AUTUT: Thank you for the suggestion, 19 the comment to Agnico Eagle. 20 Did you want to make a comment with respect to the 21 suggestion of a video? And then we'll -- I'm going to 22 hand the phone -- or, sorry, the microphone to Spencer, 23 with CIRNAC, Crown-Indigenous Relations, to address the 24 Crown land flow. So to the applicant first, please. 25 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel 26 Groleau from Agnico Eagle.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">173</p> <p>1 Really appreciate the comment from Thomas  2 regarding the movie, and we'll work on that as a good  3 tool to educate the community on how water is managed  4 on site. Matna.  5 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Michel.  6 Spencer?  7 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair.  8 Thank you, Thomas, for the question. So when it  9 comes to Crown land, that would be where  10 Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada would have  11 responsibilities. The Meliadine site is wholly on  12 Inuit-owned land, so that's just a distinction on the  13 land portion.  14 When it comes to water, waters are co-managed.  15 And Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  16 Canada has a responsibility for water management, and  17 that's, in part, why we're here participating in this  18 process before the Nunavut Water Board.  19 I will speak to the role we played so far today,  20 later in my presentation. But our role is to ensure  21 that the application -- any potential impacts are  22 mitigated. In the event that the Nunavut Water Board  23 was to produce a licence, they'd make a recommendation  24 to the Minister of Northern Affairs. If the Minister  25 of Northern Affairs was to accept that water licence  26 and approve it, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">174</p> <p>1 Affairs Canada would have inspectors that would inspect  2 to ensure that Agnico Eagle was living up to the terms  3 and conditions of their water licence. Matna.  4 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Spencer.  5 Thomas, does that address your questions? You're  6 good? Okay, thank you, Thomas.  7 We have a question in the -- across the room. If  8 you could tell us your name, please.  9 MS. OOLOOYUK: Thank you. Qujannamiik.  10 Rosie Oolooyuk. My name is Rosie Oolooyuk. I am sure  11 there are more Elders older than us, could not come  12 here. But we do have local radio in Rankin Inlet.  13 In regards to the water, there's been people  14 speaking about the water over at Meliadine. A lot of  15 people are complaining that they can't even drink the  16 tea with the water from Meliadine. There's a  17 difference already. And there are some of us that have  18 campsites around there. We have realized -- and some  19 of our Elders are unable to come. I am speaking for  20 their behalf. There's already Elders complaining that  21 there's a big difference in the water.  22 And thank you very much for allowing us -- and I'd  23 like to welcome you all here to Rankin too. Thank you.  24 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Rosie, for the  25 questions, comments.  26 Agnico, did you wish to respond, please?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">175</p> <p>1 MS. LECLAIR: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Suzanne  2 Leclair with Agnico Eagle. Ms. Oolooyuk, we are -- we  3 appreciate the concerns that you raise on behalf of the  4 Elders, and we would like to perhaps -- we are planning  5 -- and we want to work with the community to start  6 implementing, with the help of the community members  7 such as yourself, to investigate the possibility of  8 setting forth a community-based water monitoring  9 program.  10 These concerns raised by yourself, on behalf of  11 the Elders, are very important, and we want to help you  12 understand more what is going on with the changing  13 taste. So we would be more than happy to discuss  14 community-based water monitoring on Meliadine Lake with  15 Agnico Eagle members here today.  16 Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair.  17 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Suzanne.  18 Rosie, does that address your questions and  19 concerns? Thank you.  20 Any other questions from the floor? The lady in  21 red, if you'd like to get to a mic. State your name  22 for us, please.  23 MS. JOHNSTON: Thank you. Reanna Johnston,  24 I'm from Rankin Inlet, Nunavut. So I was at the NWB  25 meeting previously, and I know that the process --  26 there was, of course, lots of questions regarding the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">176</p> <p>1 pushing of the process because it needs to be nine  2 months or -- I just wanted to state that the reason --  3 like, because of COVID, I understand that that was a  4 lot of the issues there.  5 And I keep hearing from AEM that their -- the  6 reason why we need to do this is because spring is  7 coming, the snow is melting. Am I talking too fast?  8 Okay. And just -- this may be a basic question. But  9 how often does the snow get plowed up there, to lessen  10 the amount of water being drained into Meliadine?  11 I know that sounds really silly. But, to me, I  12 think it's a way to mitigate risk to -- for the water  13 being pushed -- draining into the lake, to lessen the  14 need for, you know, the amount of water going into the  15 lake -- like, the -- also, the snow, is it -- does it  16 get tested? Is that -- like, once it lands on -- near  17 the mine, does it get tested?  18 I have a -- I'll let -- should I keep going or --  19 so the proposed amount of water is seventy -- I think  20 it was seventy-one -- anyways, so how many years is  21 this proposed amendment going to last?  22 MS. AUTUT: Okay, so let's --  23 MS. JOHNSTON: Okay.  24 MS. AUTUT: Let's tackle those three  25 questions first, and you're welcome to stay there and  26 ask additional questions. We just want to keep the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">177</p> <p>1 proponent on their toes here, to answer those three.  2 So she asked about the amount of snow that's being  3 plowed, so if we could start with that and carry on.  4 Thanks.  5 MR. GROLEAU: Mr. Chair, Michel Groleau from  6 Agnico Eagle. Thank you.  7 Thank you for your question. Regarding the snow  8 plowing, so, yes, we're managing snow on site. We're  9 having many management plan, about 30 of them; one of  10 the -- one of those is the snow management plan. So  11 it's incorporated into our freshet management plan.  12 So we have designated area to push the snow or  13 plow the snow that get in contact with the site. So in  14 those area, we know, when the snow melt, it's collected  15 by ditches or pond. So into those pond, when the snow  16 melt, we can monitor it, take water sample. And then  17 if it need to be treated before it goes to the lake, we  18 have those options.  19 So it's all -- all that snow at the surface is  20 collected and go in our -- the blue pond I was showing,  21 the light blue pond, the Collection Pond 1, it's going  22 up there. And then we have our treatment plant before  23 discharge to Meliadine Lake. So the site is quite  24 small in area, so it's well controlled with those  25 different infrastructure. So there's not that many  26 runoff that -- or snow melt that goes directly in</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">178</p> <p>1 the -- in the lake, that get in contact with our site.  2 Regarding the question on the water consumption,  3 so right now our water licence extend until 2031. So  4 that would be until that date that we would request  5 this freshwater consumption to be increased, at 740,000  6 cubic metre per year. Matna.  7 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Michel.  8 So did that -- first off, did that answer the  9 first questions?  10 MS. JOHNSTON: Yes, yeah.  11 MS. AUTUT: Okay. And do you have any  12 additional questions?  13 MS. JOHNSTON: Yes.  14 MS. AUTUT: Okay, go ahead, please.  15 MS. JOHNSTON: So on your Slide 13, you have  16 information about proposed site access roads to support  17 future mining. I'm just curious to know if that's some  18 -- like, I -- there's so many different projects going  19 on. Is this in relation to the mine -- the road that's  20 already been approved? Or is this a new discovery, and  21 you're proposing to develop these roads to access that  22 new discovery?  23 If so, I think it's really important to have a  24 better visual so that you can have, like, on that same  25 map, what's been approved and what is being proposed,  26 because for someone like me -- like, I have a vested</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">179</p> <p>1 interest -- I have a cabin out there. So I, like -- I  2 get confused with all these different projects  3 happening, and I like to be informed. And by reading  4 something like this, it's, like -- there's another new  5 deposit near my cabin. So just try and be more clear  6 as to what's been approved and what's being proposed  7 and have those same map lines on there.  8 MS. AUTUT: Okay, thank you.  9 Agnico, did you wish to respond, please?  10 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel  11 Groleau from Agnico Eagle.  12 Regarding the construction of the access road --  13 so I just want to step back to 2014. We're having that  14 larger project that we were assessing with Nunavut  15 Impact Review Board. So this Discovery project is the  16 site that -- what we discussed in 2014.  17 What is in front of the Nunavut Water Board today  18 is only the road going to this project. So we're not  19 including the mining of the Discovery project at this  20 stage. So we still need approval from Nunavut Water  21 Board. We have terms and condition in our project  22 certificate to complete prior mining this area as well,  23 so we're not there. There's still opportunity for the  24 community and the parties to provide comment,  25 recommendation on this project. And we'll certainly go  26 in the community, especially contact cabin owner, to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">180</p> <p>1 understand what's the implication of this project for  2 them.  3 Your suggestion, regarding having a visual that  4 show what is approved versus not, is a really good one,  5 and we'll certainly have those type of map; same as  6 your question on the snow. Actually, it was a -- it  7 was a good idea, you know. It's how we build up those  8 mitigation, is with those discussion. And I just want  9 to thank you for your question and recommendation.  10 Matna.  11 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Michel.  12 Continue with your questions.  13 MS. JOHNSTON: Last one. So something that  14 -- since I started attending all of the mining --  15 something that I struggle with, to try and understand  16 the project -- or long-term, short-term projects is,  17 what are the pros and cons to every project. And I  18 always sit down and try and figure out, for this  19 particular project, what are the pros and what are the  20 cons.  21 And I understand that you need to -- you're  22 amending the water licence so that you can, you know,  23 support future mining. But I think it's really  24 important for any of the parties to provide that  25 information for us, because I'm not a scientist. I  26 don't know -- I come here to try and understand so that</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">181</p> <p>1 I can voice my opinion, like I am. But providing a  2 list -- the most simple list -- it doesn't have to be  3 super detailed, but just providing pros-and-cons list  4 for the public to understand what's happening, to me,  5 is really important. I think that's more a comment,  6 but -- thanks.  7 MS. AUTUT: Thank you for that comment.  8 Agnico, did you wish to respond or accept it as a  9 comment?  10 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel  11 Groleau from Agnico Eagle. We appreciate the comment  12 from Reanna, and it's certainly something we'll work on  13 for a future consultation event and such meeting as we  14 have today. Matna.  15 MS. AUTUT: Thank you.  16 Any other questions from the floor before we go to  17 Zoom? Sir, if you want to come up to the mic, please,  18 and give us your name.  19 MR. AOKAUT: Hi, I am Andre Aokaut with  20 Rankin HTO. I have a couple questions. Why are Agnico  21 Eagle allowed to even ask -- seek permission to  22 increase discharge when Inuit already know there's  23 water management issues?  24 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Andre, for the  25 question.  26 Agnico?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">182</p> <p>1 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel  2 Groleau from Agnico Eagle. Would it be possible to  3 repeat the question, please? Sorry about that.  4 MS. AUTUT: Can you please repeat that  5 question? It was a little difficult -- maybe just take  6 -- yes, if you don't mind. Thank you.  7 MR. AOKAUT: Why are Agnico Eagle allowed  8 to even seek permission to increase discharge when  9 Inuit have already noticed water management issues?  10 MS. AUTUT: Michel, was that clearer?  11 Okay, if you could proceed, please.  12 MR. GROLEAU: Michel Groleau from Agnico  13 Eagle.  14 Thank you for the question. So seeking approval  15 is part of the process that we respect. So this  16 process allow opportunity for public to comment, for  17 the intervener to provide recommendation, and to make  18 those project better. We showed the health of  19 Meliadine Lake, based on our monitoring. We understand  20 the concern from the community and from the Inuit, and  21 we want to work together to understand those concern  22 better.  23 But based on the information we have, Meliadine  24 Lake is healthy and will continue to be healthy with  25 this proposed change to our discharge limit. Matna.  26 MS. AUTUT: Thank you.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">183</p> <p>1 Andre, did you have a follow-up question?  2 MR. AOKAUT: I got a couple more. I know  3 NIRB has approved the road. But how can the Water  4 Board approve it, knowing that there are major issues  5 with regards to caribou, with already constructed  6 roads?  7 MS. AUTUT: So thanks, Andre. So I just  8 want to clarify that roads and wildlife are outside of  9 the mandate of the Nunavut Water Board. Those  10 decisions related to those matters are not part of what  11 the Water Board approves, as part of this process.  12 So I believe the road that you're talking about  13 has already been assessed by the Nunavut Impact Review  14 Board favourably. There was a decision issued and sent  15 to the Minister and approved for construction. So the  16 purpose of this hearing -- we won't be making any  17 decisions related to the road nor the caribou. Those  18 are not decisions that the Board members are able to  19 weigh in on or make decisions regarding.  20 MR. AOKAUT: And one last question: Why  21 are we moving the goalposts for them? There was a set  22 limit in the [INDISCERNIBLE] assessment for a reason.  23 MS. AUTUT: Okay, thank you for that  24 question. So, again, we've not made any decisions  25 regarding, as you say, the goalposts. But the Nunavut  26 Agreement does allow the proponent the opportunity to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">184</p> <p>1 come back to the Board, as they get new information and  2 additional information, to seek the necessary  3 amendments to operate their business.  4 And the whole purpose of us gathering is to hear  5 the different evidence from the company, experts like  6 Crown-Indigenous Relations or Environment Canada, and  7 most importantly, the Inuit in the community, so --  8 which is why we have the questions and hope to have the  9 different people in the room address those.  10 But I just want to make it very clear that the  11 Board has not made any decisions yet. But this is the  12 opportunity to hear the different evidence from the  13 different parties in the room. Does that help?  14 MR. AOKAUT: Yes, thank you.  15 MS. AUTUT: Thank you.  16 MR. AOKAUT: That's all. Thank you.  17 MR. SANGUIN: I have a question.  18 MS. AUTUT: Okay, Kevin, if you'd come up  19 to the mic, please.  20 MR. SANGUIN: Thank you. Welcome to Rankin,  21 everyone, and thanks for your time. My name is Kevin  22 Sanguin. I'm from Rankin Inlet.  23 I have a question about the threshold. The  24 presentation is based on numbers that are well below a  25 threshold. The threshold looks quite high. We don't  26 know, in this room, most of us, about science. We're</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">185</p> <p>1 concerned that the resource that's so important to us  2 is going to be beyond our control before there's  3 something that can be done about it.  4 Just a couple days ago, we had a really nice --  5 Agnico Eagle put on a really nice water-tasting event,  6 with water from different places that are popular in  7 our community; I believe they were suggested by Elders.  8 It was a really nice thing.  9 I'm wondering, with a threshold at  10 500-and-something, if we could see what water looks  11 like and tastes like at that threshold, because by the  12 time we get there, heaven forbid that we would get  13 there, I fear that we're too late. And we cannot undo  14 damage that's already done to that level.  15 So if we had water, and we could taste it at the  16 threshold that's supposed to be safe, and we see that  17 it is safe not only for the fish, which are important,  18 and all the other organisms in the lake, but for all of  19 the people that depend on that resource and many  20 generations to follow, it would provide some level of  21 comfort, because for us, the number doesn't mean -- we  22 don't know what it means. We just see that, well,  23 here's our threshold, and you could -- we can all see  24 we're well below the threshold.  25 I'd rather -- I'd rather drink it from a teapot,  26 see what -- see what that threshold tastes like. It's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">186</p> <p>1 not so much a question as a comment.  2 And how was the threshold decided? I guess that  3 was the question. And do we know what that water  4 tastes like at that threshold? Thank you.  5 MS. AUTUT: Thank you -- thank you, Kevin,  6 for your comments.  7 And there were a couple of questions in there, so  8 I'm going to ask Agnico to respond, please.  9 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  10 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  11 And thank you for your questions. First question  12 was on the thresholds. And the threshold -- if I look  13 back to Slide 26 as an example, with our total  14 dissolved solids -- yes, thank you. So the threshold  15 that we're using there, that one comes from Health  16 Canada. That's an aesthetic guideline for drinking  17 water, and it's really a taste. And, actually, our  18 poster there, on the back, speaks to that a bit little  19 more. And I'd be happy to talk about that in a little  20 bit more detail.  21 But, basically, 500 milligrams per litre of TDS is  22 equivalent to what we get in a lot of our drinking --  23 bottled drinking water samples. For example, this  24 bottle here has about 400 milligrams per litre of TDS,  25 total dissolved solids. And we could absolutely do  26 some tasting events, where we put some salt in some</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">187</p> <p>1 water and tasted it.  2 For total dissolved solids, this threshold, like I  3 said, it's an objective -- or an aesthetic -- it's a  4 taste thing. That's all. It has no implications on  5 health, on human health.  6 And the other thing I just wanted to draw our  7 attention to, on this slide here, is, through the  8 original FEIS, or environmental assessment, we  9 predicted those concentrations would go up, and that's  10 the purple line. But then once we stop discharging,  11 because of the lake, the way it flushes and the water  12 moves, those concentrations are going to go down, and  13 they're going to come back down to our baseline. So  14 that's what that figure is showing us.  15 The similar -- you can think of a similar approach  16 for any of our other water quality parameters. These  17 thresholds that we look at are set by our Federal  18 departments, and they are -- they are guidelines that  19 are protective for even the most sensitive aquatic  20 species. And hopefully that addresses your question.  21 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Colleen.  22 Kevin, you're good with that? Thank you, Kevin.  23 Any other questions from the floor? Come on back  24 up. Again, say your name for the record, please.  25 MR. ANGLOSHADLUK: Thomas Angloshadluk again.  26 And this one is for all parties involved in this</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">188</p> <p>1 meeting, right to the Federal government, Agnico, Water  2 Board, KIA, whoever's here.  3 I'd like to suggest maybe you guys can get all  4 together, with the money you guys are spending, and  5 maybe possibly put it into Arctic College for our  6 future students. Maybe it would be a good idea to  7 start up a college for the younger ones to learn about  8 water sampling or what Agnico does with the water, for  9 example, trying to come up with the level of what the  10 water tastes like, or how they know what the fish life  11 is going to be like, or, you know, something like that.  12 That's a suggestion I want to make for all parties  13 involved here. Thank you.  14 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Thomas.  15 Any other questions, comments? If not from the  16 floor, do we have -- okay, before we move on, did you  17 wish to respond to Thomas's comment?  18 MR. GROLEAU: Michel Groleau from Agnico  19 Eagle. I would like to thank Thomas for his comment.  20 I think the community-based monitoring program is to  21 bring people also out on the field to help us to  22 collect that water, so it's an opportunity of learning.  23 And we're -- we'll look forward to continue our  24 engagement with the community. Matna.  25 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Michel.  26 So there is a question on the floor. If you could</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">189</p> <p>1 come to the mic and give us your name, please. Thank  2 you.  3 MR. ITTINUAR: Good evening. Harry Ittinuar,  4 HTO Interim Chair. There's some other comments or  5 questions that I have to bring, but I'd like to say  6 this first.  7 With more water consumption, we'll see more waste,  8 and we'll see more ships coming into our communities.  9 That increases more chances of an oil spill and also  10 more effect on the seals, whales, fish, and so on, and  11 more traffic on the roads to the mining camp, which  12 will have more impact on caribou herds. And the new  13 road to Discovery, that will have impact on caribou  14 herds also, both winter and summer, and also on fish,  15 on the lakes, cabin owners.  16 Water has already been affected. Once -- before,  17 we used to say we're going to get spring water, fresh  18 spring water. It's not so anymore. Big Meliadine,  19 that river flows down to Small Meliadine. And Small  20 Meliadine flows down to Yellow Lake, where all the  21 people go get their freshwater. Not so many people  22 anymore. That's how much it's affected our community  23 and other communities being affected along the coast  24 because of ships increasing. Whales are being  25 affected, the fish are being affected, seals. Excuse  26 me. What they're proposing to discharge is not</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">190</p> <p>1 freshwater.  2 And if everybody is saying IQ is being used, why  3 are we saying it's not? It's not so. Please listen to  4 the community members. Please listen to us. I'm  5 grateful everybody is here tonight and that we could  6 say our concerns and speak up. Thank you.  7 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Harry, for your  8 comments and the question.  9 So I'm going to hand it off to Agnico Eagle for a  10 response.  11 MR. GROLEAU: Matna, Mr. Chair. Michel  12 Groleau from Agnico Eagle.  13 Thank you for your question and comments. A  14 couple of things I would like to clarify: This project  15 -- or this amendment to our water licence will not  16 trigger change in transportation on the road. We're  17 not planning adding new trucks, not planning bringing  18 more fuel. So I would like to reassure you on those  19 aspect.  20 Regarding the health of the lake, we presented a  21 report card showing up our findings on the water  22 quality of the lake. We understand that, you know, the  23 community changed their practice. They changed their  24 areas to collect the water, and we're looking forward  25 to work with the community to understand why and --  26 this change happened. And we hope that, with that</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">191</p> <p>1 collaboration, we can understand that better.  2 And we think that, by working together, we can  3 find solutions that make sense for us and for you as  4 well. And it's by bringing everybody around the same  5 table, with a common goal, that we'll be able to  6 implement those changes.  7 I would invite you to -- at the break, to come see  8 us. We can go through those different poster that  9 explain our understanding of the status of Meliadine  10 Lake, and we can discuss that more in detail. Thank  11 you.  12 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Michel.  13 Harry, was that -- are you okay with that  14 response, or do you have a follow-up? Okay, thank you.  15 Any other questions? Gentleman with the black  16 jacket, please state your name. Thank you.  17 MR. ZAWADSKI: Brian Zawadski. I live in  18 Rankin Inlet. I want to take off a little bit, what  19 Kevin was saying.  20 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Go closer to the mic.  21 MR. ZAWADSKI: Okay. Well, they should have  22 a taller stand.  23 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I think you have to bend down.  24 MR. ZAWADSKI: I got a sore back.  25 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: You're okay.  26 MR. ZAWADSKI: Is that good?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">192</p> <p>1 First of all, when you use the term "mitigation,"  2 by definition, that means to reduce the severity of  3 something. So if we're talking about reducing the  4 severity of something, it should raise a caution in our  5 mind that there's a problem there.  6 And the first question I have has to -- relate to  7 total dissolved solids. The charts talk about  8 chlorides, chlorine. What else composes the total  9 dissolved solids? That's a start.  10 MS. AUTUT: Okay, thank you, Brian.  11 Agnico?  12 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  13 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  14 And thank you for your question. We had similar  15 questions to that topic during the information-request  16 stage. And just to sum it up, total dissolved solids  17 is a combination of various dissolved ions in the  18 water. So we've talked about chloride; there's also  19 sodium, magnesium, bicarbonate, sulfate, fluoride,  20 nitrate. I think I got them all. There might be one  21 more -- calcium, yes. Did I get it? All right. Yes.  22 It's a sum of various ions in the water. Thanks.  23 MS. AUTUT: Thank you.  24 Brian?  25 MR. ZAWADSKI: What about heavy metals? Are  26 there any heavy metals in the total dissolved solids?</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">193</p> <p>1 MS. AUTUT: So he's repeating the  2 question. He'd like to know if there's anything else  3 in the total dissolved solids.  4 Any heavy metals, is that the question?  5 MR. ZAWADSKI: Yes --  6 MS. AUTUT: Okay, thank you.  7 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  8 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  9 No, there are no heavy metals that comprise total  10 dissolved solids. Thank you.  11 MR. ZAWADSKI: Okay. In terms of what Kevin  12 was talking about, you have a baseline, and then you  13 have a couple of different levels. We don't really  14 have a sense of what those upper levels are, but that's  15 what Kevin was talking about.  16 To me, a baseline is really what the target should  17 be. So if you're putting something in the lake, you  18 should be targeting the disposed liquid -- the disposed  19 water that's going into the lake to match the baseline  20 so that we're not putting anything extra into the  21 water.  22 And the chart shows that once you -- the total  23 dissolved solids is increasing over time. As you're  24 disposing it and as time passes, it diminishes. But  25 where does it go? It's still there. It's just been  26 spread out more so that whatever is being put into the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">194</p> <p>1 lake isn't going anywhere; it's staying in there, so  2 it's going to be there for years and years and years.  3 So that raises the concern that we might be  4 getting bioaccumulation. So what is the potential for  5 bioaccumulation over the years? Once the mine ceases  6 to operate, whatever was put into the lake is still  7 there.  8 MS. AUTUT: Thank you for that question,  9 Brian.  10 Agnico, you care to respond to that, please?  11 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  12 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  13 And thank you for your question. A couple more --  14 I guess, just for context, so we talked a little bit  15 about the mixing zone in Meliadine Lake. I mentioned  16 we have -- the mixing zone is 100 metres around the  17 discharge point, and what that equates to is point zero  18 -- sorry, I'll start again. That equates to 0.029  19 percent of the total surface area of the lake. It's a  20 very small area that we're talking about.  21 The other thing with total dissolved solids, they  22 are salts, they're ions that are in the water, and they  23 do not bioaccumulate. So we don't have any  24 bioaccumulation with total dissolved solids.  25 One thing -- when I was showing the figure of the  26 lake and -- with the movement of water, that's a</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">195</p> <p>1 natural process within any lake. And within any lake,  2 there is movement of water, movement of dissolved  3 substances through the lake, and out through the  4 watershed. That is -- it's a natural process.  5 And so the figure that I was showing, with the  6 decreasing concentrations, it's because the  7 concentrations are predicted to decrease. Once the  8 discharge is turned off, the lake will continue to  9 move, the water will continue to circulate, and those  10 concentrations will decrease. I hope that answers your  11 question. Thank you.  12 MR. ZAWADSKI: No. I understand the logical  13 research going on, and there's a few actions that  14 happen in the lake every year.  15 When you have the ice come off, you have a  16 turnover in the water column. You get a  17 [INDISCERNIBLE] buildup, which then tends to  18 concentrate whatever is put into the bottom of the  19 lake, into the bottom of the lake. And then, in the  20 fall, you have a turnover again, and things  21 recirculate. So I understand all of that. But the  22 point is that whatever you put in the lake is still in  23 the lake somewhere; it doesn't go anywhere.  24 So the other thing, though, is if the water that  25 you're disposing has been treated, why even put it in  26 the lake? Why not just use all of it, recirculate all</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">196</p> <p>1 of it? Why -- you know, why do you have to dispose of  2 it then?  3 MS. AUTUT: Thank you.  4 Question to Agnico.  5 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  6 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  7 And thank you for your question. Again, what we  8 talked about earlier today, in our presentation, was  9 the amount of water that actually moves through and  10 leaves Meliadine Lake every year and then the amount of  11 water that actually enters Meliadine Lake from the  12 surrounding watershed every year. It's roughly  13 84 million cubic metres of water per year that's moving  14 through that lake, through the watershed, and out the  15 lake. I just wanted to add that bit of context in  16 there.  17 And the other aspect is that movement of lake, of  18 water, and the movement of substances through the lake.  19 I just wanted to just emphasize that. That's -- again,  20 that's part of the natural movement of water through  21 the lake, even with the seasons. And I hope that  22 addresses your question. Thanks.  23 MR. ZAWADSKI: And in terms of  24 recirculating or recycling the water -- you're asking  25 to get more water out of the lake, and you're asking to  26 put more water into the lake. Wouldn't recirculating</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">197</p> <p>1 the water that you've trapped in the -- from the  2 freshet not be a logical solution to this, instead of  3 putting more water into the lake?  4 MS. AUTUT: So I believe the question is,  5 Why are you not -- instead of discharging, is there not  6 an opportunity to be recycling the water on the mine  7 site. Is that an accurate --  8 MR. ZAWADSKI: Yes.  9 MS. AUTUT: -- reflection?  10 Okay, Agnico.  11 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  12 Thank you for your question, Brian. So the number  13 that was providing (sic) my colleague, Colleen, on the  14 natural recharge, so that 84 million cubic metres of  15 water -- so from our site footprint, there's around  16 700,000 to a million cubic metre of that 84 million  17 that get in contact with our site. So all that water  18 is collect with ditches and pond before reaching out  19 the lake.  20 We're having, you know, different process in place  21 to collect that water and bringing it back to the mill  22 as much as we can, to limit our discharge. But this  23 water would report naturally to the lake if the mine  24 was not there. It's the -- it's part of the runoff  25 that get in contact with our lake.  26 So the management strategy we're having around</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">198</p> <p>1 this water is to collect it, treat it to meet discharge  2 criteria that are established by our water licence.  3 And we have to respect other criteria as part of the  4 regulation from Environment Canada. So those criteria  5 are protective, and those regulation are protective of  6 the environment.  7 We know, from the history of our consultation,  8 that Meliadine Lake is important for the community.  9 And to add to that, there was this Aquatic Effect  10 Monitoring program to understand the health of the  11 lake. Our mining operation would impact the health of  12 lake. That program was developed in collaboration with  13 the parties, so Environment Canada, Crown-Indigenous  14 Affair, the Kivalliq Inuit Association, the Hunters &amp;  15 Trappers Organization, community members, Elders, that  16 help us to understand what were the important areas of  17 the lake, such as the discharge location. And we set  18 up those monitoring station, really, to understand if  19 we would go above those threshold.  20 When we look at the health map, we're close to  21 baseline right now in the lake, for many parameters.  22 So if I go back to the recirculation of this water,  23 yes, we're recirculating some of it with the Collection  24 Pond 1; it's going back to the mill. And I hope that  25 this is answering your question. Thank you.  26 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Michel.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">199</p> <p>1 Brian, any follow-up?  2 MR. ZAWADSKI: No.  3 It was a -- it was a long answer, but you didn't  4 really answer. Some is being recirculated. I'm just  5 wondering why you can't recirculate more of it instead  6 of putting more into the lake. Can you recirculate  7 more of the water that's collected, or reuse, whatever?  8 MS. AUTUT: Michel?  9 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel  10 Groleau, Agnico Eagle.  11 So there's limitation to the recirculation of  12 water. During wintertime, recirculation is challenging  13 because water froze in our ponds. So we -- and the --  14 this -- the water, when it hit the site with freshet,  15 it's a -- it's a large amount of water we have to  16 manage. So we need to discharge this water.  17 We're recirculating the water we can during --  18 when -- during the open season, when water is available  19 in our pond. But with the winters, this is limiting  20 our capacity to recycle water. Matna.  21 MS. AUTUT: Thank you.  22 Brian?  23 MR. ZAWADSKI: Okay, I get. That would have  24 been a quicker answer. Thank you.  25 MS. AUTUT: So we have time for more one  26 question before we take a break. I think there's --</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">200</p> <p>1 eyes are starting to float here, with the water and  2 coffee we've been drinking.  3 Any other questions? Sir, come on back to the mic  4 and just state your name, please.  5 MR. AKEROLIK: My name is Andrew Akerolik.  6 You know, we had a meeting with AEM last night and  7 the HTO manager. We talked about impacts on water and  8 fish. And the other thing that they should know is  9 that, you know, when the Arctic char -- springtime,  10 when they're heading downstream, down into the Hudson's  11 Bay, they don't all go back to where they came from.  12 They migrate somewhere else, which could lead to --  13 when they're reproducing, some -- another location,  14 let's say, for example, closer to Chester.  15 How do we know the reproduction of the fish  16 wouldn't be impacted? As they mentioned, that they  17 could relocate fish, create manmade lakes and rivers.  18 But what about the impact it has down the line? That's  19 got to be put in consideration.  20 And as we hear from many Elders around town here,  21 the impacts on drinking water -- like I mentioned  22 before to one of my Board members, slowly we are being  23 moved away from where we used to hunt and get  24 freshwater. It's not only fish that are impacted; it's  25 geese, fox. Any wildlife animal out there drink from  26 Meliadine Lake, too, and that's what we eat. That's</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">201</p> <p>1 impacted. That's got to be put in consideration also.  2 Thank you.  3 MS. AUTUT: Thank you for your comments  4 and questions.  5 I'll table to Agnico, please.  6 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  7 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  8 And thank you for the question. So I was going to  9 bring up the -- in one of the slides from my  10 presentation, I -- it closed on me. So it was the one  11 toward the end of the presentation, with the score card  12 -- or report card of the lake.  13 So we talked a little bit about the health of  14 Meliadine Lake, all the monitoring that we do. Part of  15 the monitoring we do is to look at fish, and we look at  16 the food that fish eat. And what the slide was showing  17 us was that we had sampled fish and the fish tissue  18 prior -- prior to mine operations. And we're required  19 to sample fish every few years.  20 And what the -- yes, this slide here, Slide  21 Number 31. What it's telling us is that the fish  22 tissue is the same in our reference areas and in our  23 other -- the mixing zone area of the lake. The fish  24 are healthy. And we look at various metrics of fish:  25 We look at their tissue, we look at their size, we look  26 at their -- the amount of energy, their reproduction.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">202</p> <p>1 There's various things we look at, and the fish are  2 healthy. And we will continue -- we actually have one  3 of those programs this year, that is going to be  4 conducted.  5 The other comment was regarding moving fish. We  6 didn't -- we haven't talked about moving fish, and we  7 have no plans to move fish between watersheds. But  8 what we did talk about a few weeks ago was habitat  9 compensation and if there's areas of interest for the  10 community, if there's fish habitat compensation works  11 that can be done. Thank you. I hope that addresses  12 your question. Thank you.  13 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Colleen.  14 Did that answer your questions?  15 MR. AKEROLIK: As you mentioned fish, and I  16 mentioned Arctic char, what type of fish are you guys  17 sampling?  18 MS. AUTUT: Colleen?  19 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  20 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  21 We sample lake trout so -- as an example of a  22 large-bodied fish, and we also sample a small-bodied  23 fish, three-spined stickleback. Thank you.  24 MS. AUTUT: Thank you.  25 Okay, recognizing the time, we're going to take a  26 ten-minute break. So we'll resume questions with the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">203</p> <p>1 Zoom feed when we come back. If anyone on the Zoom  2 line is -- has questions, if you could maybe message  3 Sergey to let us know, and we'll be sure to patch you  4 in when we come back at 9:00. Thank you.  5 (ADJOURNMENT)  6 MS. AUTUT: Okay, thanks, everyone, and  7 welcome back. So we've had a couple of people from the  8 floor come up. We're going to -- we're going to go  9 back to the floor shortly. But for now, we're going to  10 go to Zoom.  11 And I understand, Chris, you're online and you  12 would like to pose a question to the floor. So if you  13 could go ahead, please. So, Chris, we're not able to  14 hear you. I'm not sure if you're on mute.  15 Okay. Well, while we wait for Chris, we had a  16 question that came in at around 7, from Gabriel. So  17 we're going to have Sergey read that question to the  18 floor, and we'll send it to the correct party to  19 address.  20 MR. KUFLEVSKIY: Gabriel Karlik asked the  21 following question. As the slide show -- and he's  22 referring to the slide where the TDS was going up and  23 down: (as read)  24 As the slide showed, over time, the level of  25 TDS goes back down. As weather is changing  26 and longer and longer possible open season,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">204</p> <p>1 does AEM think that the level will be enough  2 to keep TDS back lower?  3 This is how the question was written.  4 MS. AUTUT: So this is similar to, I  5 believe, a previous discussion, Colleen, that you may  6 have tabled. But if you could reiterate that response  7 again, please.  8 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  9 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  10 Just -- yes, regarding the Slide 26 in the  11 presentation, what we --  12 MS. AUTUT: Colleen, I'm sorry. Sorry to  13 pause you. We've got an issue with the language on  14 Zoom.  15 We've rectified? Okay.  16 Sorry, Colleen. If you could start again, please.  17 MS. PRATHER: Thank you. Colleen Prather  18 with Agnico Eagle.  19 So regarding Slide 26 and the predicted  20 concentrations of TDS, what we're showing in those  21 slides there -- and, again, this was back from the  22 original environmental assessment, and it's related to  23 the discharge to Meliadine Lake. We predicted the  24 water quality will change, concentrations will go up.  25 But as we turn off that discharge, the natural  26 cycling of the lake, the natural water that flows</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">205</p> <p>1 through the lake and to the outlet, will help to flush  2 the lake. And so we fully expect that -- those  3 concentrations to decrease as the discharge is stopped  4 and the lake -- the concentrations will continue to  5 come down. Thank you.  6 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Colleen.  7 So, Gabriel, that was in response to the question  8 you had emailed Sergey. Are you interested in doing a  9 follow-up question, or are you satisfied with that  10 response?  11 MR. KARLIK: Hello. Can you hear me?  12 MS. AUTUT: Yes, we can, Gabriel. Go  13 ahead, please.  14 MR. KARLIK: Thank you. Just a quick  15 follow-up then: With regards of weather changing  16 again, does AEM expect to amend their licence to  17 discharge earlier if they start to see that the open  18 water season is starting a lot earlier than they  19 originally had?  20 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Gabriel.  21 We're going to pass that back to Agnico to respond  22 to, please.  23 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  24 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  25 And thank you for that question. So we're talking  26 about the mine, and we're talking about the operations</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">206</p> <p>1 phase, which, as per our licence -- or our application,  2 it extends to 2027. So we don't see climate change in  3 the way that, I believe, Gabriel is speaking of.  4 That's more of a longer term phenomenon.  5 What we're talking about here is a few years of  6 discharge during the operations period. And as we were  7 talking about, there's that whole natural cycle of the  8 lake, with the water flushing through. And so we don't  9 -- we're not looking to extend the window of discharge  10 into the lake. I believe that was the other aspect of  11 your question. Thank you.  12 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Colleen.  13 Gabriel, is that satisfactory, or do you have a  14 follow-up?  15 MR. KARLIK: No. That is all.  16 MS. AUTUT: Thanks, Gabriel.  17 So we're going to go back to Chris. Is Chris back  18 online and wanting to ask the floor a question?  19 MR. KANAAN: Yes. Hello? Can you hear me?  20 MS. AUTUT: Hi, Chris. Go ahead, please.  21 MR. KANAAN: Ah, yes. I had a few  22 questions. The first question is -- according to  23 Agnico Eagle's presentation, their TDS limits is within  24 the revised guidelines that were allowed by the Nunavut  25 Water Board after they had filed their last emergency  26 amendment. But they're saying that it's absolutely</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">207</p> <p>1 required that they get this amendment approved in the  2 early 2021, despite being within the range that they're  3 already allowed to operate in, on a revised limit,  4 which is already up from the 1,400-milligrams-a-litre  5 limit. And I'm just wondering why is there such a  6 sense of urgency. And -- that's my first question.  7 And my second question is -- the previous  8 conversation with Ms. Prather suggested something about  9 the 500-milligrams-a-litre limit. But can we confirm  10 that Agnico Eagle is looking to triple their TDS  11 allowance from 1,400 to 5,000 milligrams a litre at  12 Meliadine Lake?  13 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Chris.  14 So there's two questions on the floor, one  15 regarding the sense of urgency and the other related to  16 the increase from 1,400 to 5,000.  17 So, Agnico, if you'd like to address those,  18 please.  19 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel  20 Groleau from Agnico Eagle.  21 I would like to thank Chris for his question.  22 Regarding the sense of urgency, so we disagree that we  23 should refer that as an urgency. We're speaking about  24 those increased discharge limit since 2019 now. We  25 have would have gone through a water licence amendment  26 last year if we would have time.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">208</p> <p>1 But after completing our study that we initiated  2 back in the day, in 2019, we didn't have time for the  3 freshet season of 2020 and discharge season of 2020.  4 So that's why, after the end of the discharge season in  5 August, we apply for this amendment, based on the fact  6 that the -- those process of reviewing and amending a  7 water licence should be completed by that time, for the  8 discharge season 2021. So it was planned and discussed  9 with parties. So we disagree with qualifying this  10 application as an urgency.  11 Regarding the discharge threshold, so we're  12 requesting for a maximum average concentration of 3,500  13 milligram per litre and a maximum grab of 4,500  14 milligram per litre. So we added a 10 percent  15 contingency to the 5,000 milligram per litre. We were  16 requesting for a maximum grab concentration based on  17 the discussion we had with the intervenors. So I hope  18 it's answering your question.  19 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Michel.  20 Chris, did you have a follow-up to that?  21 MR. KANAAN: Yes. So I have one last  22 question, and this question pertains to the last water  23 discharge problem from last year. And the Nunavut  24 Water Board had said in 2020 that some signatures of  25 saline underground water were present within CP1, which  26 suggests that saline water was ending up in CP1, which</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">209</p> <p>1 is ultimately discharged into Meliadine Lake.</p> <p>2 So with such a big, you know, threshold when</p> <p>3 you're already below the threshold, where is that extra</p> <p>4 TDS coming from, that would drive up that much a</p> <p>5 difference? Is it going to be another case of saline</p> <p>6 water leaking into CP1, because that was something that</p> <p>7 the Nunavut Water Board had determined in October 9th,</p> <p>8 2020, from what I'm looking at, because we know that</p> <p>9 snow melt and rain doesn't contain elevated TDS? So</p> <p>10 that's my last question.</p> <p>11 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Chris.</p> <p>12 Agnico?</p> <p>13 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.</p> <p>14 Thanks for the question.</p> <p>15 We would have to reference the document he's</p> <p>16 actually talking about. But, overall, the water is</p> <p>17 being managed correctly, and we're following the</p> <p>18 regulatory process for this amendment. And the process</p> <p>19 has been discussed for some time, like my colleague,</p> <p>20 Michel Groleau, has been saying.</p> <p>21 So -- also, we see, with all our modeling, that in</p> <p>22 the -- during freshet, the TDS concentration is at a</p> <p>23 higher concentration. It drops down and increases</p> <p>24 again. So this is all the rationale. It's been in the</p> <p>25 file with all our responses with the interveners, over</p> <p>26 time. So I think it's pretty clear, with our approach</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">210</p> <p>1 and our rationale for this application. Thank you.</p> <p>2 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Jamie.</p> <p>3 Chris, is that acceptable, or did you have a</p> <p>4 follow-up?</p> <p>5 MR. KANAAN: Well, just to clarify, the</p> <p>6 document is coming from the Nunavut Water Board 2019</p> <p>7 annual response to Meliadine Type "A" water permit, and</p> <p>8 it found that there was actually saline water inside</p> <p>9 the CP1 holding pond. So where -- the question really</p> <p>10 is, Where is this TDS coming from, because the last</p> <p>11 time this happened, some saline water was determined by</p> <p>12 the Nunavut Water Board, in that document, to be saline</p> <p>13 water?</p> <p>14 So that's really what I'm trying to get at and I</p> <p>15 think is an important question. Thank you.</p> <p>16 MS. AUTUT: Thanks, Chris.</p> <p>17 So I believe he's referring to the annual report</p> <p>18 and the Board's assessment of that report. With that,</p> <p>19 did Agnico have any further response?</p> <p>20 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.</p> <p>21 No further response.</p> <p>22 MS. AUTUT: Thank you.</p> <p>23 Chris, did you have any additional questions?</p> <p>24 MR. KANAAN: I guess my last question</p> <p>25 should be, Does CP5 water still go to CP1? And does</p> <p>26 CP5 water -- that would be the treated saline water, I</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">211</p> <p>1 think, with the reverse osmosis. And is there any</p> <p>2 chance that could end up in CP1 under any condition,</p> <p>3 such as the risk to Tiri-2 pit? Is there any chance</p> <p>4 that there's any saline water that's treated going into</p> <p>5 CP1 from CP5 anymore?</p> <p>6 MS. AUTUT: Thank you.</p> <p>7 Agnico?</p> <p>8 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.</p> <p>9 With CP5 water, it's treated to the EQC, as per</p> <p>10 the licence, or better and it's transferred.</p> <p>11 MS. AUTUT: Jamie, I'm just going to ask</p> <p>12 you to repeat the answer without using the acronyms,</p> <p>13 please, so that the interpreters can speak to the room</p> <p>14 on that. Thank you.</p> <p>15 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.</p> <p>16 Control Pond 5 -- I think Chris referenced that as</p> <p>17 "CP." So Control Pond 5, with the reverse osmosis, the</p> <p>18 water is treated to effluent quality criteria, in our</p> <p>19 licence, or better, and that water is transferred to</p> <p>20 Control Pond 1.</p> <p>21 MS. AUTUT: Thanks, Jamie.</p> <p>22 Chris, any further questions?</p> <p>23 MR. KANAAN: No. Thank you for answering</p> <p>24 my questions.</p> <p>25 MS. AUTUT: I appreciate you hanging in</p> <p>26 there with us.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">212</p> <p>1 Any other questions from Zoom for the floor to the</p> <p>2 -- we're taking questions right now for the Agnico</p> <p>3 presentation.</p> <p>4 Sergey, did anybody -- okay, so there's been no</p> <p>5 noted questions through the Messenger app. So we're</p> <p>6 going to go back to the floor. The lady in the orange</p> <p>7 jacket, if you could come to the mic and just tell us</p> <p>8 who you are, please.</p> <p>9 MS. KIGEAK: Hi, I'm Josephine Kigeak.</p> <p>10 Recently, we had caught a fish from the Big Meliadine</p> <p>11 Lake. And for us to feed my family, it was not healthy</p> <p>12 for us to bake or boil, to cook. So we had no choice</p> <p>13 but to throw the fish. And so, to me, it's me</p> <p>14 wondering why our fishes are not getting so tasty or</p> <p>15 fat; they're just getting skinnier, from Meliadine.</p> <p>16 Been fishing there for many years and seeing the</p> <p>17 most huge lake trout there, and they're just getting</p> <p>18 skinnier and skinnier. Like, for us, we just throw</p> <p>19 them back in the lake because they don't look good to</p> <p>20 eat at all. So for me and my family, been going</p> <p>21 Meliadine to hunt, to fish, to pick up berries; we</p> <p>22 don't find it so tasty anymore or looking good anymore.</p> <p>23 So, by far, I don't support the new road that</p> <p>24 they're trying to make, for our hunting grounds to be</p> <p>25 ruined again. Thank you.</p> <p>26 MS. AUTUT: Thank you for those comments.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">213</p> <p>1 I'll ask Agnico if they wish to respond.  2 Go ahead, Colleen.  3 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  4 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  5 And thank you for your question. As I mentioned  6 in the presentation, we do collect -- we do collect  7 fish samples from the lake, and we are planning to  8 conduct another fishing program this year.  9 And we've also talked about these  10 community-monitoring programs, and we would be happy to  11 engage with community members to come out and be part  12 of the fishing program with us so that we can collect  13 fish together and look at them and understand what the  14 science is telling us and what you're seeing and what  15 the concerns are. I hope that addresses your question.  16 Thank you.  17 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Colleen.  18 Josephine, any follow-up? You're okay? Thank  19 you.  20 So we'll do one final round on the floor. Any  21 further questions for Agnico? Come on back up.  22 MR. TAQAUGAQ: Qujannamiik. Just a reminder,  23 my name is Sakkataaq Taqaugaq. My question is -- well,  24 before I raise my question, I just want to point out  25 that when the drinking water source is being tested --  26 or when it was being tested at one time, they used</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">214</p> <p>1 what's called "total coliform." They tested the water  2 to see -- to test for total coliform. But over time,  3 it got switched to fecal coliform. So any drinking  4 water source that is being put out into the community,  5 there's a test where a fecal coliform is being done.  6 So my question to Agnico Eagle is this: Because  7 Meliadine River was, at one time, our drinking water  8 source, why are they not testing for fecal coliform?  9 MS. AUTUT: Thank you.  10 Agnico?  11 MS. PRATHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Colleen  12 Prather with Agnico Eagle.  13 And thank you for your question. We've talked a  14 lot about this community monitoring that we want to  15 engage in, and that would be one -- another example of  16 community monitoring that we could be involved in,  17 sampling around the Meliadine River as an example. And  18 understanding --  19 MR. TAQAUGAQ: I'm sorry, I can't hear you.  20 MS. PRATHER: Okay. Do you want me to  21 continue or --  22 MS. AUTUT: Yes, please.  23 MS. PRATHER: Sorry. I was saying that this  24 is another example of a community-based monitoring  25 program that we can conduct. We can conduct our  26 sampling around the Meliadine River, involving</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">215</p> <p>1 community members, and having a better understanding of  2 what we should be testing in the water. And we would  3 be happy to involve you in those discussions and those  4 types of programs. Thank you.  5 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Colleen.  6 Any further questions? John?  7 MR. TATTY: Qujannamiik. John Tatty.  8 Thank you. I would like to -- to Nunavut Water Board,  9 I'd like to talk to you, tell you there are over five  10 -- when we stay up there, I know there are people in  11 Rankin Inlet now that -- stay up the cabin all year  12 long from that -- we pitch water from the river that  13 comes from Meliadine -- and there's other places that  14 the water goes through the streams. And we constantly  15 pitch our water from -- today we picked up ice.  16 And I want you to know there's very good water, up  17 to today. Like, there are some people -- I don't  18 believe -- I don't believe some people right now,  19 because the water is very clean. And we get water from  20 the -- we pick up ice that comes from Meliadine. Thank  21 you.  22 MS. AUTUT: Thank you. I'll take that as  23 comments.  24 Did Agnico wish to respond?  25 MR. GROLEAU: Michel Groleau from Agnico  26 Eagle. Thank you, Mr. Chair.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">216</p> <p>1 And I want to thank you, John, for your comment.  2 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Michel.  3 Any further questions before we move on to the  4 other presentations? Seeing not -- so thanks,  5 everyone. Those were questions to the applicant.  6 Thank you very much. At this point, we're going to  7 move on. We've got a short, brief presentation from  8 the Kivalliq Inuit Association.  9 Luis, if you could present, please.  10 Presentation by the Kivalliq Inuit Association  11 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and  12 Madam Chair.  13 KIA represents Inuit and administers certain  14 provisions of the Nunavut Agreement in the Kivalliq  15 Region. KIA's mission is to represent Inuit in a fair  16 and democratic manner in the development, protection,  17 administration and advancement of their rights and  18 benefits; and to promote economic, social, political  19 and cultural well-being.  20 The aim of Inuit-owned land management is to  21 administer those lands to promote self-reliance and  22 the cultural and social well-being of the Inuit now and  23 in the future. Inuit-owned lands must be managed in  24 such a way as to sustain and enhance the values of the  25 land.  26 The objectives of this review was to ensure that</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">217</p> <p>1 the potential impacts and benefits were comprehensively  2 assessed, ensure the IQ values were incorporated into  3 impact determination, mitigation, project design, and  4 monitoring of the project.  5 I will review some of the history of the project.  6 AEM submit an amendment application to the Type "A"  7 water licence for Meliadine project in August 27, 2020,  8 seeking permission for the following amendments:  9 • update total dissolved solids thresholds to  10 Meliadine Lake  11 • increase annual freshwater consumption  12 • construction of additional laydown areas  13 • update waste management and strategy  14 • construction of site access roads and  15 • update Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan.  16 KIA Lands completed a review in September 22,  17 2020, highlight 13 information requests and initial  18 technical concerns. AEM responded to KIA's initial set  19 of 13 information requests, resolving most by:  20 • providing additional clarifications regarding TDS  21 measurement approaches, toxicity monitoring, water  22 management, and geotechnical concerns  23 • reiterating their commitments to including IQ  24 throughout all phases of the mine  25 • committing to update their Freshet Management Plan to  26 reflect the decommissioning of the P-areas or pond</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">218</p> <p>1 areas  2 The following three information requests remain  3 unresolved and were carried forward to the technical  4 review stage. On the following:  5 • AEM had not adequately addressed KIA's request to  6 investigate opportunities for improved source control  7 from runoff to prevent the need for increase discharge  8 criterion  9 • AEM had not clearly committed to divert all site  10 contact water away from Meliadine Lake using the  11 proposed waterline currently under the NIRB project  12 • concerns remain surrounding the viability of the  13 proposed short- and medium-term saline water management  14 strategies.  15 KIA Lands submitted our technical review to  16 Nunavut Water Board on November 6, 2020, highlighting  17 five new technical concerns in five new areas:  18 • develop an effluent and receiving environment  19 site-specific water quality objectives for chloride  20 • justification for use of average values for the water  21 quality model  22 • missing source terms for runoff from the tailings  23 storage facility in the water quality model  24 • potential insufficient design capacity of CP1 and  25 D-CP1  26 • inclusion of soil and water quality objectives in</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">219</p> <p>1 closure criteria for Rankin Inlet facilities.  2 AEM responded to those technical concerns in November  3 13, fully resolving Issue 5.  4 The current status of the technical concerns. All  5 of the KIA information requests and technical  6 submissions have been resolved through discussions  7 during the Nunavut Water Board technical meeting in  8 November 2020; AEM's submission of new and update  9 manage plans, new supporting documentation further  10 demonstrating the proposed discharge criteria will be  11 protective to the aquatic life.  12 AEM's specific submissions in response to  13 commitments made to the KIA were:  14 • draft amended water licence framework  15 • Adaptive Management Plan  16 • updated Groundwater Management Plan  17 • updated Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan  18 • technical memorandum confirming confirmation the  19 suitability of the 5,000 milligrams per litre total  20 dissolved solids (TDS) maximum grab sample EQC.  21 KIA review of these submissions documents has resulted  22 in 12 new technical comments. AEM responded to those  23 comments on March 8, resolving 5 of them.  24 Outstanding new technical concerns: first, a  25 draft amended water licence. KIA TC Number 1, new:  26 Use of waterlines to transport water -- wastewater,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">220</p> <p>1 providing an alternative approach to water management  2 in site that optimize the benefit to the Meliadine Lake  3 for Rankinmiut. It would be appropriate for the Board  4 to include terms and conditions pertaining to the  5 waterline and the Adaptive Management Plan insofar as  6 they impacted the management and use of inland waters  7 and interaction with the receiving freshwater  8 environment.  9 KIA proposed language at E(2) of the licence:  10 The licence may not discharge effluent into Meliadine  11 Lake unless there is insufficient capacity in the  12 waterline as well as insufficient storage capacity in  13 the collection ponds and containment ponds.  14 KIA new TC3: KIA doesn't -- KIA did not agree  15 with Agnico Eagle proposed amendment entitling them to  16 deemed approval of any plan submission that the Board  17 does not respond to between 60 days. Risks of the  18 deemed approval: restrict the Nunavut Water Board's  19 discretion, eliminating public participation and  20 consultation on potentially important plan amendments.  21 KIA new TC Number 4: Granting Agnico Eagle the  22 ability to request a security change at any time would  23 give them sole discretion to initiate that process,  24 placing KIA and the Nunavut Water Board at risk of  25 being overburdened with reviews.  26 KIA new TC Number 5: Agnico Eagle has proposed</p>


<p style="text-align: right;">221</p> <p>1 removing their obligations to conduct all activities in  2 a manner so as to minimize impacts on surface drainage,  3 leaving in only their obligations to undertake any  4 corrective action required.  5 KIA submit that Agnico Eagle must be required to  6 both minimize the impacts on surface drainage  7 (preventative actions) and take immediate corrective  8 measures in response to the impact.  9 Adaptive Management Plan: KIA position on this  10 implementation of the Adaptive Management Plan under  11 the water licence. Like the Road Management Plan and  12 other plans, the Adaptive Management Plan can and  13 should be implemented under both the water licence and  14 the Nunavut Impact Review Board project certificate.  15 KIA new TC Number 7: Clarification of  16 Tiriganiaq-2 saline groundwater management. KIA is  17 concerned on how excess saline groundwater stored in  18 Tiriganiaq-2 will be handled under the Adaptive  19 Management Plan until the waterlines are available and  20 Tiriganiaq-2 is dewatered. This lack of clarity  21 continues to introduce uncertainty as to how normal  22 operating conditions will be defined under the Adaptive  23 Management Plan until Tiriganiaq-2 has been dewatered  24 via the waterline.  25 Minimizing discharges to Meliadine Lake is  26 insufficient to address the concerns of Rankinmiut.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">222</p> <p>1 Discharges to Meliadine Lake should only be considered  2 if absolutely necessary.  3 KIA new TC Number 9: Freshet management.  4 Discharge to both Meliadine Lake and Melvin Bay are  5 planned during the freshwater and marine ice-free  6 seasons, but these discharge windows do not align with  7 the discharge needs pertaining to CP1 required to both  8 avoid compromising the CP1 dike as well as discharging  9 to Meliadine Lake.  10 KIA requests AEM clarify how surface contact water  11 will be managed during the freshet to avoid discharge  12 to Meliadine Lake during that period. KIA recommended  13 AEM link commencing annual operations of the waterlines  14 in Adaptive Management Plan Table 1, Note 1, to the  15 temperature, as has been done with the conclusion of  16 the annual operation window.  17 And KIA Number 10: Limits on freshwater discharge  18 to Melvin Bay. KIA requested AEM prioritize discharges  19 of surface contact water to Melvin Bay even under lower  20 bound scenarios, when only one waterline is operating  21 -- is operational, given the saline groundwater storage  22 capacity provided through Tiriganiaq-2 allows for  23 significant operational flexibility in the management  24 of site water. This prioritization of surface contact  25 water discharge to Melvin Bay may become particularly  26 necessary during freshet to avoid discharges to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">223</p> <p>1 Meliadine Lake. Matna.  2 MS. AUTUT: Not paying attention. Sorry,  3 Luis.  4 So thank you, Kivalliq Inuit Association.  5 Do we have any questions from the audience, the  6 floor, for the Kivalliq Inuit Association and their  7 role in this project? None from the floor.  8 How about anybody out in Zoom land? Any questions  9 for Kivalliq Inuit Association? If not, we'll move on.  10 Thank you, Luis.  11 Moving on, then, to Crown-Indigenous Relations and  12 Northern Affairs. Spencer, if you'd like to give us  13 your presentation, please.  14 Presentation by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  15 Affairs  16 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair. I  17 think I'll change seats so I can face you guys. Just  18 give it a second, wait for the presentation to come up.  19 I know the bandwidth is slow.  20 My name is Spencer Dewar. I'm the Director of  21 Resource Management for Crown-Indigenous Relations and  22 Northern Affairs Canada, Nunavut. I'd like to thank  23 the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet for the warm welcome, and  24 I'd like to thank all of you for coming out to the  25 public hearing and asking questions.  26 I'm joined tonight by Sarah Forte, Water</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">224</p> <p>1 Management Specialist. And on Zoom, we have David  2 Zhong, who's our science and regulatory advisor. Next  3 slide, please.  4 The next slide will speak to the outline of what  5 I'm going to speak to. I'll start with a brief  6 overview of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  7 Affairs Canada's responsibilities with respect to the  8 licence applications and contributions made during this  9 process. Following that, I will speak to the topics of  10 the technical review, as identified by the Nunavut  11 Water Board. We'll speak to each of the topics with  12 the exception of water-user compensation because it's  13 not within our mandate.  14 Overall, our department raised seven technical  15 comments. The issues identified have been resolved  16 through discussions at the technical meeting and  17 updated materials submitted by Agnico Eagle. Next  18 slide, please.  19 Speaking to the roles and responsibilities,  20 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  21 has a broad mandate for co-management of freshwater  22 resources and the management of Crown land in Nunavut  23 under the Nunavut Agreement and the listed acts and  24 regulations on this slide. In addition,  25 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  26 administers and enforces regulatory authorizations that</p>



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<p>1 pertain to Nunavut's Crown land and freshwater 2 resources. 3 Our department participates in water licensing 4 processes administered by the Nunavut Water Board, 5 along with interested parties, providing technical 6 advice and expertise for the Board's consideration. 7 Where applicable, our department also issues land use 8 permits and leases for Crown land. Next slide, please. 9 The next slide will show our contributions to this 10 review. Earlier, they were listed by the Water Board, 11 and these just speak to our interventions in this water 12 licence amendment process. It details our 13 contributions as well as acknowledging discussions with 14 the Kivalliq Inuit Association and Agnico Eagle 15 relative to reclamation and security. The discussions 16 occurred outside of the Nunavut Water Board's process, 17 but the conclusions are reported in our final 18 submission and in this presentation. Next slide, 19 please. 20 I'll start to speak to the topics that the Water 21 Board has requested; the first one is the scope of the 22 licence. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 23 Affairs Canada agrees that the scope has been 24 consistent throughout this process. We did submit a 25 single comment regarding the scope of the licence, and 26 it was resolved by Agnico Eagle clarifying that only</p>	<p>1 the access road to the additional deposits are being 2 considered. There is nothing in this application that 3 is covering potential mining of future deposits. Next 4 slide, please. 5 The next slide is "Water Use &amp; Management." As 6 we've heard tonight, under this application, Agnico 7 Eagle is requesting authorization for a 133 percent 8 increase in the water use. That's to draw a total of 9 741,706 cubic metres a year. Crown-Indigenous 10 Relations and Northern Affairs Canada does not have 11 concerns with the capacity of the Meliadine Lake to 12 provide the requested quantity of water. 13 Our technical comment was regarding the water 14 management and the inclusion of the waterline to Melvin 15 Bay, which is not part of this application. As such, 16 our concern has been resolved. Next slide, please. 17 Next I'd like to speak to Water Balance and Water 18 Quality model and predictions. The department 19 submitted two comments regarding Water Balance and 20 Water Quality model and predictions. Our technical 21 comment was resolved by Agnico Eagle providing us 22 information on the threshold for reverse osmosis 23 treatment of saline water and an explanation for water 24 diversion on site. This information is found in the 25 Saline Effluent Treatment Plant Design report. 26 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs is</p>
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<p>1 looking for better identification of sources of total 2 dissolved solids in the contact water on site to allow 3 for better management and mitigation. Agnico Eagle is 4 developing a sampling program for 2021 to answer 5 uncertainties and will communicate results in the 2021 6 annual report. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern 7 Affairs Canada recommends that this be added as a 8 condition in an amended water licence to help track 9 this commitment. Next slide, please. 10 Next, I'll speak to wastewater management and 11 treatment. Plans for the waterline to move wastewater 12 from the site to Melvin Bay are currently under review 13 by the Nunavut Impact Review Board. However, the 14 waterline is included in the reclamation cost estimate 15 discussed in this current water licence amendment. 16 The department's technical comment on this topic 17 was a request for information for spill planning for 18 the planned waterline. It is considered resolved 19 because Agnico Eagle specified that the operation of 20 the waterline was not part of this application. Issues 21 related to spills will be addressed by the Nunavut 22 Impact Review Board process. Next slide, please. 23 Let's get ahead of me. 24 Agnico Eagle has requested that effluent quality 25 criteria be amended to allow for increased total 26 dissolved solids in the treated water discharged to the</p>	<p>1 diffuser to Meliadine Lake. Of note, this slide has a 2 maximize grab sample concentration of 5,000 milligrams 3 per litre, but this limit is now under consideration, 4 is 4,500 milligrams per litre, as presented by Agnico 5 Eagle earlier this morning. 6 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs 7 Canada supports the objective of minimizing the 8 discharge of effluents to Meliadine Lake and is of the 9 opinion this can be achieved once the waterline is in 10 place. Our department had two technical comments, and 11 they were regarding total dissolved solids thresholds 12 and the validation of proposed criteria. They were 13 both resolved by Agnico Eagle providing more 14 information, including further model results and a 15 revised Water Quality Optimization Plan. Next slide, 16 please. 17 "Waste management": The proposed amended (sic) 18 changes where waste rock and overburden will be placed. 19 Our technical comment on this topic was resolved by 20 Agnico Eagle clarifying that the waste rock for Waste 21 Storage Facility 3 had already been characterized, and 22 it was evaluated for placement into Waste Rock Storage 23 Facility 2 and will simply be going to a different 24 facility. It does not include rock from any additional 25 deposit. Next slide, please. 26 I'll speak to adaptive management. In the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">229</p> <p>1 concurrent Nunavut Impact Review Board process, Agnico  2 Eagle has produced an adaptive plan for water  3 management at the Meliadine mine. Our department has  4 reviewed and suggested changes to the plan's goals and  5 triggers through the Nunavut Impact Review Board  6 process. The first version, dated February 2021,  7 covers both saline and contact water discharge through  8 the proposed waterline between the mine site and Melvin  9 Bay.  10 Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada  11 supports the use of the adaptive management approach to  12 only discharge compliant contact water into Meliadine  13 Lake. Further, our understanding of the Adaptive  14 Management Plan indicates that discharges into  15 Meliadine Lake would be contemplated at the "caution"  16 level. Now, we do understand that there may be  17 operational discharges that are required in normal  18 operating procedures. That was discussed earlier today  19 as well.  20 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  21 Canada recognizes that until the Nunavut Impact Review  22 Board has made a decision, it will not be possible to  23 determine what changes might be necessary to the water  24 licence. Should the Nunavut Impact Review Board  25 approve the waterline to Melvin Bay, site wastewater  26 management plans will change. At a minimum, this needs</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">230</p> <p>1 to be reflected in the plans approved under the water  2 licence, and it may require further changes. Next  3 slide, please.  4 Agnico Eagle has updated their Interim Closure and  5 Reclamation Plan, and our department noted some  6 elements to reflect the proposed site changes and the  7 proposed waterlines were lacking in the updated plan.  8 We recognize the waterline is still undergoing review  9 by the Nunavut Impact Review Board, but we have  10 included a conservative estimate for its reclamation.  11 If the Nunavut Impact Review Board does not approve the  12 waterline, it will be up to Agnico Eagle to request a  13 reduction in security from the Nunavut Water Board.  14 Our department worked with the Kivalliq Inuit  15 Association and Agnico Eagle and has reached a final  16 agreement on the security, in the amount of over  17 \$69 million. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern  18 Affairs Canada and the Kivalliq Inuit Association and  19 Agnico Eagle agree that the security should be subject  20 to a security management arrangement and held 50/50  21 between Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs  22 Canada and the Kivalliq Inuit Association. Next slide,  23 please.  24 All right. This is in consideration to some  25 revisions to management plans. These would be changes  26 through the water licence amendment that we would like</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">231</p> <p>1 to see and have a chance to review, changes to the  2 Water Management Plan and the Waste Management Plan and  3 the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan. If the  4 Nunavut Impact Review Board approves the waterline to  5 Melvin Bay, while a water licence amendment may be  6 necessary, at a minimum, our department would be  7 looking to review revised versions of the following  8 plans prior to waterline operations: the Water  9 Management Plan, with further revisions; Spill  10 Contingency Plan; and Groundwater Management Plan.  11 Final slide, please.  12 In conclusion, Agnico Eagle, the Kivalliq Inuit  13 Association, and Crown-Indigenous Relations and  14 Northern Affairs Canada have worked to plan minimizing  15 discharges to Meliadine Lake through the use of a  16 waterline. Our department recommends the discharges be  17 used as a last resort. Crown-Indigenous Relations and  18 Northern Affairs Canada's technical comments for the  19 water licence amendment have been addressed by Agnico  20 Eagle. Matna.  21 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, Spencer.  22 Any questions from the audience for -- okay, we'll  23 just wait for the internet to come back.  24 Okay, so we're back. So any questions for  25 Crown-Indigenous Relations/Northern Affairs? Any  26 questions? Seeing none, anybody out on Zoom have any</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">232</p> <p>1 questions for Spencer?  2 If not, thank you, Spencer.  3 So the next and final presentation is from  4 Environment and Climate Change Canada, who is  5 participating tonight through Zoom. So if we could get  6 their presentation loaded. And I believe Victoria will  7 be giving us this presentation tonight.  8 So, Victoria, when you're ready. So, Victoria,  9 we're ready to have you provide the presentation for  10 Environment and Climate Change Canada.  11 Presentation by Environment and Climate Change Canada  12 MS. SHORE: Okay. Sorry about that. I  13 think the internet cut out. Yes, I will go ahead with  14 that. Just wait for the presentation to come up on the  15 screen. There you go.  16 Good evening. My name is Victoria Shore, and I'm  17 a Senior Environmental Assessment Officer with  18 Environment and Climate Change Canada. Also online is  19 Anne Wilson, Senior Water Quality Analyst. And I'd  20 first like to start off by thanking all of the members  21 of the community who have chosen to participate in this  22 session this evening. Next slide.  23 I'll start by presenting the department's mandate,  24 and then I'll briefly touch on acts and legislation  25 relevant to Environment and Climate Change Canada. And  26 then I'll pass things over to Anne Wilson, our Senior</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">233</p> <p>1 Water Quality Analyst, to provide an overview of  2 Environment and Climate Change Canada's technical  3 review regarding Agnico Eagle's application for a  4 Type "A" water licence amendment. Next slide.  5 Environment and Climate Change Canada's mandate is  6 to preserve and enhance the quality of the natural  7 environment, including water, air, and soil quality; to  8 conserve Canada's renewable resources, including  9 migratory birds; to conserve and protect Canada's water  10 resources; to forecast daily weather conditions; to  11 enforce regulations; and to coordinate environmental  12 policies and programs for the Federal government.  13 Environment and Climate Change Canada's mandate is  14 governed by the Department of Environment Act, the  15 Canadian Environmental Protection Act, the "Pollution  16 Prevention" provisions of the Fisheries Act; the  17 Migratory Birds Convention Act; and the Species at Risk  18 Act.  19 I'll now pass things over to Anne to provide the  20 overview of our technical review.  21 MS. WILSON: Thank you. It's Anne Wilson  22 with Environment and Climate Change Canada. So I'll  23 start with mentioning two of the resolved technical  24 comments that we had. ECCC had presented two technical  25 comments: The first one was in relation to the  26 management of water treatment sludges which used to be</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">234</p> <p>1 discharged to Collection Pond 1. And this was a  2 concern because it represents a source of contamination  3 in the sediments at closure. Agnico Eagle has  4 committed that sludge is not going to be disposed of to  5 the pond in 2021 and that there will be options  6 identified for disposal going forward.  7 We had also raised questions about the water  8 balance, which did not initially appear to include the  9 additional volumes of water that are being applied for.  10 Agnico Eagle has provided clarification on the fate of  11 these additional volumes. And Environment and Climate  12 Change Canada is satisfied that the water balance  13 appropriately accounts for the site water flows. Next  14 slide, please. Thank you.  15 There have been extensive discussions regarding  16 the proposed total dissolved solids criteria. And the  17 department's view was that the use of a lower maximum  18 grab concentration limit would be more protective of  19 the receiving environment as well as being in line with  20 what was seen in the previous concentrations evaluated.  21 In response, Agnico Eagle has proposed a lower maximum  22 grab concentration of 4,500 milligrams per litre as  23 calculated total dissolved solids. Next slide, please.  24 MS. AUTUT: Anne, just -- sorry to cut you  25 off, but we lost internet at Technical Comment  26 Number 3. If you could go back to the slide that's on</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">235</p> <p>1 the screen.  2 MS. WILSON: Oh, sure. And start at the  3 beginning of that one?  4 MS. AUTUT: Yes, please.  5 MS. WILSON: Thank you. Anne Wilson here.  6 So there have been extensive discussions regarding the  7 proposed total dissolved solids criteria, and our view  8 was that the use of a lower maximum grab concentration  9 limit would be more protective of the receiving  10 environment as well as matching the observed and  11 previously evaluated concentrations.  12 In response, Agnico Eagle has proposed a lower  13 maximum grab concentration of 4,500 milligrams per  14 litre, calculated total dissolved solids. This is an  15 improvement and will be confirmed through ongoing  16 toxicity testing and receiving-environment monitoring.  17 This monitoring is done under Agnico Eagle's Aquatic  18 Effects Monitoring program as well as under the Federal  19 Environmental Effects Monitoring program required by  20 the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations.  21 Environment and Climate Change Canada does note  22 that the Adaptive Management Plan contained in the  23 Water Quality Management and Optimization Plan,  24 Version 4, should include sufficiently conservative  25 action levels to address the potential for any effects  26 of discharging at the higher TDS levels.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">236</p> <p>1 And on the last bullet with respect to chloride,  2 Agnico Eagle has committed to monitoring and evaluating  3 chloride concentrations both in the discharge and in  4 the mixing zone and has proposed that objectives be set  5 based on thresholds which are identified for the end of  6 pipe as well in the lake. Next slide, please.  7 Environment and Climate Change Canada has reviewed  8 the draft water licence previously provided and given  9 comments to the Nunavut Water Board for their  10 consideration. And another draft of the water licence  11 has been issued for review, and we will provide any  12 comments on that, that come up. Next slide, please.  13 There. And with that, I will say thank you for  14 the opportunity to present our intervention summary.  15 And we would be happy to take any questions.  16 MS. AUTUT: Thank you, both Anne and  17 Victoria, for the Environment and Climate Change Canada  18 presentation.  19 Any questions from the audience, from the floor,  20 for Environment and Climate Change Canada?  21 Seeing none, how about anyone on the Zoom line?  22 Are there any questions for Environment and Climate  23 Change Canada? We're receiving no feedback on that.  24 So thank you.  25 So, Mr. Chair, I'm now going to hand the mic back  26 to you to close off the community session portion of</p>

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<p>1 the public hearing. Thank you.</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: Okay, thank you.</p> <p>3 Thank you, Stephanie, and everyone who attended</p> <p>4 tonight's community session here in Rankin Inlet. Your</p> <p>5 questions and comments about Agnico Eagle's amendment</p> <p>6 application were appreciated by me and also by the</p> <p>7 Panel members, Ross Mrazek and Sakiasie Sowdlooapik.</p> <p>8 Please remember that we will continue our public</p> <p>9 hearing tomorrow. The hearing will start at 9 AM, back</p> <p>10 here at this location. I encourage you to continue</p> <p>11 attending and participating in the hearing. As well,</p> <p>12 please let other members of the community know that</p> <p>13 they are also welcome to attend the public hearing</p> <p>14 tomorrow.</p> <p>15 On behalf of the Nunavut Water Board, I would also</p> <p>16 like to thank the applicants and interveners for their</p> <p>17 presentation and answers to questions from the members</p> <p>18 of public here tonight. A special thanks to all the</p> <p>19 Elders, youths, and other community members of Rankin</p> <p>20 Inlet for sharing their view, stories, and information</p> <p>21 with the Panel and the participants and contributing to</p> <p>22 a productive and respectful community session.</p> <p>23 The community session is now adjourned. I look</p> <p>24 forward to seeing you all back here at 9:00 AM tomorrow</p> <p>25 morning. Let's have a closing prayer.</p> <p>26 (CLOSING PRAYER)</p>	<p>1 _____</p> <p>2 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED TO 9:00 AM, MARCH 31, 2021</p> <p>3 _____</p> <p>4 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPT:</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 I, Tran Huynh, certify that the foregoing pages</p> <p>7 are a complete and accurate transcript of the</p> <p>8 proceedings, taken down by me in shorthand and</p> <p>9 transcribed from my shorthand notes to the best of my</p> <p>10 skill and ability.</p> <p>11 Dated at the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta,</p> <p>12 this 23rd day of April 2021.</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16 </p> <p>17 Tran Huynh, CSR(A)</p> <p>18 Official Court Reporter</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>26</p>