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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File No.: **2AM-MEL1631/TR/B12**

February 24, 2020

Sara Savoie
Compliance Counselor
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
Nunavut Office 11600 rue Louis-Bisson, Suite 540
Mirabel, Quebec, Canada J7N 1G9

Email: sara.savoie@agnicoeagle.com

RE: Updated Roads Management Plan; Type “A” Water Licence No. 2AM-MEL1631, Meliadine Gold Project, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

Dear Ms. Savoie:

On January 7, 2020, the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) has received from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) the updated *Roads Management Plan, Version 8*, dated December 2019 (Plan or Submission), as required under Part B, Item 12 of Water Licence No. 2AM-MEL1631 (Licence).

The modifications to the Plan were made to reflect the updated strategy for conveying saline Water to Melvin Bay. Saline Water is currently being transported to the Bay by trucks, which resulted in increased traffic on both the All-Weather Access Road (AWAR) and the Bypass road. To manage the increased saline Water volumes and at the same time reduce the traffic Agnico Eagle proposes to construct a waterline from site to Melvin Bay for a direct discharge to sea. Additionally, the Licensee proposes to increase the discharge volumes to 1600 m³/day for 2020 in order to manage excess saline Water in the short term.

Upon receipt, the Submission was distributed for a three (3) week public review with a deadline set at January 28, 2020. In correspondence dated January 13, 2020, the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) indicated that they did not have any comments. On January 28, 2020, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA or formerly known as CIRNAC) requested additional information on the proposed waterline and reminded the Licensee that appropriate approvals should be obtained before this activity can be executed.

All correspondence relevant to this Submission is available from the NWB's ftp site using the following link:

<ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MEL1631%20Agnico/3%20TECH/B%20GENERAL/B12%20MGMT%20PLANS/Roads%20MGMT%20Plan/>

On February 7, 2020, Agnico Eagle provided their responses to CIRNA's comments indicating that they are currently *preparing a formal application for submission to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)* and that *this application will contain all necessary information regarding the waterline.*

On February 18, 2020, CIRNA responded advising the Licensee that the *waterline construction can be permitted only after the applicable regulatory reviews have been completed and the approvals obtained.*

After completing the technical review, the NWB finds the updated Roads Management Plan functional and generally satisfying the Licence requirements, and by copy of this letter has approved the above stated document through the Board Motion No. 2019-A1-014, dated February 22, 2020, as required by Part B, Item 12 of the Licence. While the Plan is being approved at this time, the Board concurs with CIRNA that the waterline construction shall be completed once all regulatory approvals are obtained.

The Board reminds the Licensee that Part D, Item 1 of the Licence requires submission of the construction design report along with for-construction drawings for the NWB's approval at least thirty (30) days prior to construction.

Additionally, the Licensee is advised that the discharge into the marine environment is outside of the NWB's mandate. Therefore, the Board strongly encourages the Licensee to acquire all necessary approvals for the increase of saline Water discharge into the marine environment, and in particular the NIRB's assessment process, prior to initiating such discharge.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 360-6338 (extension 29) or sergey.kuflevskiy@nwb-oen.ca, at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Sergey Kuflevskiy
Nunavut Water Board,
Technical Advisor

Cc: Distribution List – Meliadine

Water Licence No. 2AM-MEL1631
Roads Management Plan