

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie & Northern Region
5019 52nd Street, 4th Floor
P.O. Box 2310
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

ECCC File: 6100 000 012/015
NWB File: 2AM-MEL1631



November 24, 2025

via email at: richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Richard Dwyer:

RE: 2AM-MEL1631 – Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meliadine Gold Mine – Request for Approval to Construct Access Road Within 31 m of Meliadine Lake to Discharge Point

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) by Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. ("the Proponent") regarding the above-mentioned request for approval to construct an access road within 31 m of Meliadine Lake.

ECCC provides expert information and knowledge to project assessments on subjects within the department's mandate, including climate change, air quality, water quality, biodiversity, environmental emergencies preparedness and responses. This work includes reviewing proponent characterization of environmental effects and proposed mitigation measures. We provide advice to decision-makers regarding a proponent's characterization of environmental effects, the efficacy of their proposed mitigation activities, and may suggest additional mitigation measures. Any comments received from ECCC in this context does not relieve the proponent of its obligations to respect all applicable federal legislation



The following comments are provided:

1. Location of refueling activities

Reference:

Request for Approval to Construct Access Road Within 31m of the High-Water Mark of Meliadine Lake to Discharge Point (Agnico Eagle Meliadine; November 3, 2025)

Comment:

The Proponent does not specify where refueling activities will take place. Construction of the access road will require work within 31 metres of the high-water mark of Meliadine Lake. Without proper refueling practices, there is a risk of fuel spills that could result in adverse environmental effects on Meliadine Lake.

ECCC Recommendation:

ECCC recommends that refueling activities be conducted in a designated refueling area equipped with secondary containment and located at least 30 metres from the ordinary high-water mark to minimize the risk of contamination.

2. Road width discrepancy

Reference:

Request for Approval to Construct Access Road Within 31m of the High-Water Mark of Meliadine Lake to Discharge Point (Agnico Eagle Meliadine; November 3, 2025)

Comment:

There is conflicting information on the width of the proposed road. The text describes “*a small access road with an approximately 6-metre-wide footprint*”, whereas Figure 1 shows the road location and specifies it is 15 m wide.

ECCC Recommendation:

ECCC recommends the Proponent clarify the width of the proposed access road.

If you need more information, please contact Erik Allen at Erik.Allen@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Erik Allen
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer

cc: Eva Walker, Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)