



September 22nd, 2020

Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU
X0B 1J0

**Subject: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada Comments on
2AM-MEL1631 Design Report Building for Water Treatment Complex**

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Please find attached Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle)'s response to Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)'s comments on the Design Report for the Water Treatment Complex Building.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Allard".

Robin Allard
General Supervisor, Environment
819.860.1414
robin.allard@agnicoeagle.com



Comment 1

Incomplete drawings and design criteria make it challenging for effective review and evaluation of the performance planned for the new Water Treatment Complex (WTC). CIRNAC notes that the design criteria pertaining to structural, civil, mechanical and geotechnical criteria were not provided for review. CIRNAC recommends that the rational section of the design report be expanded to reflect further the requirements of the above-indicated design criteria.

Agnico Eagle Answer:

It is Agnico Eagle's opinion that the drawings and design criteria provided in the Water Treatment Complex building Design Report are in line with the document's intended purposes which is to provide design information solely on the building, not the performance of the treatment plant.

To support this, Agnico Eagle would refer CIRNAC to sections 1.3 and 1.5 of the Design Report, which clarify that the design report is for the Water Treatment Complex building rather than for the water treatment process it will host.

As mentioned in section 1.3, drawings and design criteria for the water treatment process will be submitted at a later time, in a distinct design report.

Comment 2

The use of heavy machinery for construction purpose could have an impact on the existing ground conditions, and facilitate permafrost degradation. There is no clear explanation in the design report on how the Licensee will anticipate and manage any unforeseen damages to the existing ground conditions. CIRNAC recommends that the construction methods and equipment be applied in a manner that considers avoidance or mitigation of permafrost degradation.

Agnico Eagle Answer:

Agnico Eagle thanks CIRNAC for their comment and wishes to reassure CIRNAC that avoidance or mitigation of permafrost degradation are accounted for when evaluating construction methods and equipment. For instance, as mentioned in sections 2.2 and 3.1, the Water Treatment Complex Building will be constructed on an existing rock fill pad, which is at least 1m thick. The choice of the location of the Water Treatment Complex Building constitutes a significant mitigation measure in itself.