

File No: 2AM-MEL1631

October 26, 2022

Anne-Laurence Paquet Compliance Specialist Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Nunavut Office 11600 rue Louis-Bisson, Suite 540 Mirabel, Quebec J7N 1G9

Email: <u>anne-laurence.paquet@agnicoeagle.com</u>

RE: Design Report for the CP6 Ramp Redesign; Water Licence No: 2AM-MEL1631 Meliadine Gold Project; Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

Dear Ms. Paquet:

This correspondence is in response to the submission of a construction design report entitled "CP6 Ramp Redesign and Issued for Construction Drawings", dated August 8, 2022 (Design Report), which was provided to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) on August 25, 2022 to fulfill the requirements of Part D, Item 1 of Water Licence No: 2AM-MEL1631 (Licence).

This submission included the final design and for-construction drawings for the access ramp for Collection Pond 6 (CP6), which was originally constructed between March 8 and April 23, 2020 as part of the water management infrastructure to collect runoff water from the Waste Rock Storage Facility 3 (WRSF3) and to also serve as temporary water storage during mine operation. In its submission, Agnico Eagle indicated the following:

"The request to redesign the access ramp for CP6 is in response to recurring difficulties for site operations to dewater CP6 as the existing access ramp does not fully extend to the base of the collection pond. This prevents operations from fully dewatering the pond in an efficient and timely manner. The design volume of CP6 requires that the pond be fully dewatered after freshet and remains near

empty prior to the winter season to ensure the necessary storage volume in CP6 is available for the freshet period annually. Therefore, the access ramp will be redesigned to fully extend to the bottom of CP6 to facilitate placement of the pump intake and dewatering operations."

Upon receipt, the Design Report was distributed for public review and comments with a deadline of September 26, 2022 that was later extended to October 3, 2022 at the request of the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KivIA). On or before the deadline, the comments were received from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the KivIA. In their submission, ECCC indicated that they had no comments.

## CIRNA recommended that Agnico Eagle:

- continue to monitor soft ground conditions between CP6 and WRSF3 to determine if additional waste rock is needed to mitigate associated risks resulting from construction activities associated with the access ramp extension work;
- provide detailed measures for sedimentation or erosion control for CP6 and the area between WRSF3 and CP6; and
- provide information confirming that the source(s) of the waste rock fill materials to be used in the construction of the CP6 Ramp Extension have been approved by a Geotechnical Engineer and that the Acid Rock drainage and Metal Leaching characteristics of the waste rock sources will remain within acceptable standards.

On October 5, 2022, in response to CIRNA's recommendations, Agnico Eagle provided the following clarifications:

- Agnico Eagle will keep monitoring the localized settlement between WRSF3 and CP6 and carry out repairs as needed;
- the ramp is on the opposite side of the area of concern and there will be no impact from the ramp construction (on the north side of CP6) on the WRSF3 side (south of CP6); and
- Agnico Eagle is confident the waste rock material that will be used for construction of the CP6 Ramp redesign will meet acceptable standards with regards to ARD/ML potential.

In their submission, the KivIA requested the following information:

- which of the Waste Rock Storage Facilities and/or Open Pits will be used to source the clean rockfill; and
- the amount and source(s) of material used to provide the finer road surfacing material that will be required for the running surface of the ramp extension.

On October 5, 2022, Agnico Eagle clarified the following:

• the non-PAG material will be sourced from Waste Rock Storage Facility 3 (WRSF3), which was originally mined from Tirigania Open Pit 2; and

• the road surface material (non-PAG) will come from the crushing of waste rock from Tiriganiaq Open Pit 1. The amount of material used will be provided in the final As-Built report.

Copies of all documents received during public review can be accessed through the NWB's Public Registry and FTP site using the following links:

ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MEL1631%20Agnico/3%20TECH/D%20CONSTRUCTION/CP6%20Ramp%20Redesign

By copy of this letter, the Board acknowledges that the construction design report entitled "CP6 Ramp Redesign and Issued for Construction Drawings", dated August 8, 2022, addresses the requirements of the Licence, and has accepted the aforementioned Design Report, as per Part D, Item 1 of the Licence.

The Licensee is advised that the Board's "acceptance" of the above-mentioned Design Report is a verification that the proposed activities are consistent with the existing terms and conditions of the Licence, and more specifically with Part D, Item 2, and may proceed in accordance with the Design Report and drawings provided. It should be noted that the <u>Board's "acceptance" is NOT intended or offered as any representation regarding the suitability of the plans nor third-party verification of the design, construction, planning or engineering discussed in the documents.</u>

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 360-6338 (extension 29) or <a href="mailto:sergey.kuflevskiy@nwb-oen.ca">sergey.kuflevskiy@nwb-oen.ca</a>, at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

*Original Signed by:* 

Sergey Kuflevskiy
NUNAVUT WATER BOARD

Cc: Distribution List – Meliadine