## Affaires autochtones et du Nord Canada

Water Resources Division Nunavut Regional Office Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

September 2, 2016

NWB File: 2AM-MEL1631

Karen Kharatyan Manager of Licensing Nunavut Water Board PO Box 119 Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0 INAC File: CIDM: 1098127

Re: 2AM-MEL1631 – Construction plans of Dikes D-CP1 and D-CP5 at Meliadine Gold Mine – Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited (AEM)

Please be advised that Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) has completed a review of the above noted construction plans.

In conducting this review, INAC staff has reviewed all documents on the Nunavut Water Board FTP site relating to the construction plans for the dikes, as well as the applicable Water Licence, 2AM-MEL1631. Attached is a Technical Review Memorandum for your consideration.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or comments. I can be reached at (867) 975-4282 or by email at ian.parsons@aandc.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Ian Parsons Regional Coordinator B.Sc Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Cc. Karen Costello, Director, Resource Management – INAC, Nunavut Regional Office (NRO)
Erik Allain, Manager Field Operations, INAC, NRO



## **Technical Review Memorandum**

2AM-MEL1631 – Construction plans of Dikes D-CP1 and D-CP5 at Re: Meliadine Gold Mine – Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited (AEM)

## **Recommendations / Comments**

1) **Source:** Tetratech Design Report for D-CP1 Section 3.8 and D-CP5 Section 3.7.

**Comment:** Section 3.8 and Section 3.7 Construction and Operation Schedules of Design report for D-CP1 and D-CP5. These sections respectively state the following "Complete the remaining construction of D-CP1 by May 2017 before spring freshet of 2017" in the case of design report for D-CP1 and "Complete the remaining construction of D-CP5 by May 2017 before spring freshet of 2017" in the case of design report for D-CP5.

**Recommendation**: INAC recommends that the construction and operation schedule accommodate an early spring thaw event, as well INAC would like to know what measures are in place to accommodate such an event.

2) **Source:** Design Report for D-CP1 Section 3.3 and D-CP5 Section 3.2

**Comment:** Both sections state the following:

"After dewatering of Lake H17, the water from Lake A54 will be pumped to dewatered lake H17 to facilitate construction of Dike D-CP5. The pumping station in H6 will remain in place in October to manage water during construction of D-CP1".

In this context it appears as though Lake A54 will be dewatered and that this water will be pumped to H17 before the construction of Dike – D-CP1 is completed.

**Recommendation:** AEM should provide clarification on the timing of construction of Dike D-CP1; specifically will the Dike be completed prior to receiving water from A54.

Other than the two minor comments above, INAC is satisfied that the Design Reports for the construction of both Dikes will enhance the water management at site and therefore has no concerns with the construction at this time.