



Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie & Northern Region
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August 18, 2017

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

Richard Dwyer
Licence Administrator
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Via email: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

RE: 2AM-MEL1631 – Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meliadine Gold Mine – Final Effluent System Proponent Response

Attention: Richard Dwyer

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board regarding the above-mentioned proponent response. ECCC's specialist advice is provided based on our mandate, in the context of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*.

ECCC is satisfied with the majority of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (the Proponent's) responses to ECCC's comments on the Meliadine Final Design for the Final Effluent System. However, ECCC has concerns with the Proponent's response to ECCC's Comment #3, Discharge Concentrations.

ECCC does not agree with the Proponent's response as comparisons are being made between discharge quality for a future operating mine (including mill and full camp) to discharge quality for the pre/construction stage project at Meliadine (no milling or processing) and to Vault (no mill nor camp, just minewater). ECCC continues to have concerns that discharge predictions have been under-estimated in the modeling and there may be exceedances of the objectives at the edge of the mixing zone and/or edge of the lake.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4733 or Melissa.Pinto@canada.ca.

Sincerely,



Melissa Pinto
Senior Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Georgina Williston, Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)
ECCC Review Team
Manon Turmel, Environmental Compliance Counselor, AEM