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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File: 2AM-MEL1631/TR/D1, 2

August 15, 2017

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Subject: Design Report and Construction Drawings for Landfarm; Type “A” Water Licence 2AM-MEL1631, Meliadine Gold Project, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.

Dear Ms. Turmel and Mr. Quesnel:

The Nunavut Water Board (“NWB”) received from Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) on June 30, 2017, the Construction Design Report entitled “Design Report for Landfarm, Meliadine Gold Project” dated June 23, 2017, including Engineered for Construction Drawings (Report) for the proposed infrastructure completed by Tetra Tech Canada Inc. as a requirement of Part D, Item 1 of the Licence 2AM-MEL1631 (Licence).

The Landfarm Management Plan included within the water licence application for development of Meliadine Gold Mine was approved with the issuance of Licence. This Plan described the preliminary design basis and operational procedures for the landfarm to be constructed for the storage and treatment of petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated (PHC) soils and snow/ice.

The Construction Design Report or Report summarizes the site conditions, design basis, considerations, and criteria, and presents the detailed design of the landfarm. Construction drawings and considerations for landfarm operation and monitoring are also included within the Report.

The Report states that *the estimated volumes of the PHC soils and snow/ice to be treated in the landfarm are as the following:*

- *The volume of the existing PHC soils stored at the site was approximately 1,100 m³ by June 2017 (provided by Agnico Eagle on June 19, 2017). The stored PHC soils will be transferred to the landfarm upon its completion and commissioning.*
- *The estimated annual volume of the PHC soils is up to 350 m³ (Agnico Eagle 2015b).*
- *The estimated annual volume of PHC snow/ice is up to 500 m³ (Agnico Eagle 2015b).*

It is expected that the PHC soils at the Project site will generally include sandy silt, silty sand, sand/gravel with trace to some silts, and rockfill.

Agnico Eagle also states that the preliminary landfarm location that was initially proposed by Agnico Eagle (2015b) was located just to the east of the Industrial Site pad, approximately 250 metres from Collection Pond 1 (CPI).

With the progress of detail design and construction of the Industrial Site pad in 2016, it was found that the original landfarm location would conflict with the expanded Industrial Site pad. As a result, Agnico Eagle decided to relocate the landfarm to a new location, approximately 280 m southeast of the original one and is closer to CPI.

The Report was distributed for a public review and comments with a deadline for submission set at July 17, 2017. On July 17, 2017, the Board received communication from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) stating that DFO has reviewed the submission in accordance with its mandate and has no comments at this time. Comments were received from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) on July 17 and July 21, 2017, respectively.

The Licensee responded to INAC comments on July 28, 2017. This submission addressed also ECCC questions. On August 7, 2017, INAC informed the Board that they are generally satisfied with the responses provided by Licensee, stating that the “only point to be clarified is contingency for storage of contaminated soil if the facility is at capacity”. On August 10, 2017, the Licensee provided its additional information.

By copy of this letter the Board acknowledges that the Report addresses the requirements of Part D Item 2 of Licence 2AM-MEL1631, and has approved the Reports through the Board Motion No. 2017-A1-012, dated August 14, 2017, as required by Part D, Item 1 of Licence. The Licensee is also advised that the Board's "approval" of these documents is a verification that the proposed activities are consistent with the existing terms and conditions of the Licence and more specifically with the Part D, Item 2, and may proceed in accordance with the Reports and drawings provided. It should be noted that the Board's "approval" 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.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 360-6338 or karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca at your earliest convenience.

Regards,

Karén Kharatyan
A/Manager of Licensing / Sr. Technical Advisor

cc: Distribution List - Meliadine