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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD  
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI  
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

**File: 2AM-MEL1631/D1**

July 23, 2025

Jade Robitaille  
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Email: [jade.robitaille@agnicoeagle.com](mailto:jade.robitaille@agnicoeagle.com)

**RE: Licence No: 2AM-MEL1631 type A for the Meliadine Gold Project; Agnico Eagle Mines Limited; Apache Pass section of the Meliadine Saline Effluent Discharge System, Design Report and drawings.**

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Dear Ms. Robitaille:

On June 2, 2025, the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or the Board) received Design Report and drawings (Design Report or Report) from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) titled Apache pass section Design report, Meliadine Saline Effluent Discharge System, dated May 28, 2025. This notification is required under Part D, Item 1 of the type A Water Licence 2AM-MEL1631.

Agnico Eagle is in the process of building a saline effluent discharge system between the mine site and Itivia Harbour. The report states that *“The portion of the discharge system between the industrial site and Itivia Harbour consists of a pair of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipes installed mainly along the all-weather access road (AWAR). Located approximately 6km north-west of Rankin Inlet the AWAR crosses a rock outcrop, designated as Apache Pass, with a limited width where an alternate routing was required for the pipes.”* This report is intended to present the design rationale, construction method and technical specifications related to the Apache Pass section of the project.

Further, the report states that an existing 300 mm HDPE pipe is located east of the Apache Pass. This is the property of the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet and is used to deliver fresh water to the community (the community line). No water body is to be found between the AWAR and the community line or along the survey route. A new service road will be constructed along the community line and the new twin 400 mm HDPE pipes, required for the project between the industrial site and Itivia Harbour, would be installed beside it. As the backfill for the service road will be higher than the original ground, 10 culverts with a diameter of 1000 mm must be installed

to allow drainage of the low points of the terrain through the barrier formed by the road embankment.

The work on the service road is planned to commence in July 2025. The installation of the pipeline is expected to be completed by mid-October 2025.

On June 2, 2025, the NWB distributed the Report for public review. Interested parties were invited to comment until June 24, 2025. Submissions were received from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) on before the deadline of June 24, 2025. ECCC, in their submission, stated that they had no comments or concerns at this time. Agnico Eagle responded to CIRNAC and DFO's concerns on July 8, 2025. On July 16, 2025 CIRNAC confirmed that their concerns were addressed, while DFO provided confirmation on July 21, 2025. A summary is provided below:

#### Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) June 24, 2025

1. CIRNAC recommended that Agnico Eagle explain whether the proposed Apache Pass Section has been screened by the NIRB, and how the existing NIRB Project Certificate authorizes the addition of this infrastructure.

Response: Agnico Eagle explained that this “*activity has been reviewed and approved through the 2020 FEIS Addendum process (i.e., the waterline). Questions on the routing were asked and answered during the NIRB hearing, and commitments were made. The routing of the waterline, including routing around Apache Pass, went through an extensive NIRB review from 2020-2022. Therefore, yes, it has been screened by NIRB, and ultimately approved under Project Certificate No.006-Amendment 002 (March 2, 2022).*”

2. CIRNAC recommended that Agnico Eagle provide information on the decommissioning strategy for the proposed service road and culverts once the Saline Effluent Discharge System is no longer in operation. Include required updates to the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan, as well as any associated updates to the financial security estimates.

Response: Agnico Eagle stated that the “*culverts along roads will be dismantled. Natural stream flow and drainage patterns will be restored as much as possible and stream banks will be stabilized by using rip-rap. Road embankment will be regraded, and surfaces will be restored with natural/compatible terrain as much as possible. Other infrastructures along the road will be dismantled. Upon local interest and regulatory approval, roads could be transferred to the local community.*” Further, Agnico Eagle stated that the waterline is included in the security estimate.

#### Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) June 24, 2025

1. DFO requested that Agnico Eagle clarify whether the culverts will connect larger waterbodies during freshet and high flow events, and if any of these culverts would have potential to provide passage for fish.

Response: Agnico Eagle stated that the primary function of the culverts is to manage roadside drainage (prevent water accumulation) and they do not connect any waterbodies or provide passage for fish.

Copies of all documents received in support of the Report can be accessed through the NWB's Public Registry using the following Link:

<https://public.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MEL1631%20Agnico/3%20TECH/D%20CONSTRUCTION/Meliadine%20Saline%20Effluent%20Discharge%20System/>

### NWB's Review and Decision

The Licensee is advised that the Board's review of this document is a verification that the proposed activity is consistent with the existing terms and conditions of the Licence and more specifically with Part D, Item 1. It should be noted that the 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 document.

Further, in keeping with Part D, Item 3 and 4 of the Licence's terms and conditions, the submission of post-construction information, including as-built plans and drawings, shall remain applicable to this authorization.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the NWB Licensing Department by email to [licensing@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:licensing@nwb-oen.ca) or by phone at (867) 360-6338.

Sincerely,



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Mohammad Ali Shaikh  
Technical Advisor,  
Nunavut Water Board

as/rqd

Cc: Distribution List – Meliadine