June 21st, 2019

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

RE: 2AM-MEL1631 Saline Effluent Treatment Plant Aginco Eagle Mines Ltd.

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

As requested, the following information are intended to address the comments outlined in the below letter:

Crown - Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) Review of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Saline Effluent Treatment Plant Design Report - Water Licence 2AM-MEL1631 - Meliadine Gold Project

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

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Environmental Compliance Counselor

A) Results of Review

Comment: CIRNAC has found no significant issues with the design report. However, based on the documents provided CIRNAC would require further information on how this saline water treatment system works to enable a more effective technical review by the intervener.

Recommendation: CIRNAC requires more information that better clarifies how the Saline Water Treatment Plant and the Saline Effluent Treatment Plant work, (how are they connected?) to enable more effective review.

Agnico Eagle response: To summarize the function of each plant:

The Saline Water Treatment Plant (SWTP) is a saline water treatment facility designed to remove excessive TSS, calcium chloride, sodium chloride, metals, phosphorous, and nitrogen compounds from the influent saline water. In essence, the purpose of this plant is to separate salt from water. The products of this plant are freshwater (treated water) and solid salts. The solid salts are captured in bulk at the end of the treatment process where they can then be removed from site in solid form. The treated water is then either introduced to the freshwater containment ponds, or used for operational freshwater requirements on site.

The Saline Effluent Treatment Plant (SETP) is a saline water treatment facility designed to treat or remove oil and grease, TSS, ammonia, and TDS so that the final product meets treatment objectives for the effluent to be discharged to Melvin Bay, as defined by NIRB.

The interaction of these two facilities is primarily with respect to the supply of saline water. Within the SWTP are two saline water holdings tanks, supplied directly from saline water storage both underground and on surface. These holding tanks feed the SWTP treatment process as well as the SETP treatment process (water is transferred from the holding tanks in the SWTP to the SETP via a short pipeline).