



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
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Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie & Northern Region
5019 52nd Street, 4th Floor
P.O. Box 2310
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

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

September 12, 2018

Via email: licencing@nwb-oen.ca

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

Dear Mr. Dwyer:

**RE: 2AM-MEL1631 – Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Meliadine Mine – Design Report
Saline Water Treatment Plant**

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) regarding the above-mentioned report and is submitting comments via email. 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*.

The following comments are provided:

Monitoring and Maintenance

1. Scheduled monitoring and maintenance should be discussed in relation to preventing/minimizing environmental releases. This was not presented in the Saline Water Treatment Plant (SWTP) Design Report.

ECCC recommends that Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (the Proponent) describe how treatment processes and associated storage/containment facilities (CP1, salt slurry/ solid salt, blowdown solution, reagents) will be monitored and maintained to minimize the risk of releases to the environment.

Contingency Measures (Section 2.1, Saline Water Management Strategy)

2. As described in the SWTP Design Report, the storage capacity is managed to keep the saline pond and stoep volumes as low as possible, in order to have enough space for abnormal flow condition or SWTP shutdown. Any other potential issues and contingency measures should also be described.

ECCC recommends that the Proponent describe potential issues that could arise (e.g., off-spec effluent, spills/releases), and the contingency measures that would be used to manage such scenarios.

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

Sincerely,

[Original signed by]

Melissa Pinto
Senior Environmental Assessment Coordinator

Attachment(s): ECCC Comments Excel Sheet

cc: Georgina Williston, Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)