

June 3, 2026

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

RE: TSF Design Update 2AM-MEL1631

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle) thanks the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) for the opportunity to address comments received for the Tailings Storage Facility Design Update Report.

The following information and comments are intended to address comments outlined in the below referenced letter.

- 260514 2AM-MEL1631 TSF Updated Detailed Design Report ECCC Comments-IMLE

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

With my best regards,



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Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)

ECCC-1: WATER MANAGEMENT ON WEST SIDE OF TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY

Comment

The water management infrastructure associated with the tailings storage facility (TSF) expansion described in the Design Update Report was reviewed separately in the Design Report submitted in November 2025. In response to review comment ECCC-2 on the November 2025 Design Report, the Proponent provided the following clarification: “*Under the approved Water Licence 2AM-MEL1631 modification, CP8 (identified as CP2.5 in the application) will be dewatered to WES03 pit once tailings deposition begins in the expanded TSF. Water from WES03 will be discharged via the waterline to Itivia Harbour.*” This does not correspond with the information presented on water management in the current TSF Design Update Report (p. 22), which states: “*Runoff and seepage from the western part of the TSF extension will be collected in CP3 or CP8, via Channel13 or Channel14. Water collected in CP3 and CP8 will then be pumped to the partially drained natural pond H13, from where it will flow through Channel 1 and Culvert3 into CP1.*” Water from CP1 is discharged to Meliadine Lake following treatment.

It is not clear if runoff and seepage from the western part of the TSF expansion will only be routed to CP1 until tailings deposition begins, or if there has been a change in water management strategy. As indicated in the TSF Design Update Report and the 2022 Geochemical Characterization and Source Term Report, TSF runoff and seepage is expected to have elevated concentrations of several parameters, including ammonia. It is critical that the plant treating contact water from the TSF prior to its discharge to the aquatic environment be equipped to adequately remove contaminants.

Recommendations

ECCC recommends the Proponent:

- a) clarify where water from CP8 will be pumped to and ultimately disposed of once tailings deposition begins at the TSF expansion; and
- b) confirm that the plant treating water from CP8 and CP3 will be equipped to sufficiently reduce contaminant concentrations prior to discharge.

Agnico Eagle Answer

- a) The response to review comment ECCC-2 on the November 2025 Design Report is correct. According to the Water Management Plan (V17) submitted in March 2026 with the 2025 Annual Report, once the construction of WES03 pit and Waterline are complete, surface contact water from CP3 and CP8 will be sent to WES03 pit for discharge to Itivia Harbour via the Waterline after treatment at the Water Treatment Complex (WTC). Neither WES03 pit nor the Waterline have been completed to date; these infrastructures are expected to be operational for the 2027 discharge season. Deposition of tailings within the expanded footprint is not expected until Q1 2027. Until both WES03 and the Waterline are operational, contact water collected within CP3 and CP8 will



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continue to be pumped to the partially drained natural pond H13, from where it will flow through Channel1 and Culvert3 into CP1. Contact water from the TSF has been directed to CP1 since operations began.

- b) Contact water from the TSF is directed to CP1 for treatment at the WTC to ensure contaminant concentrations remain below the applicable criteria for discharge to the receiving environment. To date, effluent water quality is well within the applicable criteria. According to the most recent Water Quality Water Balance Model (WQWBM) submitted with the 2025 Annual Report, effluent water quality is expected to continue meeting applicable criteria including the expanded footprint of the TSF.