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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD  
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI  
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

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

January 27, 2025

Anne-Laurence Paquet  
Compliance Coordinator  
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meliadine Mine  
Suite 879 – Rankin Inlet  
Nunavut, Canada X0C 0G0

Email: [anne-laurence.paquet@agnicoeagle.com](mailto:anne-laurence.paquet@agnicoeagle.com)

**RE: Licence No: 2AM-MEL1631 type A for the Meliadine Gold Project; Agnico Eagle Mines Limited; Design Report and drawings for Waste Rock Storage Facility 6 (WRSF 6)**

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Dear Ms. Paquet:

On December 13, 2024, the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or the Board) received a Design Report and drawings (Design Report or Report) from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) titled Waste Rock Storage Facility 6 (WRSF6) Design Report and Drawings, Meliadine Gold Mine, Nunavut dated December 13, 2024. This notification is required under Part D, Item 1 of the type A Water Licence 2AM-MEL1631.

The Report states that the construction of Waste Rock Storage Facility 6 (WRSF6) is needed to manage the overburden and waste rock generated from mining activities at Pump. WRSF6 will be designed and constructed in two stages. Stage 1 of WRSF6 will occupy a smaller footprint which is within the permitted WRSF6 footprint from the 2024 Type A Water Licence Amendment. Approximately 1.2 Mt of overburden and 2.5 Mt of waste rock will be produced during Phase 1. WRSF6 will eventually expand in Stage 2 to reach the permitted WRSF6 footprint.

Further, the report states that *“Phase 2 mine development may involve Pump01 open pit pushback and open pit mining at Pump03 depending on the economic potential and market condition. Approximately 0.7 Mt of overburden and 2.5 Mt of waste rock are expected to be produced from the Phase 2 mine development.”*

Limited pre-construction activities are required at WRSF6 prior to waste placement. Excess snow and/or ice will be removed from the ground surface before placement and efforts will be made to avoid placement in areas of localized water accumulation. Overburden will be hauled and end-dumped to its designated location. The material will be spread after dumping into

controlled lifts using suitable equipment. Waste rock identified as PAG will be encapsulated within the center of WRSF6.

On December 16, 2024, the NWB distributed the Report for public review. Interested parties were invited to comment until January 13, 2025. The NWB received submissions from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), stating that they had no comments, concerns or recommendations at this time.

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) submitted comments on January 13, 2025. Agnico Eagle provided their responses on January 17, 2025. ECCC confirmed, on January 27, 2025, that their concerns were addressed by the Licensee's responses. Below is a summary of ECCC's comments and the Licensee's responses.

1. ECCC requests more information on how runoff and seepage from the eastern side of WRSF6 will be directed to CP9, including flow paths of water diverted by Berm 4, management of runoff from WRSF towards Lake B62, where water flowing from the eastern side of WRSF6 will accumulate and how water accumulating in former Lakes B37 and B38 will be managed.

Response: Agnico Eagle submitted a Figure which responded to ECCC's queries about runoff and seepage from the eastern side of WRSF6. Further Agnico Eagle mentioned that water diversion Berm 4 for WRSF6 Phase 1 is located on the natural catchment boundary separating Lake B62 and former Lake B38. Runoff from the northeast portion of WRSF6 Phase 1 will naturally flow or be diverted to former Lake B38 via Berm 4, with no runoff expected to reach Lake B62 or downstream Lake B59.

Under baseline conditions, water from former Lake B38 flows to former Lake B37, then to former Lake B36, where CP9 will be formed in the Pump 01 Open Pit. Haul roads planned across narrows between former Lakes B36, B37, and B38 will include culverts to maintain water flow from Lake B38 to Lake B37 and then CP9.

2. ECCC recommends the Proponent construct water management infrastructure prior to the placement of waste rock.

Response: Agnico Eagle stated that WRSF6 and the related water management infrastructure will be constructed concurrently during the winter of 2025. The water management infrastructure will be completed prior to 2025 freshet; therefore, any runoff from WRSF6 will be diverted from the receiving environment and be directed to CP9.

3. ECCC recommends the Proponent store potentially acid generating waste rock in areas of the facility that are predicted to remain frozen, including more than 20 m from the edge of the toe.

Response: Agnico Eagle stated that approximately 5% of the total waste rock produced from the proposed Pump Open Pits is expected to be classified as potentially acid generating (PAG) or Uncertain. Further the Licensee stated that *"Waste rock that is classified as PAG or Uncertain is mostly from Iron Formation (IF) waste rock. The dominant carbonate mineral in IF waste rock has a potential for the long-term*

*neutralization capacity of acid drainage. Overall, the carbonate mineral composition is highest in the Pump deposits compared to other deposits at the mine.*

*Further, based on the Acid Base Accounting results from the laboratory tests samples from the Pump area, the paste pH ranges from 8.1 to 8.9 for the waste rock collected, indicating the presence of immediately available neutralization potential.”*

Agnico Eagle agreed to follow ECCC’s recommendation to place PAG waste rock more than 20 m from the edge of the toe of WRSF6. This will be reflected in the next update of the Mine Waste Management Plan.

Copies of all documents received in support of the Report can be accessed through the NWB’s Public Registry and FTP site using the following link:

<https://public.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MEL1631%20Agnico/3%20TECH/D%20CONSTRUCTION/Waste%20Rock%20Storage%20Facility%206/>

#### 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, Kivalliq