

File: 2AM-MEL1631/TR/F9

July 18, 2017

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Jamie Quesnel Environmental Superintendent - Nunavut Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. 145, King Street East Suite 400, Toronto, ON M5C 2Y7

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Subject: Operation & Maintenance Manual Final Effluent Treatment Plant;

Type "A" Water Licence 2AM-MEL1631, Meliadine Gold Project, Agnico-Eagle

Mines Ltd.

Dear Ms. Turmel and Mr. Quesnel:

The Nunavut Water Board ("NWB") received from Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) on May 26, 2017 the Operation & Maintenance Manual Final Effluent Treatment Plant (O&M Manual or Manual) for Board approval as required under Part F, Item 9 of the Water Licence 2AM-MEL1631.

As stated by Agnico Eagle the O&M Manual summarizes the operational and maintenance procedures to be followed at the Effluent Water Treatment Plant (EWTP), and documents the stand alone Operation & Maintenance Manual – Effluent Water Treatment Plant, as specified under Water License 2AM-MEL1631 Part F, Item 9 and includes the following requirements:

- The manual was prepared in accordance with the "Guidelines for the Preparation of an Operation and Maintenance Manual for Sewage and Solid Waste Disposal Facilities in the Northwest Territories, 1996", and adapted for the use of a mechanical contact water treatment facility;
- The manual includes contingency measures in the event of a plant malfunction; and
- The manual includes sludge management procedures.

The O&M Manual was distributed for a thirty (30) day public review and comments on May 26, 2017. On June 22, 2017 and June 29, 2017, respectively, the Environment and Climate Change

Canada (ECCC) and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) advised the NWB that they do not have comments at this time. On June 26, 2017, comments were received from Kivalliq Inuit Association (KivIA). In its submission, KivIA requested clarifications regarding the following: volume of solids flushed to CP1 in the first season prior to the mill beginning operation; the value of "high-high turbidity"; the treatment plant performance's annual reporting and comparing it to similar plants performances; comparing the preventative maintenance program to similar plants; the back-up power source for the alarms; spill reporting; the maximum capacity of CP-1 to hold the flow from the effluent water treatment plant during a plant malfunction.

On July 5, 2017, Agnico Eagle provided its responses to KivIA comments/questions. Applicant's responses were made available for review, and the NWB did not receive any further questions.

The Board finds the O&M Manual functional and generally satisfying Licence requirements, and by copy of this letter <u>has approved the O&M Manual through the Board Motion No. 2017-A1-009</u>, <u>dated July 17, 2017</u>, <u>as required by Part F, Item 9 of Licence</u>. The Board advises the Licensee that future update of O&M Manual shall include its additional information / clarifications provided on July 5, 2017.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 360-6338 or karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly,

Karén Kharatyan A/Manager of Licensing

cc: Distribution List - Meliadine