



NWB Tools

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2AM-MEL1631-Meliadine Gold Mine Project; Agnico Eagle Mines Limited; Notice of Modification Comment Summaries and NWB Guidance Regarding Next Steps

Keith Morrison <kmorrison@nirb.ca>

Tue, Sep 2, 2025 at 5:21 PM

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Good day, Karén

In response to the letter from the Nunavut Water Board on August 20, 2025 requesting clarification in relation to the proposed modification to the Meliadine Gold Mine Project, as NPC determined the modification activities did not require screening, and was not referred to the NIRB for assessment, the NIRB does not have any application from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited submitted to NIRB specifically. Therefore, the following clarifications and observations by the NIRB are based solely on the material submitted to the NWB and NPC and our review of the NIRB assessments of the original Meliadine Mine and subsequent amendment and the existing terms and conditions of Project Certificate No. 006 which governs the Project. In that regard, we provide the following clarifications:

1. As noted by NPC, the proposed activities do not increase the footprint of the Project. Further, the activities proposed are not novel for the site in that underground mining and saline water storage were previously assessed by the NIRB and these activities are already in progress at the site.
2. As also noted by NPC, while the Project Certificate lists Tiriganiaq as the only deposit that was specifically planned to use underground mining at the time the project proposal was originally submitted to the NIRB and provided the basis for the NIRB's 2014 assessment, both the Final Environmental Impact Assessment (FEIS) reviewed by the NIRB and the NIRB Final Hearing Report Project identified the possibility of underground mining for the other deposits:

"It should be noted that all deposits remain open at depth, so UG [underground] mining cannot be ruled out for any of the deposits at this point in the Project life." FEIS p. 1-12

"The open pits would be flooded once the operation in each pit is completed and the potential for underground operations in the pit has been dismissed." NIRB Final Hearing Report, p. 30

3. Saline water storage is already taking place in constructed ponds on site. As the NIRB has indicated in relation to the Meliadine site and also the Meadowbank site, using exhausted open pits for saline water storage rather than other types of uses is not generally considered sufficient to change the Board's assessment of potential

Good afternoon,

Please see attached. The Nunavut Water Board requests a response from NPC and NIRB by August 29, 2025.

Regards,

Richard

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