Water Resources Division Resource Management Directorate Nunavut Regional Office P.O. Box 100 Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

> Your file - Votre référence 2AM-MEL1631 Our file - Notre référence CIDM#1283670

March 3, 2020

Mr. Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0
E-mail: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Agnico Eagle Mines' Response to Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's comments on 2AM-MEL1631 Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Thank you for your February 25, 2020 email requesting Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) to confirm whether Agnico Eagle Mines' (AEM) response addresses CIRNAC's comments on the 2AM-MEL1631 Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (ICRP).

CIRNAC confirms that AEM's response addressed all but CIRNAC's comment #2 on the issue of closure schedule. CIRNAC notes AEM's statement: "(T)he monitoring schedule was developed specifically for the site in consideration of the necessary timeframe for physical and chemical stability to be demonstrated and ..." Given that it is difficult to demonstrate mine site physical and chemical stability without the appropriate field monitoring data, CINRAC recommends that the current closure schedule be considered as interim, and the final closure schedule be determined after AEM has demonstrated the long-term physical and chemical stability of the mine site with monitoring data.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to participate in this review. If there is any question, please contact me at (867) 975-4555 or <a href="mailto:david.zhong@canada.ca">david.zhong@canada.ca</a>, Bridget Campbell at (867) 975-4282 or <a href="mailto:bridget.campbell@canada.ca">bridget.campbell@canada.ca</a> or Godwin Okonkwo, Manager of Water Resources, at (867) 975-4550 or <a href="mailto:godwin.okonkwo@canada.ca">godwin.okonkwo@canada.ca</a>.

Sincerely,

David Zhong Regulatory and Science Advisor

