



Nunavut Impact Review Board

2020 Site Update Report

Meadowbank Gold Mine Project (NIRB File No. 03MN107) & *Whale Tail Pit Project* (NIRB File No. 16MN056)

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited



October 2020

Full Report Title: 2020 Site Update Report for the Nunavut Impact Review Board's Monitoring of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s *Meadowbank Gold Project* (NIRB File No. 03MN107) and *Whale Tail Pit Project* (NIRB File No. 16MN056)

Project: Meadowbank Gold Project and Whale Tail Pit Project

Project Location: Kivalliq Region, Nunavut

Land Tenure: Inuit Owned Lands and Crown lands

Project Owner: Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
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Cover photos: 1) Baker Lake Fuel Storage Facility and Marshalling Area
2) Meadowbank Mine site
3) Vault Pit
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1 INTRODUCTION

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) was established through Articles 10 and 12 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and is responsible for post environmental assessment monitoring of a Project in accordance with Part 7 of Article 12 of the *Nunavut Agreement* and s. 135(4) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14 (*NuPPAA*).

1.1 Objective & Purpose of a Public Information Session

Pursuant to the *Nunavut Agreement*, and the Meadowbank Project Certificate No. 004 and the *NuPPAA* and the Whale Tail Pit Project Certificate No. 008, the NIRB monitoring responsibilities include providing periodic updates regarding its Monitoring Program for the communities most affected by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (Agnico Eagle) Meadowbank Gold Mine Project (Meadowbank Project) and Whale Tail Pit Project (Whale Tail). These meetings are also to further ensure ongoing awareness of Project-specific terms and conditions and encourage effective participation throughout the Board's monitoring process for both files. Public information sessions, including an afternoon open house and evening sessions, were held in Baker Lake on August 27 and 28, 2020. A summary of the comments and concerns received from community members during the public information sessions is provided in [Section 4.3](#) and form a part of the NIRB's monitoring program.

1.2 Objectives & Purpose of Site Visits

In accordance with the Terms and Conditions as set out in the amended Meadowbank Project Certificate¹ in accordance with Section 12.7.2(b) of the *Nunavut Agreement*, and the amended Whale Tail Pit Project Certificate² in accordance with s. 135(3)(b) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB is responsible for the establishment of a monitoring program for the Project, which includes conducting periodic site visits. The objective of the NIRB's site visits are to determine whether, and to what extent, the land or resource use in question is being carried out within the predetermined terms and conditions of the NIRB's Project Certificates issued.

Due to the COVID-19 Public Health restrictions, the NIRB was unable to conduct a site visit in 2020 and therefore was unable to visually inspect activities occurring related to the Projects and assess compliance to the requirements of the Project Certificates. This year, to ensure parties are kept up to date at site, the NIRB has developed a Site Update Report based on discussions, updates, and photos provided courtesy of Agnico Eagle.

2 MEADOWBANK GOLD MINE PROJECT UPDATE

2.1.1 Meadowbank Project Overview

The Meadowbank Project involves the construction and operation of an open pit gold mine located in the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut, approximately 70 kilometres (km) north of the Hamlet of Baker

¹ Public Registry Document No.: 321813

² Public Registry Document No.: 328586



Figure 1: Overview of site location (Meadowbank and Whale Tail 2019 Annual Report; Figure 6)

Area, and the marshalling facility near Baker Lake.

Lake on Inuit-owned surface lands. Production at the Meadowbank mine site was expanded into 2019 with the extension of the mine plan at Vault and Phaser pits in 2018, the addition of the Portage Pit in 2018 and 2019 and supplemented from stockpiles in 2018 and 2019. In-pit tailings deposition in Goose Pit commenced mid-2019.

The mine site is comprised of a camp, airstrip, and associated mining infrastructure. Ore was exhausted and active mining of all pits was completed by the fourth quarter of 2019 with mining completed as follows: Goose Pit in April 2015, Portage Pit A in March 2018, Vault Pit in March 2019, Phaser Pit in October 2018, BB Phaser Pit in June 2019, and Portage Pit E in October 2019.

In addition to the mining infrastructure and activities, ancillary Project infrastructure is located approximately two (2) km east of the Hamlet of Baker Lake and consists of barge unloading facilities, a laydown storage and marshalling area, a temporary laydown storage area for cyanide, a 60 million litre (ML) fuel tank farm with the fuel tank farm being expanded to 80 ML in 2019, associated interconnecting roads, and a 110 km All Weather Access Road (AWAR) from the Hamlet of Baker Lake to the Meadowbank mine site.

Supplies are shipped from locations within Canada via sealift to Baker Lake where they are offloaded at Agnico Eagle's marshalling area and transported to the Meadowbank site via truck along the AWAR. See [Photo 1](#) for an overview photo of the Meadowbank Mine Site. [Figure 1](#), [Figure 2](#), [Figure 3](#), and [Figure 4](#): Baker Lake Marshalling Facility (From Agnico Eagle's 2019 Annual Report, Figure 6) provide an overview on site locations, and a layout of the Meadowbank Mine Site, the Vault Pit



Photo 1: Overview of Meadowbank Mine Site



Figure 2: Overview of Meadowbank Mine Site (From Agnico Eagle's 2019 Annual Report, Figure 1)



Figure 3: Overview of Vault Pit area (From Agnico Eagle's 2019 Annual Report, Figure 3)



Figure 4: Baker Lake Marshalling Facility (From Agnico Eagle’s 2019 Annual Report, Figure 6)

2.1.2 Meadowbank Mine Site Update

As previously stated, the NIRB was unable to conduct a site visit in 2020 due to COVID-19 Public Health restrictions; however, NIRB staff were able to observe a few project components from a distance while in Baker Lake for the community information sessions, including the Baker Lake Marshalling Facility and the All Weather Access Road.

The following sections briefly describe the major components and activities of the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project in 2020 provided by the Proponent. Where applicable and/or able, the Monitoring Officers have noted compliance with specific terms and conditions of the Project Certificate.

2.1.2.1 Baker Lake Facilities

- a) NIRB staff noticed that the Baker Lake marshalling facility was busy with trucks driving seacans to and from the Mine Site ([Photo 2](#), Photo 3).
- b) There are currently four (4) emergency seacans located at the Baker Lake Tank farm including a new seacan installed in 2020 to meet the updated Oil Pollution Emergency Plan, Version 11 (Photo 4).

- c) Agnico Eagle confirmed that the lower all-terrain vehicle (ATV) trail that goes through the Baker Lake bulk fuel storage facility/marshalling area remains in place allowing members of the community to travel to their cabins along the shoreline (Photo 5).
- d) Agnico Eagle noted that there is 24-hour security at the Baker Lake facility.



Photo 2: Baker Lake Marshalling Facility



Photo 3: Trucks to Baker Lake Marshalling Facility



Photo 4: Emergency Sea Cans



Photo 5: Lower ATV Trail

- e) While in the community the NIRB staff observed the all weather baseball diamond is sponsored by Agnico Eagle (Photo 6).



Photo 6: Agnico Eagle sponsored Baseball Diamond

2.1.2.2 All-weather private access road

- a) There is a manned gatehouse at kilometre (km) 5 (Photo 8).
- b) The AWAR (Photo 7) has snowmobile crossings at kilometre (km) 10 and 98 with signage (Photo 9). There are no designated wildlife crossings.



Photo 7: All Weather Access Road



Photo 8: Gatehouse



Photo 9: Snowmobile Crossing



Photo 10: Emergency Seacan at Bridge



Photo 11: Spawning Pad

- a) Seacans with emergency spill response equipment are located at every bridge crossing (Photo 10).
- b) The spawning habitat rock structure located at the first bridge (Photo 11) was monitored in 2019 (see *2019 Annual Report*) with the next monitoring campaign planned for 2021.
- c) Agnico Eagle stated that they have an emergency response team to respond to any incident that occurs along the AWAR.
- d) Agnico Eagle indicated that calcium chloride was still being applied as dust suppressant only to the same locations as previous years which include three (3) critical areas at km 10-12, 24-26, and 48-50, as agreed upon with the Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers Organization as well as two (2) additional sites at km 68-70 and 80-84.
- e) Remediation has been ongoing at Quarry 22 following storage of contaminated hydrocarbon soil in previous years with the soil/gravel still testing positive for hydrocarbons (Photo 12). In 2020 Agnico Eagle tried to prevent nesting with a bird decoy (Photo 13) and bird cannon; however, the birds were not deterred and nested in 2020 and the equipment was removed.



Photo 12: Quarry 22



Photo 13: Bird Deterrent at Quarry 22

2.1.2.3 Meadowbank mine site

- a) Active mining was completed at all pits by the end of fourth quarter in 2019. Some residual stockpiles are still being processed at the mill.
- b) Mining completed in Vault Pit in March 2019. As observed in previous years, an ice sheet had formed on the walls of the Vault Pit and remains present in 2020 (Photo 14 and Photo 15).



Photo 14: Vault Pit Ice Sheet



Photo 15: Vault, Phaser and BB Phaser Pits

- c) Phaser Pit and BB Phaser Pit in October 2018 and June 2019, respectively, and are now naturally reflooding (Photo 16, Photo 17, and Photo 17).



Photo 16: Phaser Pit



Photo 17: BB Phaser Pit

- d) Mining at Goose Pit was completed in April 2015. Tailings continue to be deposited into the mined-out pit (Photo 18).



Photo 18: Goose Pit (black pipe used for in-pit tailings)

- e) Mining at Portage Pit A was completed in March 2018, and Portage Pit E in October 2019 (Photo 19). Tailings Deposition started in Portage Pit E in 2020 (Photo 20).



Photo 19: Portage Pit



Photo 20: Portage Pit E Tailings Deposition



Photo 21: Seepage from Portage Waste Rock Storage Facility

- f) In 2013, Agnico Eagle noted seepage from the Portage waste rock storage facility with potentially acid generating rock (which has a high sulphur content, heavy metals, and other contaminants) at a location near the south shore of a fish bearing lake (referred to as North Pole 2 or NP-2 lake). Agnico Eagle stated that in 2020 seepage water continued to be pumped to the Tailings Storage Facility North Cell (Photo 21).

- g) The original landfarm, developed in 2013 and located next to the South Cell Tailings Facility, was flooded with tailings in 2017 (Photo 22). The second landfarm located to the east of landfarm 1, remains in use (Photo 23).



Photo 22: Landfarm 1



Photo 23: Landfarm 2

- h) The Meadowbank landfill continues to be in operation (Photo 25 and Photo 25) and is extending into a new area at the base of the Waste Rock Storage Facility. Previously used landfills are progressively capped (Photo 25).



Photo 24: Landfill



Photo 25: Landfill Overview

- i) Agnico Eagle confirmed that it continues to segregate and store all domestic, hazardous, and combustible wastes in marked seacans prior to these materials being incinerated or shipped to the appropriate and approved off-site disposal facilities (Photo 26).



Photo 26: Seacans used for waste segregation and storage area at Meadowbank Mine Site

- j) Agnico Eagle stated that the landfill is frequently inspected by employees to ward off any wildlife that may be present, to ensure wastes are segregated appropriately, and that wastes designated to the incinerator or metal dump do not end up in the landfill.
- k) In 2019 Agnico Eagle started a composting program located at the incinerator building with the compost materials being disposed of at the landfill (Photo 27). The composter was installed to reduce the quantity of waste burned by the incinerator.
- l) Agnico Eagle observed that wastes are segregated in front of the incinerator (Photo 28) and only organic matter is incinerated.



Photo 27: Composter



Photo 28: Incinerator

m) Agnico Eagle noted waste segregation is common practice at the mine site (Photo 29).



Photo 29: Internal Waste Segregation

- o) Inuksuk behind mechanical shop is still in place (Photo).
- p) Caribou migration corridor maps are posted for employees to see posted at the entrance of the corridor leading to the gym (Photo).



Photo 30: Caribou Deterrence



Photo 31: Caribou Maps



Photo 32: Nurses Station

- n) There is a nurses station located at the Meadowbank mine site (Photo).

2.1.3 Site Observations based on NIRB's Project Certificate No. 004

The following provides a summary of updates made with respect to the relevant terms and conditions related to Project Certificate No. 004.

2.1.3.1 Water Quality and Waste Management

Condition 8: Groundwater Wells

Agnico Eagle confirmed that five (5) groundwater monitoring wells continue to be operational at site: MW-16-01, MW-IPD-01 (s), MW-IPD-01 (d), MW-IPD-07 (Photo 30) MW-IPD-07 2020-08-24), and MW-IPD-09. The 2020 groundwater sampling campaign was planned for September.



Photo 30: Groundwater Monitoring Well MW-IPD-07

Condition 18: Tailings Management Strategy

Agnico Eagle stated that no tailings were disposed at the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in 2020. Reclamation is ongoing on the North Cell with new capping present ([Photo 31](#)). No update was provided on reclamation of the South Cell in 2020 (Photo 32).



Photo 31: Tailings Storage Facility – North Cell



Photo 32: Tailings Storage Facility – South Cell

Condition 25: Managing attraction of carnivores and/or raptors to reduce or eliminate attraction at all landfills and waste storage areas

Agnico Eagle noted that bird deterrents, including effigies and/or bird cannons, were used at the Baker Lake Marshalling Facility (Photo 33), Meadowbank fuel tank farm (Photo 34), Tailings Storage Facility, and Quarry 22. Only manual wildlife deterrents are used at the landfill.



Photo 33: Bird deterrent at Baker Lake Marshalling Facility



Photo 34: Owl deterrent at Meadowbank Fuel Tank Farm

Condition 27: Fuel and hazardous materials storage

At the Baker Lake Marshalling Facility there is a total of 18 Jet-A tanks still in use (Photo 35). A new fuel tank (Fuel Tank 7; Photo 36) was constructed in 2019 at this facility.



Photo 35: Jet-A Storage



Photo 36: New Fuel Tank at Baker Lake Marshalling Facility

During their 2019 site visit NIRB staff noted that the liner at the Baker Lake Fuel Storage facility was exposed and Agnico Eagle informed the NIRB that it continues to be exposed in 2020 (Photo 37). Agnico Eagle noted no liner is seen exposed at the Meadowbank Tank Farm. As with 2019, water pooled within the secondary containment facility at the Meadowbank fuel tank farm in 2020 (Photo 38). This water is discharged towards the Stormwater Management Pond which is then directed to the Tailings Storage Facility.



Photo 37: Exposed Liner at Fuel Tanks



Photo 38: Water in Secondary Containment

2.1.3.2 Air Quality

Condition 74: Dust Suppressants

Agnico Eagle staff indicated that it continues to apply calcium chloride dust suppressant along three (3) critical areas and two (2) additional areas for two (2) km sections of the AWAR. Along each of the five (5) sites, Agnico Eagle also continues to conduct dust sampling to assess dustfall rates in the dust suppression locations, as well as two (2) reference sites without dust suppression (km 18 and 78). In 2019 dustfall monitoring stations were moved from the ground to poles with one transect continuing to have on the ground collectors for comparison (Photo 39 and Photo 40).



Photo 39: Dust Fall Transect



Photo 40: Dust Fall Monitoring Stations

3 WHALE TAIL PIT PROJECT UPDATE

3.1.1 Whale Tail Pit Project Description

The Whale Tail Pit Project includes the development of an open pit gold mine located at the Amaruq property approximately 150 kilometres (km) north of the Hamlet of Baker Lake and approximately 50 km northwest of the Meadowbank Project. The project components include the main camp, associated mining infrastructure, and one (1) open pit, North Basin of the Whale Tail Lake. Ore is hauled by truck via an approximately 65 km haul road, to the Meadowbank mine site for milling. Mine activities are supported by use of existing infrastructure at the Meadowbank mine site and the Baker Lake facility. Construction of the Whale Tail Pit project began mid-2018, with major infrastructure completed by March 2019. Key activities included construction of the main camp facilities, construction of the dike separating the north and south basins of Whale Tail Lake, fish-out and dewatering of the North Basin, and expansion of the Whale Tail Haul Road (WTHR).

Mining began at the North Basin in Q2 of 2019, achieving full commercial production by September 2019. Development of Whale Tail Pit will allow access to an estimated 8.3 million tonnes (Mt) of ore. Construction of secondary infrastructure including surface water management structures, main camp expansion, pads and on-site access roads, and dismantling of the exploration camp is planned for 2020 to support continued operational activities at the Whale Tail site.

In November 2018, Agnico Eagle proposed an amendment to the Whale Tail Pit Project to include expansion of Whale Tail Pit, development of a new open pit (IVR Pit), and underground mining below both open pits. The Whale Tail Pit Expansion Project Proposal (the Expansion Proposal) extended the extraction of ore over an approximate four-year period and would generate an additional 15.2 Mt of ore. In 2020, following an amendment process, the Expansion Proposal was approved to proceed.

Ore is hauled by truck via the WTHR and requires continued use of the existing infrastructure at the Meadowbank mine site and the Baker Lake facilities as per the original Whale Tail Pit Project. The Expansion Proposal includes expansion of the WTHR from the 9.5 metres (m) wide to 15 m, expansion of infrastructure at the Whale Tail Pit site, and construction of new infrastructure to support the development of the IVR Pit.

Figure 8 provides an overview of the layout of the Whale Tail area.

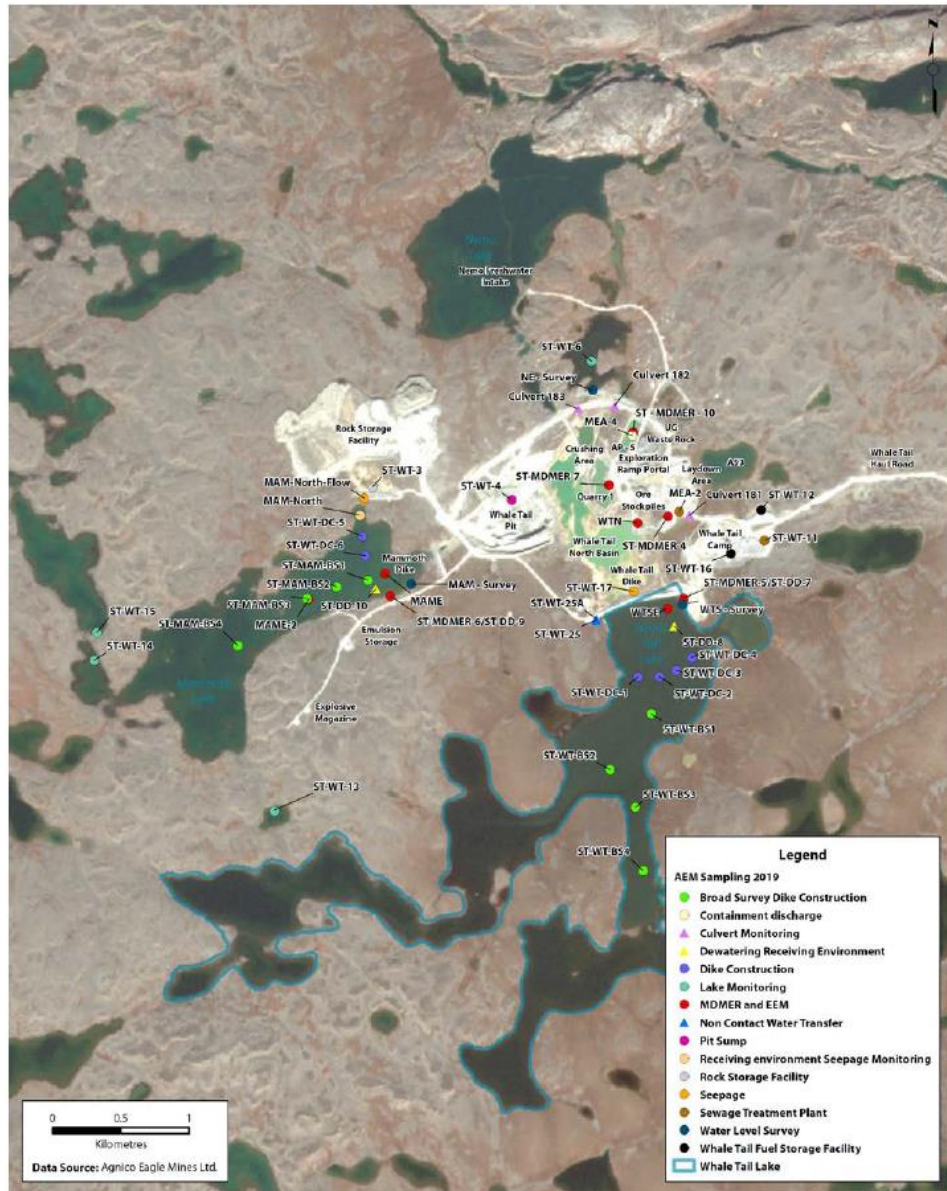


Figure 5: Whale Tail Area (from Agnico Eagle’s 2018 Annual Report, Figure 4)

3.1.2 Whale Tail Site Update

As previously stated, the NIRB Monitoring Officers were unable to conduct a site visit in 2020 due to COVID-19 Public Health restrictions. The following sections briefly describe the major components and activities of the Whale Tail Pit Project in 2020 provided by the Proponent. Where applicable, the Monitoring Officer has noted compliance with specific terms and conditions of the Project Certificate.

3.1.2.1 Haul-road to the Whale Tail site at the Amaruq property

The Haul-road between Meadowbank Mine Site and Whale Tail site ([Photo 44](#)) consists of one (1) snowmobile crossing, dust monitoring stations, quarry sites, and environmental emergency

equipment at all bridge crossings. The following are general observation noted along the Haul-road:

- a) Resloping was done along the Whale Tail Haul Road (WTHR).
- b) No widening of the WTHR has occurred in 2020 thus far.
- c) The one (1) snowmobile crossing is located along the Haul-road near km 127 with signage which also acts as a wildlife crossing (Photo 43).
- d) During their 2019 site visit the NIRB staff observed that environmental emergency seacans with spill kits were not available at the bridges along the WTHR. Agnico Eagle confirmed that there are now emergency seacans located at kilometre (km) 125.5 and 146 and three (3) more will be placed by the end of 2020 (Photo 42).
- e) No new road eskers or quarries were created in 2020.



Photo 41: Entrance to WTHR



Photo 42: Emergency Seacan at Bridge



Photo 43: Snowmobile Crossing at Km 127

- f) A remote wildlife camera was installed at km 158 monitoring caribou migration across the WTHR (Photo 44).
- g) There is two (2) noise monitoring stations along the WTHR that were monitored in 2020: R6 and R7 (Photo 45).

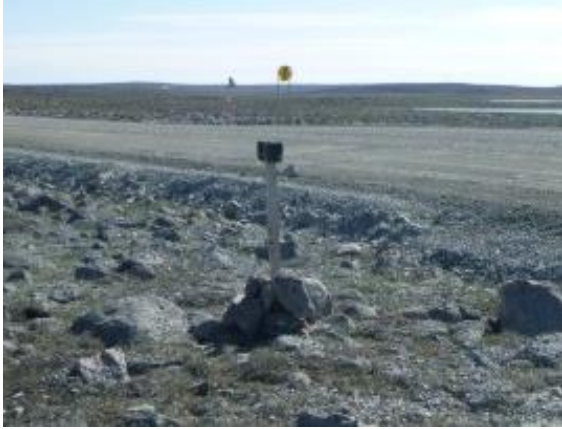


Photo 44: Wildlife Camera Along WTHR

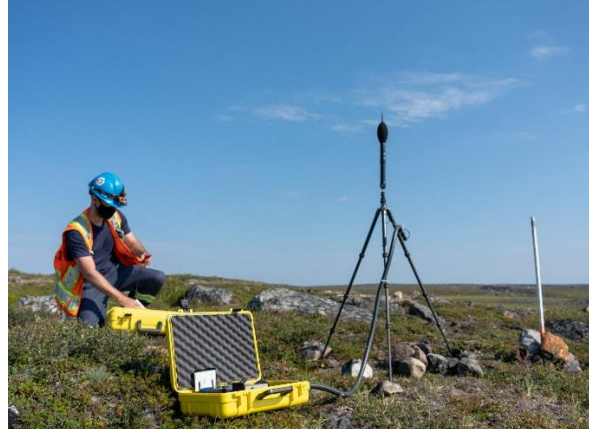


Photo 45: Noise Monitoring Station R7

3.1.2.2 Whale Tail Site

- a) Whale Tail Pit is still within the original footprint. Expansion into the increased footprint described in the Whale Tail Pit Expansion amendment has not yet occurred (Photo 46 and Photo 47).



Photo 46: Whale Tail Pit Footprint



Photo 47: Whale Tail Pit

- b) Whale Tail Dewatering was completed for the Whale Tail North Basin, and northeast pond Sector.
- c) The Whale Tail South Channel with inlet in the Whale Tail Lake South Basin is performing as designed in 2020 ([Photo 51](#) and Photo 49).
- d) Agnico Eagle noted that seepage is observed at the toe of Whale Tail Dike. At present, seepage water is treated as part of the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond. Grouting was completed on Whale Tail Dike to reduce the flow of seepage and a collection system is currently under construction to discharge water back to Whale Tail South ([Photo 53](#) and Photo 51).



Photo 48: South Basin of Whale Tail Lake



Photo 49: South Whale Tail Channel



Photo 50: Whale Tail Lake Dike



Photo 51: Construction of Whale Tail Dike Seepage Collection System



Photo 52: Mammoth Lake Diffuser



Photo 53: Mammoth Dike

- e) Prestripping of the IVR Pit began in September 2020 (Photo 54).



Photo 54: Prestripping of IVR Pit

- f) Groundwater is managed in the groundwater storage pond GSP-1 (Photo 55). Additional groundwater storage ponds GSP-2 and GSP-3 have not yet been constructed.
- g) Lake A53 is not yet commissioned. Agnico Eagle noted that fish were removed and dewatering started in September 2020 (Photo 56).



Photo 55: GSP-1



Photo 56: Lake A53



Photo 57: Ore Stockpile 4

- h) As of September 2020, no ore is currently stockpiled in Ore stockpile 4 ([Photo 57](#)).
- i) Agnico Eagle noted ore stockpiles do not have a contact water collection system as water naturally drains towards the attenuation ponds.
- j) The underground ore stockpile is currently not planned to be constructed in 2020.

- k) The IVR Waste Rock Storage Facility has not yet been constructed; however, dewatering is currently ongoing for the lake in the footprint of the future IVR Attenuation Pond and IVR Waste Rock Storage Facility.
- l) Agnico Eagle noted that the groundwater monitoring campaign is planned for October 2020 (Photo 58).



Photo 58: Groundwater Monitoring Well

- m) Agnico Eagle noted that, like Meadowbank, wastes are segregated before final disposal in the landfill (Photo 59).
- n) There is a diesel fuel tank and refueling station located on site (Photo 60).



Photo 59: Landfill



Photo 60: Bulk Fuel Storage Facility

- o) There is currently nine (9) wings at the permanent camp and Agnico Eagle noted that the camp will be extended to 12 wings by the end of 2020 (Photo 61).
- p) Agnico Eagle noted that the exploration camp is currently being dismantled and will be decommissioned by early October (Photo 62).



Photo 61: Permanent Camp



Photo 62: Exploration Camp

- q) Onsite facilities include sewage treatment ([Photo 63](#)), potable water treatment ([Photo 64](#)) and arsenic treatment ([Photo 65](#)).



Photo 63: Sewage Treatment



Photo 64: Potable Water Treatment



Photo 65: Arsenic Treatment

3.1.3 Site Observations based on NIRB's Project Certificate No. 008

The following provides a summary of updates made with respect to the relevant terms and conditions related to Project Certificate No. 008.

3.1.3.1 Air Quality

Condition 1: Continuous NO₂ monitoring downwind of mining activities

Condition 1 was revised during the Whale Tail Expansion Reconsideration to include a requirement for the Proponent to undertake continuous NO₂ monitoring downwind of mining activities. There is currently one (1) station with dustfall and NO₂ samplers on site (Photo 66). Agnico Eagle noted that a NO₂ continuous monitoring station will be installed by the end of 2020.



Photo 66: Dust and NO₂ sampler at station DF-6

Condition 2: Dust Management and Monitoring Plan

During their 2019 site visit, NIRB staff observed that dust suppressant was not being applied to the whole AWAR (see section 2.1.2.2), along the Whale Tail Haul Road (WTHR) nor at the Whale Tail site. In 2020 Agnico Eagle noted that calcium chloride dust suppressant was applied to the entire length of the WTHR (Photo 67). Also similar to the AWAR, dust monitoring stations have

been moved to two (2) metre (m) stands with one (1) replicate on the ground for comparison (Photo 68).



Photo 67: Whale Tail Haul Road After Dust Suppression



Photo 68: Dust Monitoring Stations

3.1.3.2 Wildlife and Terrestrial

Condition 32: Safety barriers, berms and crossing with project infrastructure

During their 2019 site visit Agnico NIRB staff noted that no specific caribou/wildlife crossings were in place. In addition, it was observed that the Haul-road was not sloped to assist wildlife in crossing the road. Agnico Eagle stated that the snowmobile crossing also serves as the wildlife crossing and that no additional crossings were needed by the Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers Organization (BLHTO). In 2020 Agnico Eagle also updated that the WTHR has since been resloped allowing easier crossing (Photo 69).



Photo 69: Whale Tail Haul Road Resloped

4 PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS

The NIRB hosted information sessions which consisted of one (1) afternoon open house from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm and two (2) evening sessions at 7:00 pm located at the Baker Lake Community Hall and offered consecutive translation into Inuktitut.

4.1 Advertisements

The NIRB advertised the meetings through radio, poster, and online through Facebook in Baker Lake both in English and Inuktitut in the month prior to the meeting.

4.2 Meeting Materials

At the public meeting, the following materials were provided by the NIRB:

Document	Public Registry ID No	
	03MN107	16MN056
The NIRB's PowerPoint presentation (in English and Inuktitut)	331257	331258
Comment Forms (in English and Inuktitut)	N/A	N/A
Agnico Eagle pamphlet regarding the Meliadine Gold Mine Project (11MN034) Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment proposed amendment.	331583 331584	331585 331586
COVID-19 Public Health Information	N/A	N/A

Copies of the above listed consultation materials can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125253 or www.nirb.ca/project/125418.

4.3 Summary of the Public Information Session

The NIRB's information sessions were open to all members of the public with a limit of 50 people per session due to Public Health restrictions. Limited individually packaged refreshments were provided to prevent contamination and all highly touched surfaces were thoroughly cleaned between sessions. All in attendance were asked to sign in and identify the community or organization they represented as well as provide their phone number for internal COVID-19 tracking purposes. The recorded attendance of all meetings was 12 people. The NIRB attributes the lower attendance rate to unintendedly scheduling the evening sessions on the same night as graduation but would like to wish congratulations to all 12 of the Baker Lake graduates!

The NIRB gave a PowerPoint presentation that focused on the NIRB's monitoring programs and included an update on the Projects, including an overview of the Meadowbank and Whale Tail Project activities and key components; and events and/or issues identified through the project specific monitoring programs. The presentation concluded with a discussion as to how interested parties and community members could participate in the NIRB's processes.

During the October 27, 2020 evening session, upon request from community members, the NIRB also included a discussion regarding the Meliadine Gold Mine Project Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment reconsideration. The information discussed focused on what was available to the NIRB at the time and included information on the main project proposal activities and

locations as well as detailed the NIRB's process for the reconsideration and how community members and organizations could get involved and voice any questions or concerns.

Written and verbal comments were accepted at the meeting as the public was encouraged to ask questions, and verbal comments were recorded by the NIRB staff on both the Meadowbank and Whale Tail Projects as well as the Meliadine Project reconsideration. These comments are summarized by NIRB staff below.

Comments and questions helped the Board identify items that need to be addressed or considered throughout the NIRB's monitoring program for the Meadowbank Gold Mine and Whale Tail Pit Projects and the Meliadine Gold Mine reconsideration.

Comments directed to the NIRB:

General
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members are feeling saturated with information The NIRB should hold a workshop with the Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers Organization Board to train new members on the function of the NIRB.

Comments pertaining to the Meadowbank Gold Mine and Whale Tail Pit Projects:

COVID-19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern expressed that Nunavummiut are not allowed back at site yet as employees have families to support or wish to finish their courses. Questions regarding what COVID-19 related issues may have occurred at site. Request to hear more from different organizations and federal agencies that have responsibilities with enforcement at the mine site and whether or not they are able to attend site given public health restrictions.
General Mine Updates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Question as to what is done with waste, whether it is piling up or shipped out. Questions as to what is currently being done to the Meadowbank pits now that active mining is completed at each.
All Weather Access Road
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern expressed that Agnico Eagle is not applying dust suppressant to the length of the AWAR. Questions as to whether Agnico Eagle has a reason for not applying suppressant to the entire length of the road. Concern expressed that the dust from the AWAR blows downwind to Prince River where community members get drinking water from. Comments that dust can be seen from the road in the snow during the winter months. Request that the NIRB enforce the Project Certificate Condition detailing that dust suppressant must be used on all project surfaces including the entire AWAR. Questions as to what type of bird deterrent was used at Quarry 22.
Marine Environment and Shipping
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Question as to whether there was a Marine Monitor in 2020.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request to be able to track ship movements or know in advance of their arrival instead of being made aware after the ship has arrived.
Socioeconomic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment that it is nice that Agnico Eagle reports the number of jobs, Inuit employment and community employment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Question as to whether turnover rates and length of employment are tracked.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment that the Baker Lake Hamlet should keep track of these employment data.

Comments Regarding the Meliadine Project reconsideration:

General
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern expressed that if caribou are affected then the community members of Baker Lake will be as well.
Scope of Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confusion expressed on what saline water is as different definitions have been provided from different sources.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Question on what the long-term plan for the mine will be as the underground portion is expanded.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Question on the height of the pipe that caribou will have to cross.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Question regarding timing of water disposal.
Reconsideration Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Question on how the NIRB determines what the reconsideration process will be.

5 CONCLUSION

Overall, Agnico Eagle appears to be in compliance with the majority of the terms and conditions contained within the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project Certificate No. 004 and within the Whale Tail Pit Project Certificate No. 008. As noted in previous years, dust suppressants have not been applied the entire length of the all-weather access road to Meadowbank. As well, alternate methods of bird deterrence may be required to prevent nesting at Quarry 22 in order to continue with remediation at that site. Finally, continuous NO₂ monitoring is required to be set up downwind of the Whale Tail Mine site.

Prepared by: Emily Koide
 Title: Technical Advisor I
 Date: October 20, 2020
 Signature:



Reviewed by: Kelli Gillard, PAg CTAJ
 Title: Manager, Project Monitoring
 Date: October 20, 2020
 Signature:



NIRB File Nos. 03MN107 & 16MN056