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NIRB file # - 16MN056
NRCan # - NT- 086

December 19, 2016

Sophia Granchinho
Manager, Impact Assessment
Nunavut Impact Review Board
PO Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0

Via electronic mail to: info@nirb.ca

**Re: Information Request Submission for the NIRB's Review and NWB Consideration of
AEM's "Whale Tail Pit" Project Proposal**

Dear Ms. Granchinho,

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) is participating in the review of the Whale Tail Pit Project Proposal under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, as a 'responsible minister' and department with jurisdictional responsibility for the project as the department regulates the manufacturing and storage of explosives pursuant to the *Explosives Act*. The department will also contribute its scientific expertise to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) in the following specialist areas: hydrogeology and permafrost, and explosives manufacture and storage during the impact review of the project.

In response to your letter of November 25, 2016, NRCan has reviewed the Whale Tail Pit Environmental Impact Statement submission. NRCan has identified 11 information requests for the NIRB's consideration.

NRCan appreciates this opportunity to comment on the Environmental Impact Statement Submission for the Whale Tail Pit application. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (343) 292-6746 or by email at Rachelle.Besner2@Canada.ca.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by]

Rachelle Besner
Senior Environmental Assessment Advisor
Natural Resources Canada

cc: Rob Johnstone, NRCan (Minerals and Metals Sector)
Tineka Simmons, Northern Projects Management Office