



October 14, 2016

Dave Hohnstein,
Director Technical Services
&
Karen Kharatyan,
A/ Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119 Gjoa Haven, NU. X0B 1J0

**Re: Licence No 2AM MEA1525 – Agnico Eagle Mines Limited: Amendment Application – Whale Tail Pit,
Agnico Eagle's response to NWB letter dated October 3rd, 2016**

Dear Mr. Hohnstein and Mr. Kharatyan,

Agnico Eagle is appreciative for the opportunity to respond to Nunavut Water Board ("NWB") regarding the Whale Tail Pit application. Overall, Agnico Eagle believes the information contained in the July 6th, 2016 submission is complete and contains sufficient information to support the regulatory and licensing process for the Whale Tail Pit Project. At this time, Agnico Eagle does not anticipate providing additional supplemental information and confirms that the July 6th 2016 submission to the NIRB and NWB should be considered complete by NWB for the review of the Whale Tail Pit and Haul Road Project and subsequent Type A water licensing for a "new Type A Water License and also to authorize the consequential amendments to the existing Type A 2AM-MEA1525". However, it is Agnico Eagle's view that to further support the submission, additional information may be provided in the context of responses to specific scoping matters, Information Requests and/or Technical Comments.

As per the Minister's direction and statements made by NWB, Agnico Eagle would also continue to seek full coordination with the NIRB process, including coordinated NIRB-NWB technical review comment periods, technical meetings and if possible, public hearings. This is to ensure a timely assessment in order to ensure the gap between the end of production and mining at the Meadowbank Mine, and commencement of construction at Whale Tail Pit is limited to the extent possible to ensure employment continuity in Nunavut. This will require completion of the NIRB regulatory permitting process by November 2017 and the NWB regulatory process by April 2018, to begin Whale Tail Pit site preparation in January 2018 and dike construction beginning June 2018.

We believe the attached coordinated process map with specific dates is realistic, achievable and will "minimize delays in the review process". Agnico Eagle is open to further discussion on the proposed coordinated process map as needed. Although NWB has stated in their letter, that the process map and timeline will not be available until later November, Agnico Eagle respectfully requests that the timelines and file specifics provided for this coordinated process be included by NIRB and NWB in the Final Scoping as soon as possible. This will ensure unnecessary delays are avoided prior to the start of the review process.



AGNICO EAGLE

Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact the undersigned Jamie Quesnel at Jamie.quesnel@agnicoeagle.com or, Ryan Vanengen at ryan.vanengen@agnicoeagle.com.

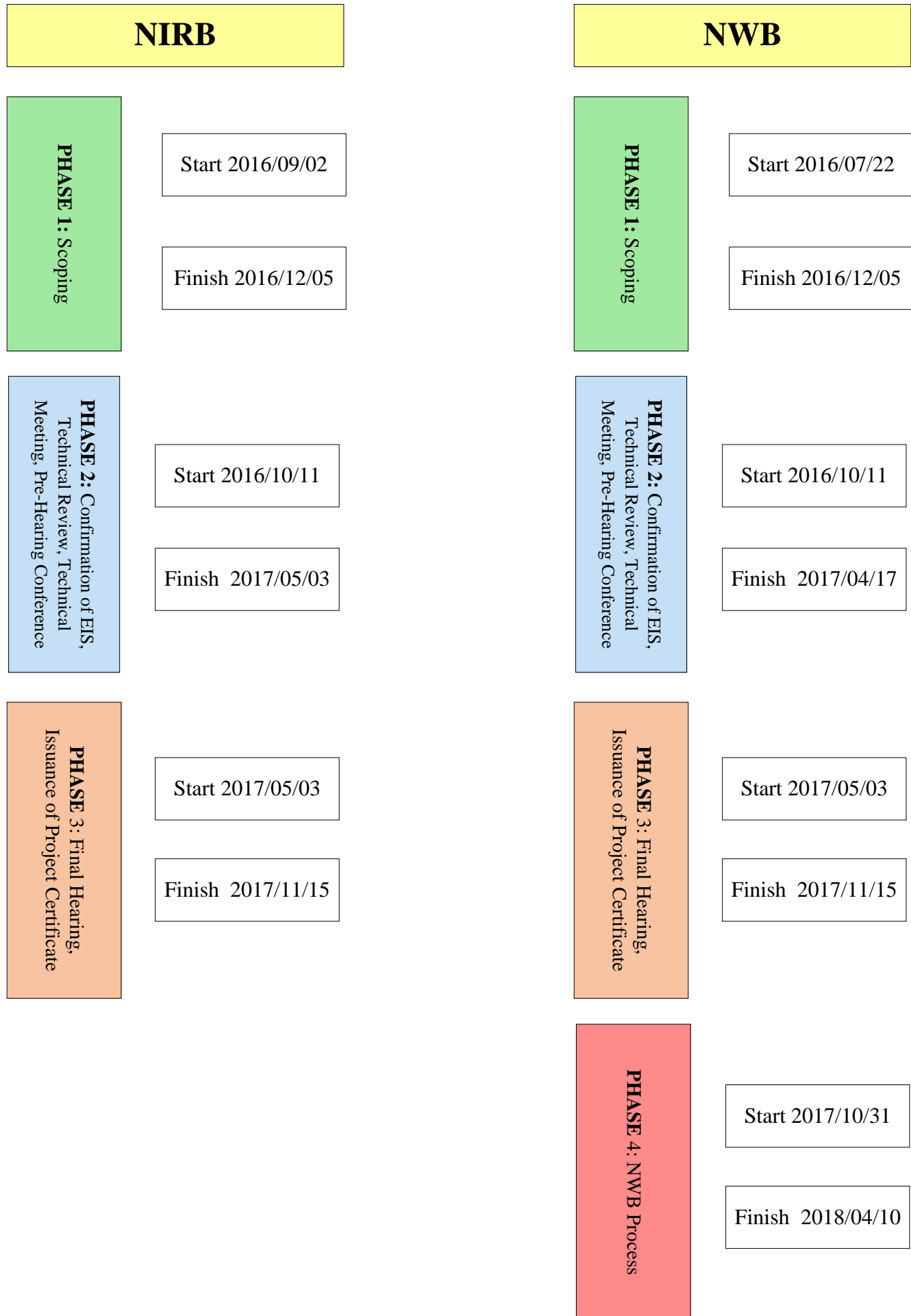
Regards,

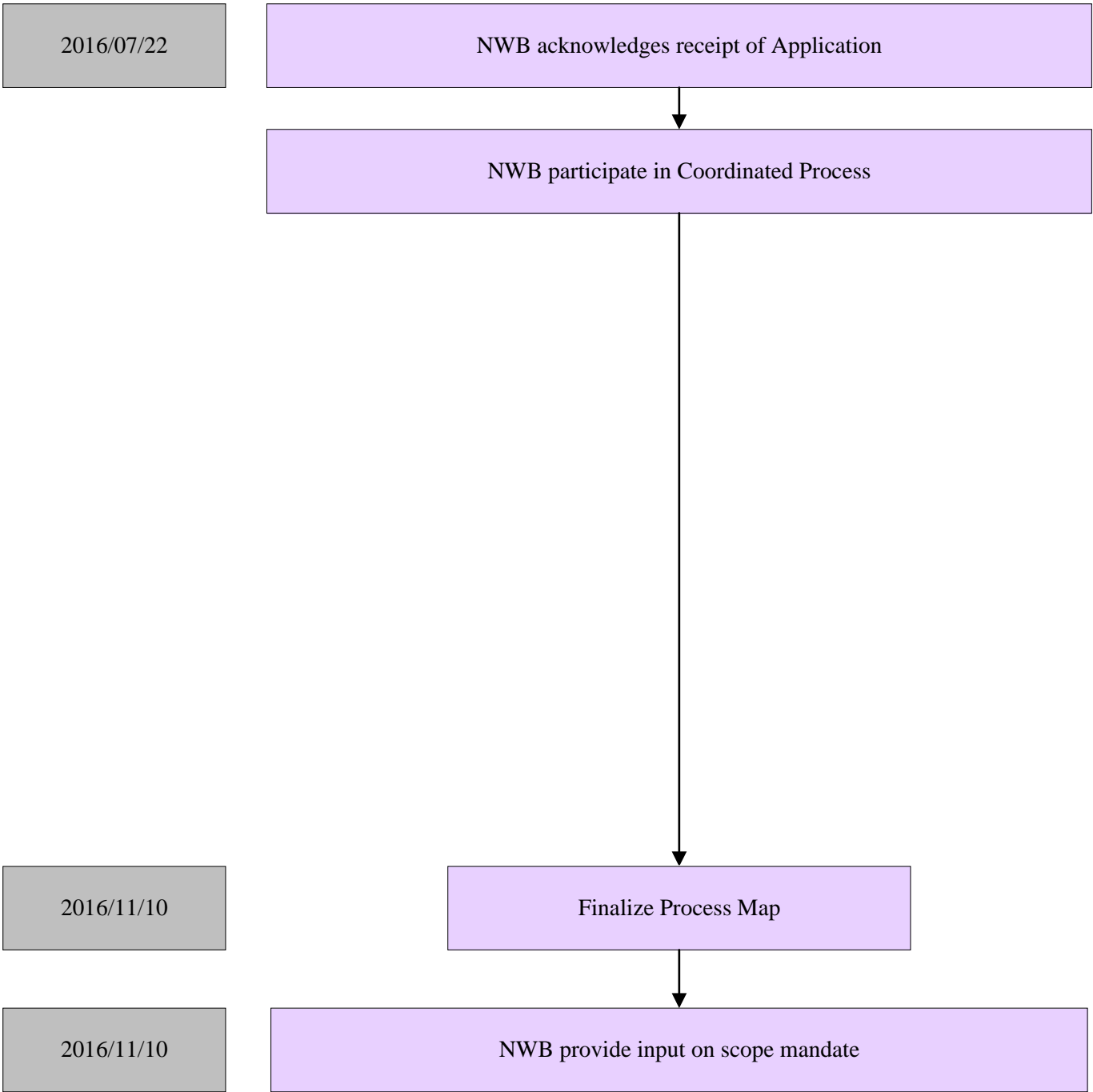
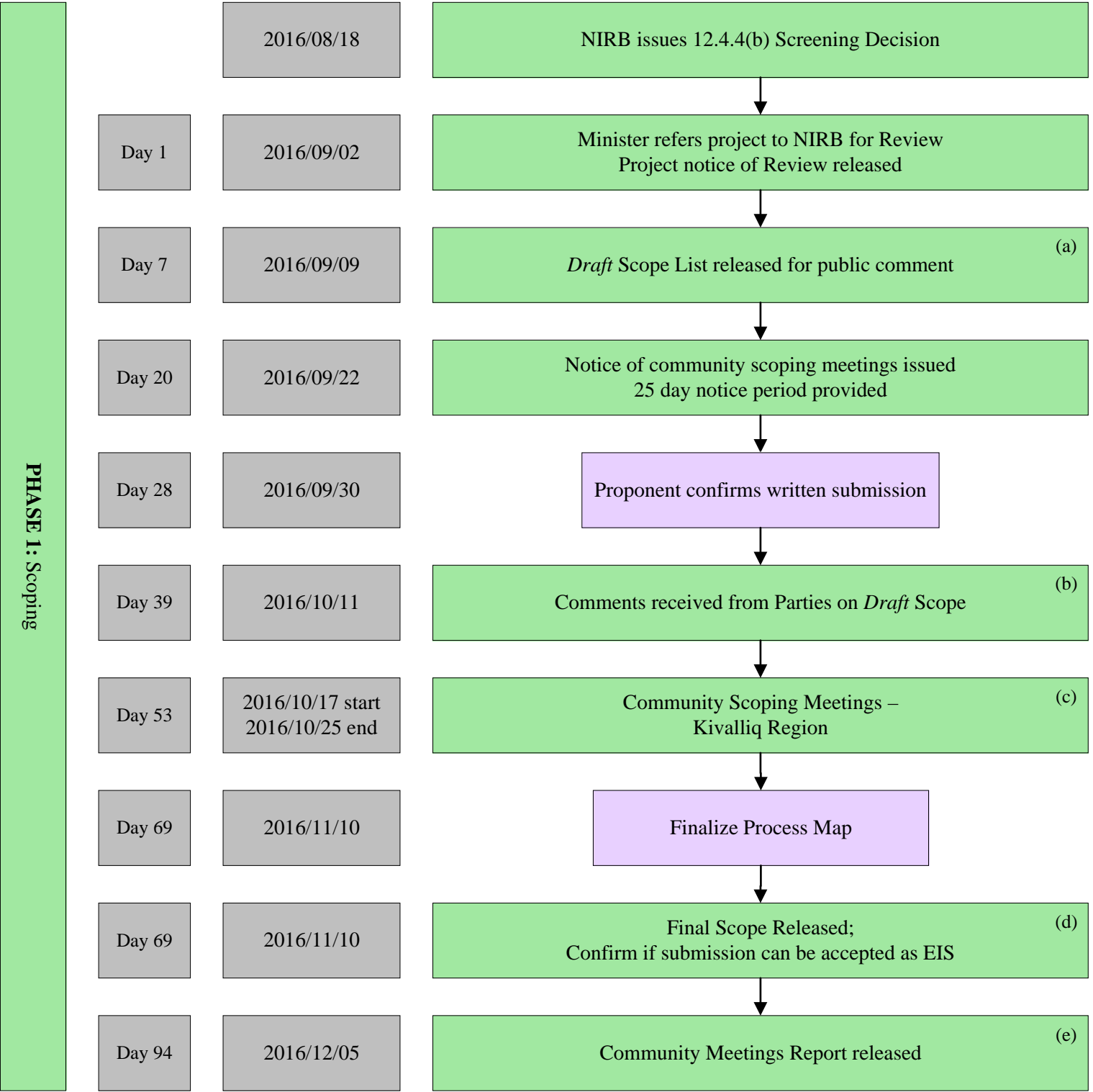
Jamie Quesnel
Jamie.Quesnel@agnicoeagle.com
819.856.8021.
Environmental Superintendent – Nunavut

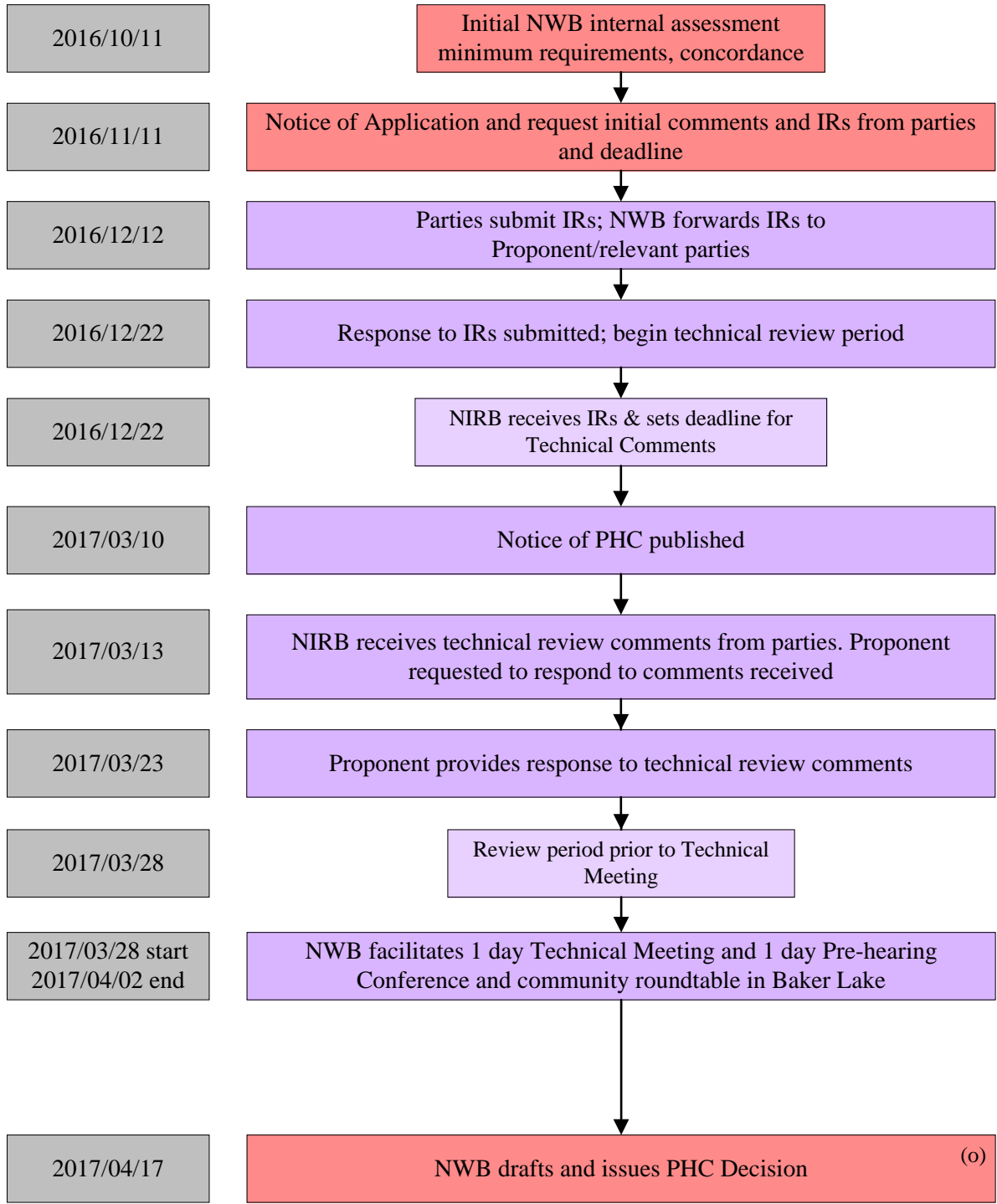
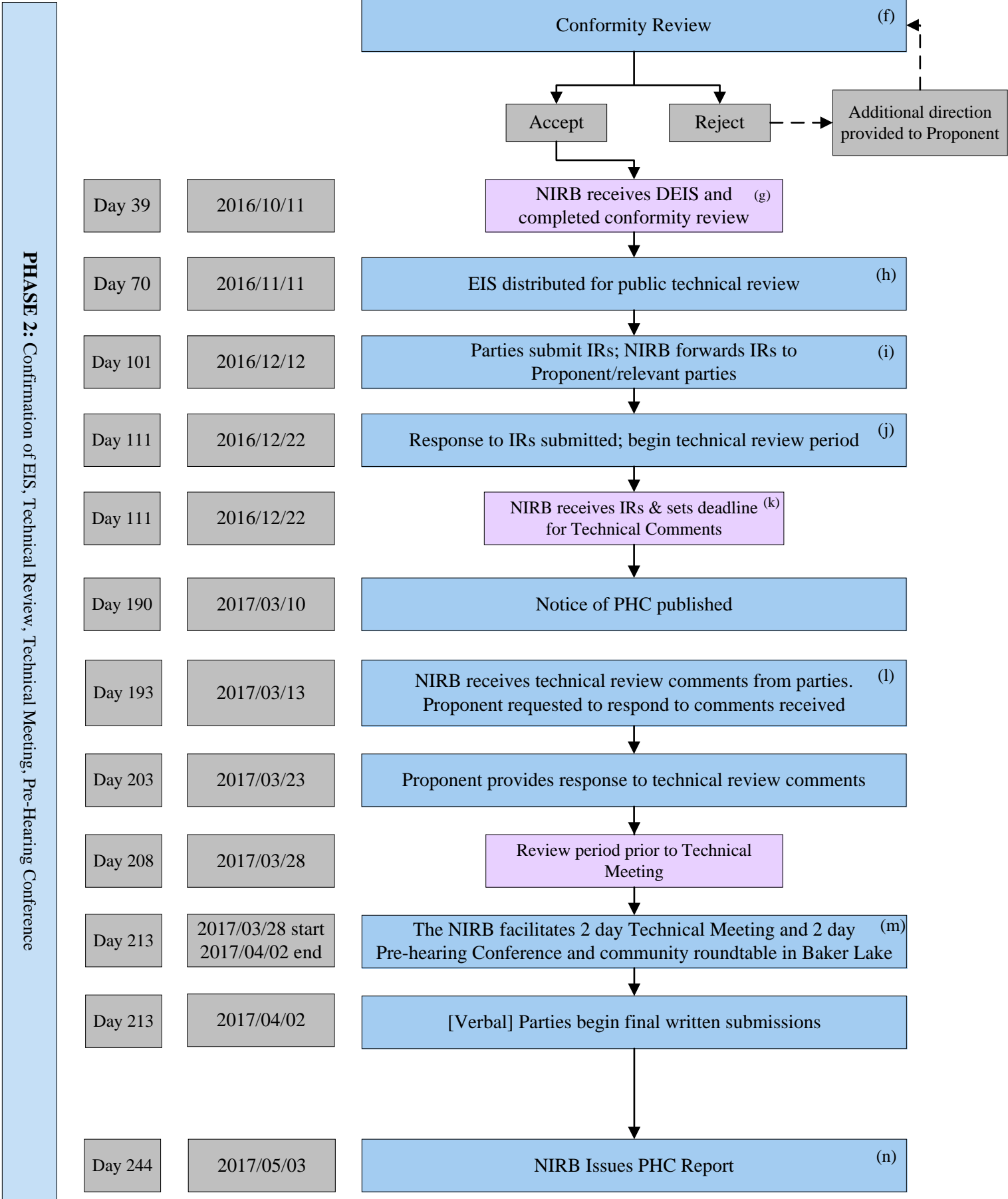
Ryan Vanengen
ryan.vanengen@agnicoeagle.com
819.651.2974
Environment Superintendent,
Permitting and Regulatory Affairs

cc. Stephanie Autut, NWB; Sophia Granchinho, NIRB; Ryan Barry, NIRB; Luis Manzo, KIA; Tineka Simmons, NPMO

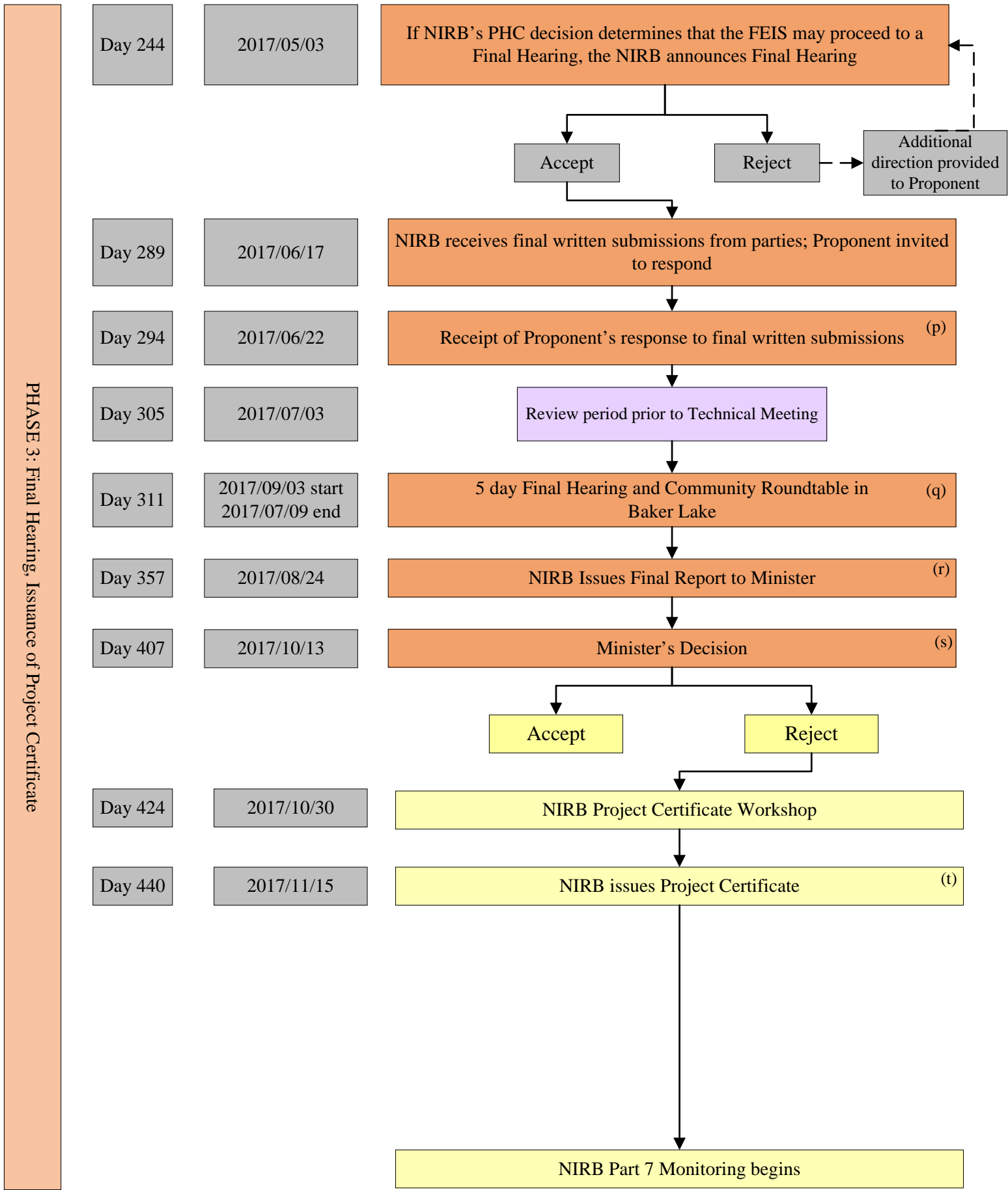
Summary Process Map – Whale Tail Pit Project







Process Map for the NIRB’s Review of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.’s Whale Tail Pit Project Proposal – NIRB File No. 16MN056
September 9, 2016



Process Map for the NWB’s Review of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.’s Whale Tail Pit Project Proposal



Agnico Eagle Notes on Process Map for the NIRB’s Review of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.’s Whale Tail Pit Project Proposal – NIRB File No. 16MN056
September 9, 2016

- (a) Agnico Eagle has submitted a response to NIRBs Draft Scope List and Process Map to reflect the coordinated NIRB and NWB review process. Agnico Eagle is supportive of facilitating a meeting the NIRB and NWB executive and or technical staff to discuss these administrative procedural matters.
- (b) Agnico Eagle proposes a proactive approach and contact with interested parties (i.e. telecommunications, WebEx, in person meetings, workshops, etc.) to answer questions and provide clarification where possible. All communication will be documented and provided to the NIRB and NWB for the public registry.
- (c) Agnico Eagle requests that NIRB provide clarification on how communities of interest for the Kivalliq community scoping sessions were selected. Agnico Eagle is fully prepared to participate as proposed by NIRB however would like to note the communities of interest for the Meadowbank Mine were Baker Lake and Chesterfield Inlet likewise the Meliadine Mine communities of interest were Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet.
- (d) Agnico Eagle confirms that the Type A Water Licence application was filed with the NWB acknowledge and received on July 8, 2016. The Application was prepared taking into account the NWB’s SIG MM3 Guide and a completed concordance assessment was provided (refer to Appendix 2-I of the submission).
- (e) Agnico Eagle supports the release of a Final Scoping Report by NIRB on the date provided in the Process Map and the associated timeline. However, it is unclear why the community meeting report is issued following issuance of a Final Scoping Report being released. It is Agnico Eagle’s understanding that the results of the community meeting report (i.e. results of the community scoping sessions) are a key component of the final scoping report. Agnico Eagles concern is one of accuracy and consistency of information. Agnico Eagle believes the Community Meeting Report should be appended to the Final Scoping Report. In addition, the content and scale of the report should reflect the sessions held and the target audience it represents. The community meeting report should be completed within 16 days.
- (f) Refer to Volume 3 of the submission for further description on Agnico Eagle’s methodology with respect to use of existing project guidelines in development of the environmental assessment. NIRB is not required to issue guidelines (NuPPAA s.101(2)).
- (g) Agnico Eagle assumes the FEIS is accepted by NIRB and the Parties. NWB requirements where met on July 8, 2016. Agnico Eagle believes the concordance review of the Type A Water Licence can occur as proposed by NIRB by November 10, 2016. Concurrent conformity (NIRB) and concordance (NWB) allows for full coordination of subsequent steps for all parties engaged in the process(es).
- (h) If clarification of scope is identified in the Final Scoping Report, Agnico Eagle proposes that they could address clarification from November 10-28, 2016 prior to the final IR submission of the Parties. This allows two weeks for Parties to review the clarification supplemental information and provide IRs, if applicable.
- (i) Request Parties copy Agnico Eagle on comments to NIRB and the NWB to minimize delays. Furthermore, Agnico Eagle proposes a proactive approach and contact with interested parties (i.e., telecommunications, WebEx, in person meetings, workshops, etc.) to answer questions and provide clarification where possible. All communication will be documented and provided to the NIRB and NWB for the public registry.
- (j) Agnico Eagle’s preference would be to provide responses to IRs prior to the Christmas holidays. Agnico Eagle acknowledges that services and interested parties in Nunavut provide reduced work hours and additional time off during this period as such Agnico Eagle has including within the timelines outlined below an additional two week period for the technical review period to cover the Christmas holidays.
- (k) Agnico Eagle would hope that NIRB and NWB would be able to distribute Agnico Eagle’s final responses to IRs prior to the Christmas holiday, to allow Parties that may be working over the holidays with this additional time for Technical Review.
- (l) Agnico Eagle acknowledges the process and timelines would be led by the NIRB.
- (m) Agnico Eagle supports a coordinated technical meeting and PHC. Agnico Eagle believed a minimal review period is needed following the receipt of Agnico Eagles final response prior to a technical meeting taking place. Agnico Eagle proposes a proactive approach and contact with interested parties (i.e. telecommunications, WebEx, in person meetings, workshops, etc.) to answer questions and provide clarification where possible. All communication will be documented and provided to the NIRB and NWB for the public registry. Agnico Eagle suggests a key discussion point at the PHC should include whether the Application(s) support a fully coordinated “joint public hearing” with the NIRB and NWB.
- (n) Agnico Eagle acknowledges that full discussion of hearing timelines will occur at the PHC.
- (o) NIRB timelines allocated 30 days for NIRB to draft and provide the PHC decision. Agnico Eagle has assumed a timeline of 15 days for NWB to prepare their submission to the NIRB PHC report as an Appendix.
- (p) Agnico Eagle applied a 60 day public hearing notice period consistent with NWB legislative requirements.
- (q) Agnico Eagle acknowledges the timelines for Final Hearing as presented falls between Canada Day and Nunavut Day.
- (r) NuPPAA legislated timeline 45 days s. 104
- (s) Agnico Eagle proposed 50 days consistent with the Process Map provided by NIRB on September 9, 2016.
- (t) NuPPAA legislated timeline 45 days s. 111
- (u) Holding a NWB supplemental Technical Meeting/PHC (if needed) immediately following the NIRB Project Certificate workshop provides opportunity to coordinate effectively and minimize need for second in person meeting of interested parties consistent with the intent of a coordinated process. Following the NIRB hearing while awaiting decision of NIRB and subsequent decision of the Minister Agnico Eagle will once again be proactive in meeting with interested parties to provide clarification on IR’s or TC deferred to the water licencing phase. All clarification provided will be documented and provided to the NWB for the public record.
- (v) NWNSRTA Public Hearing Notice requirement respected.