

Agnico Eagle Mines' "Whale Tail Pit" project

Government of Nunavut: Technical review

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Technical meeting April 28-29, 2017 Baker Lake, NU Δċºdº\b</br>
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Basis for review

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- The Government of Nunavut is a dynamic organization with many different interests in resource development
- To conduct our reviews we must balance our priorities with the biophysical, socio-economic, and cultural environments
- To do this we rely on our mandates, policies, legislation, and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit





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The Government of Nunavut's mandate is focused on four priorities; the two most relevant to this context include:

- Economic growth through responsible development across all sectors;
- Good governance through wise use of our resources.





Our policies

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Many of our policies are derived from these strategic documents:

- Parnautiit Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy
- Ingirrasiliqta Transportation
 Strategy
- Tunngasaiji Tourism Strategy



<⁹□▷∩^c Parnautit

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Under *Parnautit*, the GN's mineral exploration and mining strategy, the goal is:

- "To create the conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut."
- "At all times we must recognize the importance of protecting our environment and ensuring that the environmental effects of mining are always minimized and that the industry earns respect and acknowledgement as being a guardian of a clean and healthy environment."



LCしらdへから Our legislation

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Relevant legislation and regulations include, but are not limited to:

- Wildlife Act
- Environmental Protection Act
- Public Health Act
- Scientists Act
- Official Languages Act
- Nunavut Archaeological and Palaeontological Sites Regulations







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The review process must rely on and reflect Inuit traditional knowledge:

- Pijitsirniq: serving and providing for family and/or community.
- Qanuqtuurniq: being innovative and resourceful.
- Avatittinnik Kamatsiarniq: respect and care for the land, animals, and the environment.
- Aajiiqatigiinniq: decision making through discussion and consensus.



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- Overview of technical comments
- Resolved and outstanding issues



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The Socio-Economic Assessment Committee has a focus on the potential social, economic, and cultural effects and benefits of major development projects.

Socio-Economic Assessment Committee (SEAC) is led by the Department of Economic Development & Transportation.

Contributing members:

- Department of Economic Development and Transportation (lead)
- Department of Culture and Heritage
- Department of Family Services
- Department of Finance
- Department of Health
- Nunavut Housing Corporation



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Haul road safety and management (GN-01)

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- The proponent extend its obligations under Meadowbank project certificate condition #32 (amended) to the operation of the Whale Tail Haul Road (GN-01)
 - Posting signs to warn of unauthorized use, advertise the private nature of the road, and track and report unauthorized use of the road



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Access to traditional land use areas (GN-02)



The GN recommends:

The proponent consider potential responses if land users are found to use the haul road to access traditional areas in the project area



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The GN recommends:

 The proponent commit to continuing existing monitoring initiatives, including participation in the Kivalliq Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (Kiv-SEMC) meetings, and expanding the scope of the Meadowbank Socio-Economic Monitoring Program (SEMP) to include activities at the Whale Tail site



Fiscal impacts to government (GN-04)

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The GN requested further information regarding:

- Project-driven revenue to the GN separate from revenues to the Kivalliq Inuit Association and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
- Fuel tax and payroll tax forecasts, separate from taxes paid to the federal government



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- The proponent continue to explore opportunities for the promotion of skills, training, and career advancement for Inuit employees (GN-19)
- The proponent provide a detailed staff schedule to the Department of Family Services six months in advance of mine cycle phase changes (GN-20)



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- Screening for sexually transmitted infections be readily available at the project site
- The proponent commit to working with the GN to improve the integration of sexual health education into employee orientation programming, the Work Readiness Program, and/or the Making It Work program



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Community health centres (GN-22)

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The GN recommends:

 The proponent broaden its interpretation of project impacts to community health centres to recognize the indirect burden that projects may have on limited community health care resources



Staff turnover (GN-23)



The GN recommends:

 The proponent measure and track the potential relationship between overcrowding in an employee's community home and employee absence from work



్రీంద్రం Migration (GN-24)

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The GN recommends:

 The proponent develop a mitigation strategy to address the impacts of documented inmigration to Baker Lake as a result of the existing Meadowbank project and development of the Whale Tail site



Environmental and Human Health Assessment Committee (EHHAC)

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The EHHAC focuses on the potential biophysical and human health impacts of major development projects

Environmental and Human Health Assessment Committee (EHHAC), led by Department of Environment

The EHHAC presently includes the following departments, divisions, and agencies:

- Department of Environment –Environmental Protection (lead)
- Department of Environment Wildlife Management
- Department of Environment Parks and Special Places
- Department of Environment Fisheries and Sealing
- Department of Health
- Nunavut Research Institute



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- The Environmental Impact
 Statement be revised to
 incorporate additional analyses of
 caribou movements.
- The Project's Terrestrial Ecosystem Monitoring Plan be revised to address caribou related concerns outlined in GN-06, GN-07, and GN-08.





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- The Proponent conduct additional assessments (GN-IR-29) to estimate the proportion of caribou that will be the subject to differing levels of caribou protection outlined in the Terrestrial Ecosystem Monitoring Plan
 - Group size thresholds should be revised.



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- The Proponent provide the information requested in GN-IR-31
- The Proponent conduct additional assessments (GN-IR-31) to estimate the likelihood that a caribou approaching the Project will be detected at each of the adaptive management distance thresholds.
 - The methods, frequency, and duration of caribou monitoring should be revised to ensure that the probability of detection is sufficient.



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- The caribou management measures presented in the TEMP be revised to address its outstanding concerns, including:
 - Distance threshold triggers should be increased, and group-size thresholds should be reassessed.
 - Mitigation measures to reduce sensory disturbances should range from localized adjustments in activities up to possible site-wide shutdowns for certain activities
 - Discretionary management measures should be reduced
 - Adaptive management decision trees should be developed



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- The TEMP should be revised to include a range of adaptive management provisions (up to stoppage of aircraft operations), based on species, group size, proximity to the Project and season
- Criteria governing use the of deterrents to move animals away from the Project's airstrips and helipads are required



⁵b⁵b∩ん⁵b⁵C⁵σ⁵b ⊲¹L bL√Δ⁵blasting and wildlife (GN-10)

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- The TEMP should be revised to include mitigation and adaptive management measures for minimizing effects of blasting on caribou and other wildlife (see also GN-08).
- A minimum no blasting buffer of 5km is recommended. This should be increase to more than 5km during sensitive caribou periods (calving and post-calving, high interaction periods).



ΔンΔンΦ°C Problem carnivores (GN-11)

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- TEMP should be revised to include measures such as:
 - Temporary area-closures
 - No-blasting buffers
 - A zone-based approach (ex. bear response plans for the Doris North Project).
 - Criteria for use of deterrents





⊳ੈ∟≺⁵ਰਾ Wildlife harvesting (GN-12)

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- The significance of harvesting effect should be classified as "unknown".
- EIS should include analysis of the effectiveness of ANWAR noshooting zone and road access restrictions
- EIS should include methods for implementing the no-shooting zone and control public access along the Whale Tail haul road
- EIS should include methods by which public use of the haul road will be monitored and reported
- The TEMP should be revised to include a design for a harvest study



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 The GN recommends:

 Information gaps in the EIS must be addressed in order to determine the project's potential impacts to caribou movements





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 The TEMP should be revised to include specific adaptive management measures to minimize sensory disturbance of muskox (accounting for groups-size and distance thresholds, seasonal variations, etc.) (GN-07).



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The GN recommends:

 The EIS should be revised to address information gaps relating to the haul road design





Scope of assessment and size of wildlife study areas (GN-16)

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- Expand the terrestrial wildlife effects study areas (Local Study Area and Regional Study Area) to include the existing Meadowbank Mine and All Weather Access Road.
- Revise the assessment for sensory disturbance of caribou to reflect uncertainty about the size of the Project's potential ZOI. Different ZOI should be used to recalculate disturbance metrics
- A range of ZOIs should be applied to cumulative effects assessments for caribou



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Sensory disturbance to caribou, indirect habitat loss, and cumulative effects (GN-17)

The GN recommends:

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• The EIS should be revised to include additional or recalculated metrics of disturbance (habitat loss as a proportion of the seasonal ranges; proportion of each herd exposed to potential disturbance; and the duration of exposure)





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The GN recommends:

 Continuation of Hunter Harvest Study program; monitoring changes in caribou availability.

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Conclusions

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- The Government of Nunavut has presented a number of comments and recommendations that we believe are reflective of the needs and values of Nunavummiut.
- We believe that through collaborative and comprehensive mitigation and monitoring plans, the potential impacts associated with this project can be effectively managed



Conclusions

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As part of our continued effort to encourage and support economic development initiatives, the Government of Nunavut must ensure this is done responsibly and using a balanced approach

The Government of Nunavut also strongly believes in the principles of *Inuit*Qaujimajatuqangit and encourages the continued use of Inuit Societal Values through all stages of development





ናdኑ[©]ሲቮ^b Thank you Matna

For further questions, comments, or information please contact:

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