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## 2AM-WTP1826 Agnico Eagle Water Management Strategy update

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Hi Karén,

As per discussion held between Agnico Eagle Mines and NWB on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Agnico is submitting the information below as an update to the Whale Tail Project Water Management Strategy. The information describes the proposed strategy for the management of non-contact water from Whale Tail South Basin, Whale Tail Dike Seepage and AP-5 Stormwater Management Pond.

### 1. Whale Tail South discharge to Mammoth Lake

- Agnico would like to pump water from Whale Tail South Basin (WTS) to Mammoth Lake. Only one pumping station will be needed in WTS. Discharge will be via a diffuser to avoid erosion into Mammoth Lake
- This pumping activity will be to lower and then maintain water level in WTS in order to allow for the construction of the Whale Tail South Channel (SWTC) this fall and preserve dike integrity. SWTC is currently under NWB approval via a 60 days' notice Design Report and is not currently constructed
- The objective of this request is to temporarily substitute passive flow via the SWTC with a pumping alternative that would comply with the original intent of the approved water balance and Water License 2AM-WTP1826 (same origin and destination of water)
- Discharge is a transfer of non-contact water between the two lakes and will be a temporary measure during the construction phase of Whale Tail.
- On a long term perspective, this pumping activity will be included in the Water License Type A amendment to give flexibility and add robustness to our water management strategy in the event that operational challenges arises with the operation of SWTC.
- Water quality monitoring will follow the Water License 2AM-WTP1826 Part F Item 6 and Schedule I Table 1 - Group 3, same as the one required for water flowing through the Whale Tail South Channel.
- Agnico is of the opinion that the proposed changes along with the proposed monitoring remain within the current scope of the approved Water License 2AM-WTP1826 and as such will update the Whale Tail Water Management Plan to reflect this new activity.

### 2. Whale Tail Dike Seepage discharge to Whale Tail South Basin

- Agnico would like to intercept non-contact water seeping from Whale Tail Dike (WTD) before reaching Whale Tail North Basin and then discharge this non-contact water to Whale Tail South Basin. This will be done in order to improve the dewatering of Whale Tail North that is currently processed via the WTP, if needed, and then discharged to Mammoth Lake.
- As dewatering of the Whale Tail North Basin is not completed and Whale Tail Dike construction activity are still ongoing, Agnico will manage water from WTD seepage as part of the dewatering of the Whale Tail North Basin
- Water will be monitored for Water License 2AM-WTP1826 Part D Item 7.

- Water will be discharge without treatment if it meets TSS water quality limit. If needed, water will be treated via the Water Treatment Plan and then discharge back to Whale Tail South.
- Discharge will be via a diffuser located in WTS.
- Agnico is of the opinion that the proposed changes to the location of intake for interception of non-contact seepage from WTD and pump is to WTS remain within the scope of the approved Water License 2AM-WTP1826 and as such will update the Whale Tail Water Management Plan to reflect this activity.

### 3. AP5 discharge to tundra

- Currently only non-contact water from Whale Tail North and North-East Pond are transferred to AP5.
- Discharge from AP5 to tundra approved by the Water License 2BB-MEA1828.
- Notification will be sent to CIRNAC Inspector to update the volume increase of water estimated presented in the original 10 days notice.
- This extension of the discharge is to manage the rain events that were received in the months at Whale Tail and in part due to the fact that NE Pond is not naturally flowing towards Nemo Lake as per the initial design until recent changes to pumping strategy.

Agnico Eagle looks forward to confirmation of these proposed strategy for water management at the Whale Tail site.

Best Regards,



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