

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

Marie-Pier Marcil <marie-pier.marcil@agnicoeagle.com>
Tue, Sep 10, 2019 at 2:19 PM To: "karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca" <karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca>, licensing licensing@nwb-oen.ca>
Co: Nancy Duquet Harvey <nancy.harvey@agnicoeagle.com>, Robin Allard <robin.allard@agnicoeagle.com>, Michel Groleau <michel.groleau@agnicoeagle.com>, Jamie Quesnel <jamie.quesnel@agnicoeagle.com>

Hi Karén,

Please find below our responses to your recommendations.

- Future update to Water Management Plan shall include all contingency scenarios for managing excessive non-contact water, including the current options;

Agnico will ensure NWB recommendations are included in future updates of the Water Management Plan

- Future update to Water Balance should take into account very high precipitation amount/events that occurred lately;

Agnico will ensure NWB recommendations are included in future updates of the Water Balance Plan

- The NWB notes that WL 2BB-MEA1828 has discharge criteria for effluent to be discharged from A-P5 pond. Although Agnico Eagle states that only non-contact water from Whale Tail North and North-East Pond are currently transferred to A-P5, this pond was designed to collect contact water under WL 2BB-MEA1828, and very likely contact water was previously collected within this pond. Although discharge from A-P5 to tundra is approved under WL 2BB-MEA1828, the licence term D14 for effluent quality limits will be applicable before discharging into tundra. Please note that mixing of non contact water with contact water is not generally recommended water management practice. Also, as the pond is proposed to be used under mine's Type "A" WL the NWB expects that operation of this pond should be included within the scope of Type "A" WL, if not proposed already by the amendment application.

Agnico acknowledges NWB comments regarding the management of contact and non-contact water and will be integrated in our best practices for water management.

Agnico is currently following Water License 2BB-MEA1828 under Part D Item 14 and results will be provided in the 2019 Annual Report

The management of water in the AP-5 containment is included in the Water License Type A amendment application

- Agnico Eagle Water Management Plan states that: Water from the seepage collection systems of the dikes is to flow naturally to the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond or to the Open-Pit and the Collection Ponds and be pumped to the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond. The quantity of seepage through the dikes will be estimated on further advanced engineering phases. Seepage rates, volumes and the condition of the seepage water (i.e. turbidity, temperature, etc.)

will be monitored as per Part I, conditions 15 and 16 of the Water License 2AMWTP1826, and incorporated in the Water Balance.

Water quality of the seepage and runoff collected in the sumps and ditches at the toe of the dikes is to be monitored during operations according to the Water License 2AM-WTP1826 requirements. Weekly inspections will be performed as an indicator of dike performance to note whether seepage water is clear, cloudy or if fine material is present.

Therefore in accordance with the current Water Management Plan at Operations phase once the Attenuation Pond is operational seepage from dike shall be collected in the Attenuation Pond.

Agnico acknowledges NWB comments regarding the current Water Management Plan. Please note that although the Plan states that water from WTD seepage will naturally flow to Attenuation Pond, Agnico is currently revising its water management strategy including Whale Tail Dike Seepage Management. Changes, if any, will be reflected in the updated Water Management Plan.

We will ensure that NWB recommendations are followed for these proposed activities.

Best Regards,



Marie-Pier Marcil | Senior Compliance Technician marie-pier.marcil@agnicoeagle.com | Direct 819.759.3555 x4105836| Agnico Eagle Mines Limited - Meadowbank Division, Suite 540 - Baker Lake, Nunavut, Canada X0C 0A0 agnicoeagle.com

From: Karén Kharatyan < karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca>

**Sent:** 10 septembre 2019 09:23

To: Marie-Pier Marcil <marie-pier.marcil@agnicoeagle.com>; Assol Kubeisinova <assol.kubeisinova@nwb-

oen.ca>

Cc: licensing licensing@nwb-oen.ca>; Nancy Duquet Harvey <nancy.harvey@agnicoeagle.com>; Robin Allard <robin.allard@agnicoeagle.com>; Jamie Quesnel <jamie.quesnel@agnicoeagle.com>; Michel Groleau <michel.groleau@agnicoeagle.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: 2AM-WTP1826 Agnico Eagle Water Management Strategy update

CAUTION: EXTERNAL

Hello Marie-Pier,

Thank you for updating the NWB with this information. While these measures seem reasonable for managing excessive non-contact water due to high precipitations and preserving dike integrity on site, the NWB has a number of recommendations to follow during the proposed activities. Some of these recommendations may already be included within the current amendment application's updated documents, or if not still included, the future updates to respective management plans should incorporate these, taking into account site's water management lessons learned to date:

- Future update to Water Management Plan shall include all contingency scenarios for managing excessive non-contact water, including the current options;

Agnico will ensure NWB recommendations are included in future updates of the Water Management Plan

- Future update to Water Balance should take into account very high precipitation amount/events that occurred lately;

Agnico will ensure NWB recommendations are included in future updates of the Water Balance Plan

- The NWB notes that WL 2BB-MEA1828 has discharge criteria for effluent to be discharged from A-P5 pond. Although Agnico Eagle states that *only non-contact water from Whale Tail North and North-East Pond are currently transferred to A-P5*, this pond was designed to collect contact water under WL 2BB-MEA1828, and very likely contact water was previously collected within this pond. Although discharge from A-P5 to tundra is approved under WL 2BB-MEA1828, the licence term D14 for effluent quality limits will be applicable before discharging into tundra. Please note that mixing of non contact water with contact water is not generally recommended water management practice. Also, as the pond is proposed to be used under mine's Type "A" WL the NWB expects that operation of this pond should be included within the scope of Type "A" WL, if not proposed already by the amendment application.

Agnico acknowledges NWB comments regarding the management of contact and non-contact water and will be integrated in our best practices for water management.

Agnico is currently following Water License 2BB-MEA1828 under Part D Item 14 and results will be provided in the 2019 Annual Report

The management of water in the AP-5 containment is included in the Water License Type A amendment application

- Agnico Eagle Water Management Plan states that: Water from the seepage collection systems of the dikes is to flow naturally to the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond or to the Open-Pit and the Collection Ponds and be pumped to the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond. The quantity of seepage through the dikes will be estimated on further advanced engineering phases. Seepage rates, volumes and the condition of the seepage water (i.e. turbidity, temperature, etc.) will be monitored as per Part I, conditions 15 and 16 of the Water License 2AMWTP1826, and incorporated in the Water Balance.

Water quality of the seepage and runoff collected in the sumps and ditches at the toe of the dikes is to be monitored during operations according to the Water License 2AM-WTP1826 requirements. Weekly inspections will be performed as an indicator of dike performance to note whether seepage water is clear, cloudy or if fine material is present.

Therefore in accordance with the current Water Management Plan at Operations phase once the Attenuation Pond is operational seepage from dike shall be collected in the Attenuation Pond.

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## Regards,



## Karén Kharatyan, Ph. D- bへ bSハケ bSハケ Director Technical Services - Director des services technique パラピーハ ムスタース・プロール・ Hivaliati Princenaetulionienst

NUNAVUT WATER BOARD - OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT DOS ALCON BOLANG NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI

P.O. Box 119 C.P. 119

Gjoa Haver, NU X0B 130 Gjoa Haver, NU X0B 130

Tel / Téléphone / /<>
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