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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

**File: 2AM-MEA1530/B13
2AM-WTP1830/B13**

March 29, 2022

Jamie Quesnel
Director, Permitting and Regulatory Affairs
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Toronto, ON M5C 2Y7

Alexandre Lavallee
Environment & Critical Infrastructures
Superintendent
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
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Baker Lake, NU X0C 0A0

E-mail: Jamie.Quesnel@agnicoeagle.com

Email: alexandre.lavallee@agnicoeagle.com

RE: Licence No: 2AM-WTP1830 Type “A”; Whale Tail Pit Project, Meadowbank Mine Project, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited; Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program (CREMP) 2021 Plan Update

Dear Jamie Quesnel and Alexandre Lavallee:

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) received from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) on December 23, 2021 the *Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program (CREMP) 2021 Plan Update* dated December 22, 2021 (CREMP) as the requirement of Part B, Item 13 of Water Licence No: 2AM-MEA1530 (Meadowbank Licence) and Part B, Item 13 of Water Licence No: 2AM-WTP1830 (Whale Tail Licence).

On December 23, 2021, the NWB distributed the CREMP for public review with the deadline for comments set for January 31, 2022. On January 25, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA) requested an extension of the deadline to February 21, 2022. On January 25 and 31, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KivIA), respectively, stated they had no comments. On February 14, 2022, CIRNA provided the following feedback:

- Winter sampling is recommended to be continued at Third Portage Lake North Basin, East Basin, and Wally Lake for the duration of the mine operations and
- Recommending for “benthic invertebrates monitoring frequency for all sampling stations at Meadowbank (i.e. SP, TPE, TPN and WAL) [to] be uniformly performed annually as long as mining activities continue”.

The NWB requested that Agnico Eagle respond to the comments on or before March 1, 2022. An extension request to March 11, 2022 was received from the Licensee, which the Board satisfied.

On March 22, 2022, having reviewed the Licensee's response, CIRNA provided its feedback reiterating its recommendations.

Copies of all documents received in support of the Request can be accessed through the NWB's Public Registry and FTP site using the following link:

<ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-WTP1830%20Agnico/3%20TECH/B%20GENERAL/B13>

<ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MEA1530%20Agnico/3%20TECH/B%20GENERAL/13%20PLANS>

NWB's Review

The NWB, having fully reviewed the Licensee's *Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program (CREMP) 2021 Plan Update* dated December 22, 2021 in the context of interveners' comments and recommendations, potential impact of the proposed activities on the freshwater environment, and consistency of the proposed activity in relation to the scope of the Licence, as well as the clarification provided by the Licensee, recommends that Agnico Eagle revise the CREMP in consideration of CIRNA's comments that seem reasonable to the Board. The Board encourages the Licensee to work directly with the Intervener to address its concerns.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the undersigned by email to assol.kubeisinova@nwb-oen.ca or by phone at (867) 360-6338.

Sincerely,

Assol Kubeisinova
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Water Board

Cc: Distribution List – Meadowbank