



NWB Tools

Richard Dwyer <richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca>

(CREMP) 2021 Plan Update for water licences 2AM-MEA1530 and 2AM-WTP1830

Onita, John <john.onita@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca>

Fri, Jun 17, 2022 at 6:31 AM

To: Richard Dwyer <richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca>, "Keim, Andrew (AADNC/AANDC)" <andrew.keim@canada.ca>, "Keim, Andrew" <andrew.keim@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca>, "Dewar, Spencer" <Spencer.dewar@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca>, "Bermann, Marcus" <marcus.bermann@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca>

Cc: Assol Kubeisinova <assol.kubeisinova@nwb-oen.ca>, Licensing Department <licensing@nwb-oen.ca>

Dear Richard,

CIRNAC would like to draw your attention to a contradictory statement that AEM have included in the Revisions to the CREMP 2022 Plan Update:

- a. CIRNAC confirms that AEM **correctly** stated CIRNAC's recommendations to the NWB on the 2022 CREMP Plan Update, in its cover email to the NWB. Please see email copy further below.
- b. In Section 1 of the updated CREMP Plan, AEM **misrepresented** CIRNAC's recommendations. Please see below the highlighted section adapted from Section 1 of the Updated CREMP Plan that was provided by AEM.

CIRNAC did not put forward any recommendations on Baker Lake. However, for clarification, CIRNAC recommends that benthic invertebrate monitoring be conducted annually in all applicable sampling stations under Water Licences 2AM-MEA1530 and 2AM-WTP1830 to show consistency in data collection.

CIRNAC stands by its initial recommendations to the NWB that AEM:

1. Continue winter water sampling at Third Portage Lake North Basin (TPN) and East Basin (TPE) and Wally Lake (WAL)
2. Continue benthic invertebrates monitoring annually for sampling stations at Meadowbank site, i.e. Second Portage, TPE, TPN and WAL

Thanks,

John

Revisions in the CREMP: 2022 Plan Update:

This update to the CREMP Plan was undertaken, in part, to amalgamate the CREMP Plans for Meadowbank and Baker Lake study areas (Azimuth, 2015) and the Whale Tail Pit study area (Azimuth, 2018) into one document. Other minor updates to the project description and study areas were completed to reflect the current state of development at Meadowbank, Whale Tail, and Baker Lake.

Significant changes to the CREMP Plan require approval from the NWB as stipulated in Part B section 13 of the most recent amended Type A Water Licence (2AM-MEA1530 and 2AM-WTP1830). The only notable change to the study design in the CREMP: 2022 Plan Update is benthic invertebrate community monitoring at Baker Lake will be conducted every 3 years instead of annually. This modification to the CREMP is supported by 13 consecutive years of data that show barge-related activities are not impacting water quality, sediment quality, or the health of the phytoplankton and benthic invertebrate communities in Baker Lake. The proposed change was reviewed by Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KivlA), and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). None of the agencies expressed concerns with moving to a 3-year cycle for monitoring the benthic invertebrate community.

The next benthic invertebrate sampling program at Baker Lake will occur in 2023 coinciding with the 3-year sediment coring program. Water chemistry and phytoplankton community sampling will be conducted annually in July, August, and September as per the existing monitoring strategy. Benthic invertebrate sampling may be conducted as a targeted study in "off-years" in response to changes in water quality or if effects to phytoplankton are detected.

May 30th, 2022

Richard Dwyer

Manager of Licensing

Nunavut Water Board

Re: 2AM-MEA1530/2AM-WTP1830 Meadowbank Complex Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program (CREMP) Plan Update April 2022

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited - Meadowbank Complex taken into consideration the comments provided by the Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada in the letter '*Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's (CIRNAC) Reply to Agnico Eagle Mines' (AEM's) Response on Meadowbank and Whale Tail Projects Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program (CREMP) 2021 Plan Update for water licences 2AM-MEA1530 and 2AM-WTP1830*' dated March 22nd, 2022 and is resubmitting to the Nunavut Water Board the Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program (CREMP) Plan (April 2022) for approval under Type A Water Licence 2AM-MEA1530 and 2AM-WTP1830.

As per CIRNAC's recommendation, the CREMP April 2022 version has been updated to reflect the below monitoring:

- continue winter water sampling at Third Portage Lake North Basin (TPN) and East Basin (TPE) and Wally Lake (WAL)
- continue benthic invertebrates monitoring annually for sampling stations at Meadowbank site, i.e. Second Portage, TPE, TPN and WAL

- all other changes proposed in the December 2021 version remain the same.

Section 1 of the updated CREMP Plan provide an overview of the changes and Section 2.3.4 presented more in detail the proposed changes to the sampling strategy to be implemented.

Should you have any questions about the proposed changes to the CREMP Plan April 2022 Version, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Complex

Alexandre Lavallee

Environment and Critical Infrastructures Superintendent

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited, Meadowbank Complex

From: Richard Dwyer <richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca>

Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 4:29 PM

To: Onita, John <john.onita@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca>; Keim, Andrew (AADNC/AANDC) <andrew.keim@canada.ca>

Cc: Assol Kubeisinova <assol.kubeisinova@nwb-oen.ca>

Subject: (CREMP) 2021 Plan Update for water licences 2AM-MEA1530 and 2AM-WTP1830

Good afternoon,

The Nunavut Water Board requests confirmation by June 20, 2022 whether or not the AEM response addresses CIRNA comments.

Regards,

Richard

[Redacted Signature]