

## **Appendix 15**

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### **Meadowbank and Whale Tail IRB Report No 33**

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January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Mr. Eric Steinmetzer  
General Manager  
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Dear Mr. Steinmetzer,

Report No 33  
Meadowbank Independent Review Board (MBK IRB)  
Site visit August 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 and Montréal meeting November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

A site visit was made by the MBK IRB (the Board) from August 18<sup>th</sup> to August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025. Subsequently, meetings were held in Montréal on November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, with the AEM Meadowbank team during which additional presentations were made and discussions held on a variety of subjects related to the operations and performance of the water management and tailings management facilities, including future planning.

The Board comprises three members, Kevin Hawton, Ron Nicholson and Anthony Rattue on what is now identified as the Meadowbank Independent Review Board or MBK IRB. All three members participated in the site visit, the on-site meetings and the Montréal discussions.

The objective of completing a site visit and receiving some background data pertaining to Meadowbank and Amaruq sites as an introduction to the more in-depth discussions held in Montréal was achieved. The limited material presented and discussed in August covered current operations, activities performed in response to previous Board recommendations, and critical infrastructure performance up to mid-2025 to provide context for the site visit. The Board was also present for a site visit made by representatives of CIRNAC and KIA related to closure planning and design. On-ground visits were made at several locations at the Meadowbank and Amaruq sites.

The November meetings provided a more in-depth summary of the status and monitoring/performance results for the tailings management at Meadowbank, and water management structures at Meadowbank and Amaruq sites, including updates related to various design/confirmatory studies completed in 2025. Lastly, an update on the current status of the in-pit water treatment and closure studies for the TMF was presented.

The present report covers both sites and pertains to the material covered during the August site visit and November meetings. The comments received from AEM on the draft version have been taken into account and this document constitutes the final version of the Board's report.

A list of persons having participated is included in Appendix A and a selection of photographs taken on site is included in Appendix B.

A brief summary of the subject matter and comments are presented in the following sections. Commentary provided by the Board is shown in italics and recommendations are underlined.

## 2.0 GENERALITIES

An overview of mine status, and current operations was provided to the Board for information. The Life of Mine (LOM), currently envisaged as being mid 2028, is being studied for possible extension to 2030. Key areas that are being reviewed in light of the planned LOM extension include, the state of aging critical infrastructure; remaining tailings capacity in the pits; and maintaining focus on progressive reclamation activities. These items formed a large component of the November discussions.

The organizational charts for the environmental division were presented for information to highlight recent updates and other planned changes. The addition of a project coordinator is planned due to increased workload heading into progressive closure. The environmental division is currently focusing on the critical infrastructure for ongoing and late operations in addition to working on closure planning and related designs.

## 3.0 RECOMMENDATION FOLLOW-UPS

From the presentations and additional comments made during the site visit and meetings in Montreal, it is apparent that AEM has been responsive to the suggestions made in the reports prepared subsequent to previous Board visits and meetings. Some action items may be on-going.

Specific mention was made of:

- Water management and efforts to reduce freshwater consumption.
- InSAR and drone survey overlaps to ensure continuity of data collection.
- The sequence of work and monitoring during raising of the West Road.
- Monitoring of the small pond downstream of South Camp Dike. No intervention has been necessary.
- Improved monitoring of ongoing settlement of the TSF surface as an input to closure design.
- Possible installation of piezometers in unfrozen tailings. This activity will be undertaken during the winter as part of the progressive closure work.
- Partial backfilling of the Central Dike downstream pond during the pond level raise. The need is being evaluated.
- Precautions to avoid or detect spills from tailings lines during winter conditions.

## 4.0 TAILINGS MANAGEMENT

### 4.1 Quarry 23 Construction

Quarry 23 (Q23, renamed CP23), situated to the south-west of the South Cell of the TSF, is being expanded to serve as the TSF Collection Pond through closure of the facility, with an ultimate capacity of 305,000 m<sup>3</sup> (storage of 24-hour spring rainfall and 100-year snowmelt, plus freeboard). Phase 1 of the quarry expansion was completed this year to provide an interim storage capacity of 140,000 m<sup>3</sup>.

Water will be conveyed to CP23 from TSF South Cell via a spillway from the TSF South Cell excavated through bedrock (completed in 2025). The spillway has been designed to manage the

flows from the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF), corresponding to a peak flow of 36.1 m<sup>3</sup>/s. Over the short-term and prior to passive closure, TSF water will continue to be internally managed through transfer from CP23 to Pit A.

#### 4.2 Other Tailings Management Related Construction

A number of other construction items were completed in the vicinity of the TSF, including the following:

- The West Road raise, required to accommodate the future water levels in Portage Pit, has been completed.
- Some North Cell rockfill capping has been carried out.
- The area between RF1/RF2 and the Waste Rock Storage Facility has been backfilled, to eliminate water ponding, and requiring some instrument raises.
- An access road has been constructed from SD4 to SD3 to accommodate a tailings delivery pipeline for deposition in the existing reclaim pond adjacent to SD3.
- Rockfill capping has continued in the vicinity of SD2.
- A filtration reclaim berm, that will temporarily control the flow from the South Cell and minimize migration of freshly deposited tailings solids into CP23, has been constructed upstream of the spillway.
- A flowmeter was installed at the discharge of the tailings pipeline in Pit A to measure flow differential (start and end) to detect potential leakage. Troubleshooting is in progress before full implementation.
- An insulated 10" HDPE reclaim pipeline has been installed from Pit A to the Plant.
- A redundant freshwater line has been installed from Third Portage Lake as a contingency.

#### 4.3 Maintenance and Surveillance of Tailings Storage Infrastructure

Several liner repairs were completed at SD4, SD5, and Central Dike. General crest surface maintenance was carried out at SD4 and SD5. Flags were installed along Central Dike to mark an active tailings line and reduce risk of damage during snow removal. Pumping infrastructure has been removed downstream of SD1. In addition, improper tailings line crossings were repaired.

Inspections are conducted as prescribed in the OMS manual. InSAR displacement monitoring has been implemented during the snow free period. Data is compared to drone surveys although there are some limitations, including the apparent inability to make year-to-year comparisons. *This aspect should be discussed with the service provider as it may present an important handicap to use of the technology.*

Alert levels are being used to support instrumentation follow-up/analysis. Minor OMS manual adjustments have been made to capture operational changes related to the Central Dike seepage pond water level raise.

No visual indications of abnormal conditions have been detected in any of the structures.

#### 4.4 TSF Central Dike – Seepage Pond Water Level

Stability analyses, completed by WSP, demonstrated that stability of the West Road could be compromised by pore pressure buildup in thawing foundations resulting from the rising water

levels. As such, WSP recommended that the flooding rate be controlled to allow monitoring of the embankments during the flooding stage. Raising the pond water level is being completed at a rate of 0.5 m/month as per WSP recommendations.

Water management infrastructure within the pond remains fully operational and ready to respond in case any adverse conditions arise. The Board cautions that in event that water levels need to be rapidly reduced, additional stability analyses may be required to assess the impact of rapid drawdown on the West Road stability, and possibly the Central Dike. There may be benefit in identifying potential scenarios and carrying out the analyses in advance.

To allow adequate monitoring of the pore pressures and ground thaw progression associated with the rising pond levels, vibrating wire piezometers (VWP) and thermistors (2 sets) were installed around and below the raised West Road. No increase in pore water pressure or temperature had been recorded by the installed instrumentation during the initial stages of the pond level raise as reported to the Board at the August site visit. However, a temperature spike, from an initial below zero temperature, was noted in Th620P3 (below the West Road) in early September as the pond level reached El. 117.5m, but no visible changes or new seepage have been observed.

Some care in the interpretation of the pressure readings is warranted as the piezometers may have frozen since installation.

Additionally, a comprehensive inspection protocol and checklist have been developed and are currently being implemented during raising of the pond levels.

It was noted that prior to starting the increase in water levels, no waste rock was placed in the base of the pond. The possible addition of this material for added stability was discussed during the previous site visit. The Board presumes that the current configuration was included in the analyses completed to date.

#### 4.5 Tailings Operations in 2025

Tailings deposition in Pit A took place from December 2024 until July 2025 (approx. 2.1 Mt). Although tailings deposition in the TSF North Cell has long been complete, operations were transferred to the South Cell of the TSF from July 4 to September 7, to grade the tailings surface and promote drainage towards the spillway upstream of CP23. At the time of the site visit, tailings deposition was being carried out from the Central Dike (approx. 3 to 5 spigots) and was to be continued until the full capacity had been utilized, and the desired beach elevations and shape achieved at the east side of the South Cell. Deposition from SD3 (west side of South Cell) to allow final filling and shaping of this area, will be delayed until 2026, at which time the consolidated tailings expected to be mechanically excavated to create surface drainage channels and transported to this area from the North Cell during winter 2025/26 will be covered. As of September 7, deposition reverted to a single point on the Pit A northwest wall. Decant water was reclaimed from Pit A and Pit E.

The current projection is that potentially more than 85,000 m<sup>3</sup> of tailings may be excavated from the north cell to create the drainage channels. The Board cautions that further thought and planning into the final grading and channel excavation plans for the North Cell, including a spillway cut through the Stormwater Dike, should be carried out to minimize the depth of excavations.

A freshwater action plan was developed in collaboration with the Process Plant, and a significant reduction in freshwater usage has been achieved to date. In the last half of 2025, since the

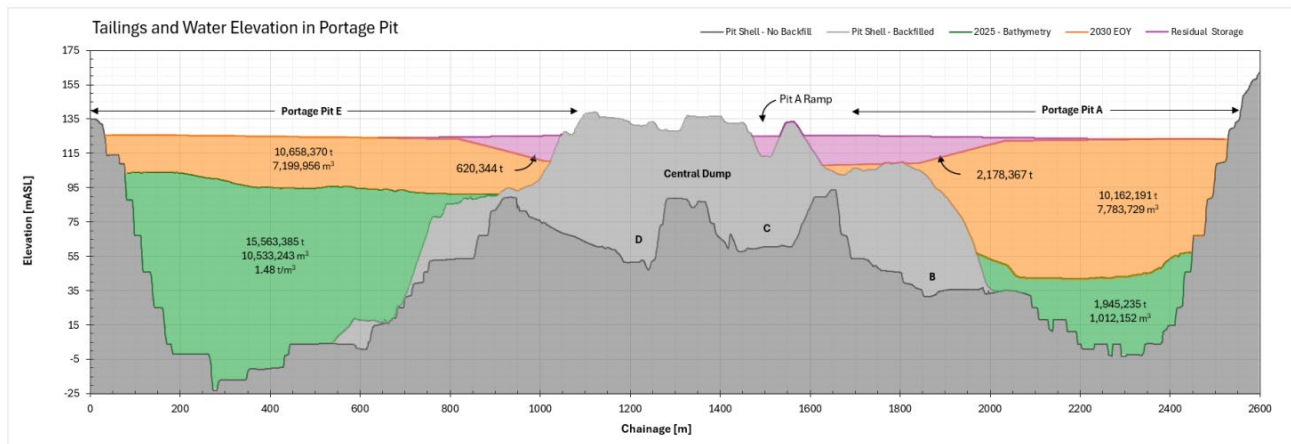
parallel line was commissioned, the consumption has been reduced to 0.10 m<sup>3</sup>/t (the current target). Although the current freshwater target is 0.10 m<sup>3</sup>/t, AEM indicated that the new long-term target is proposed at 0.03 m<sup>3</sup>/t (with treatment plant at the mill).

*The Board is pleased with the achieved reduction in freshwater consumption and that AEM plans for further reductions at the plant. These reductions will significantly help reduce the pressure on the overall water balance and ultimately the volumes of water requiring treatment.*

#### 4.6 Tailings Capacity Update

During the August 2025 site visit, AEM indicated that tailings capacity reviews for various mine life scenarios were being completed. It was indicated that capacity is theoretically available up to 2034, although many assumptions need to be verified. For full mill saturation until the end of operations in 2030, either the Goose Pit would need to be filled up to El. 133 m or other expansion options identified, and new closure concepts would need to be developed.

During the November meetings, a more detailed update on the remaining pit capacity was provided but was focused on the planned LOM extension to 2030. The update was completed based on available bathymetric surveys and considering final subaerial deposition beach slopes of 0.36% and tailings density of 1.52 t/m<sup>3</sup>. Based on the review, it was concluded that the available storage capacity within the Pits is adequate to end of 2030.



**Figure 4.1 - Pit A and E, Remaining Capacity**

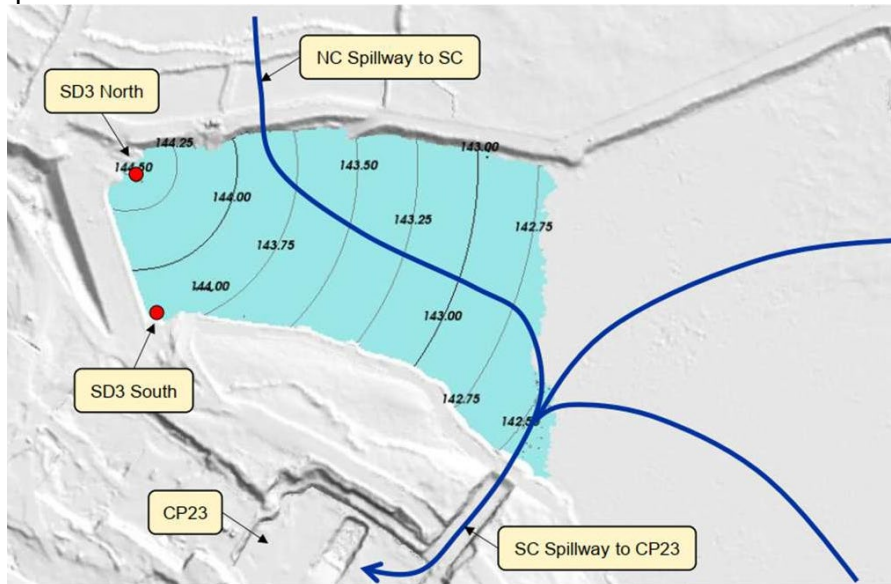
*The Board is encouraged by the advance planning of mine life scenarios with respect to tailings storage capacity, and notes that based on the current assumptions that tailing capacity in Portage Pits will be very close by 2030. It is understood that Newfields are reviewing potential long-term storage options and the board encourages being informed of the progress on this.*

## 4.7 Tailings and Water Management – Future operations

### Tailings Management

Although tailings capacity is theoretically available for an extended Life of Mine (2030), additional deposition points will be needed for both Pit A and Pit E in 2029 to accommodate projected volumes. These will affect reclaim strategy as the configuration of existing reclaim systems may not be suitable to meet water quality standards for the process plant due to elevated TSS in closer proximity to new deposition zones. Alternative reclaim sources are being considered and include Goose Pit, CP23 and Central Dike downstream pond. Alternate reclaim layouts, filter berms, and/or treatment systems may be needed to ensure that reclaim water meets mill operational standards.

In the nearer term, within the TSF, tailings deposition in the South Cell will be carried out at SD3-1 (north) and SD3-2 (south) and is planned for summer 2026 to achieve the closure drainage surface topography. Deposition is planned to start July 1st, 2026, for 33 days for a quantity of 400,000 t (50/50 between both deposition points). The dry density is assumed to be 1.56 t/m<sup>3</sup> with beach slopes 0.28%.

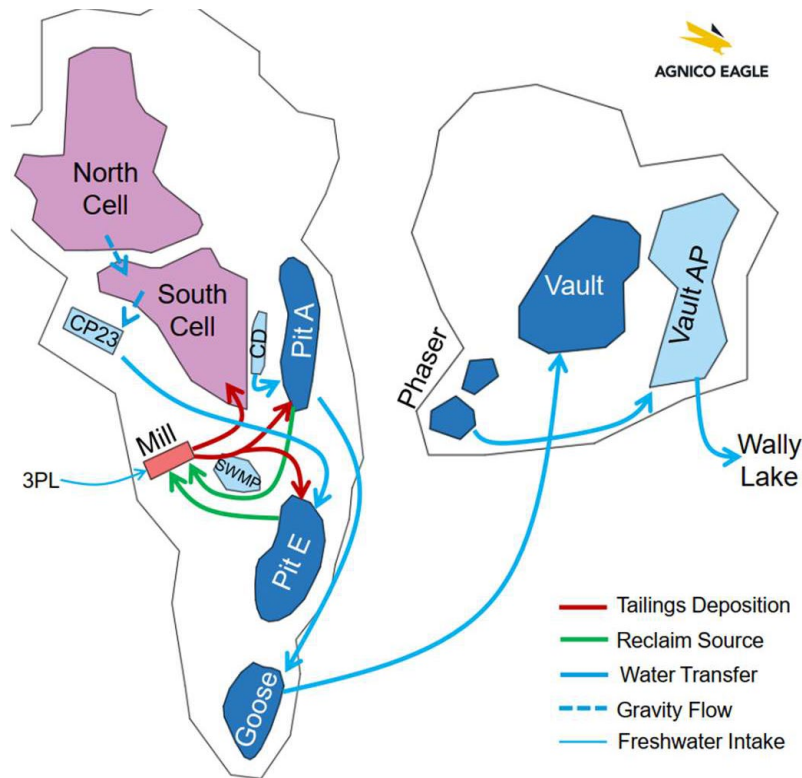


**Figure 4.2 - Planned TSF South Cell Tailings Deposition**

### Water Management

During TSF operations in the South Cell, supernatant and precipitation run-off water from the TSF basin will be directed to CP23 and subsequently transferred to Pit E until 2030, after which it will be transferred to Third Portage Lake, provided water quality is acceptable. Reclaim water for mill operations will continue to be drawn from Pit A and Pit E.

The water currently stored in Goose Pit is to be treated by semi-batch methods for transfer to Vault, and is replenished by Pit A water during the same summer. Consequently, Vault area dewatering is to be prioritized to create capacity for these operations. The Vault pipeline installation is nearing completion and will be ready for August 2026.



**Figure 4.3 – LOM Water Management Schematic**

Water balance uncertainty will be addressed by further calibration and evaluation of the system operation. As previously mentioned, the reclaim strategy is being optimized and freshwater reduction initiatives continue.

#### 4.8 Tailings Management – Progressive Closure Activities

Progressive Closure activities carried out in 2025 included:

- Construction of the CP 23 Access Road,
- The West Road Raise,
- North Cell (NE) Capping,
- RF1/RF2 Backfill and instrument raising,
- SD3 to SD4 El. 145 Access Road to accommodate the tailings pipeline to SD3,
- SD2 Capping,
- Construction of a reclaim filter berm at the Inlet of the South Cell spillway to CP23.

It was noted that some fine material was observed to bypass the filter berm and enter the South Cell-CP23 spillway, and, consequently, a remediation plan is required before tailings deposition from SD3 in 2026. This may include construction of an extension or additional filter berm, but this is yet to be defined.

## 5.0 SITE WATER MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE AT MEADOWBANK

### 5.1 Weather Statistics

Winter temperatures were noted to be slightly above the historical average, with yearly average temperature similar to 2024, as shown on the attached table (Figure 5.1).

Year	No. of Days Above 0°C <sup>1</sup>	Yearly Average (°C) <sup>2</sup>
2019	118	-11.2
2020	111	-10.7
2021	126	-10.2
2022	129	-9.8
2023	165	-9.5
2024	153	-8.2
2025	135	-8.9

**Figure 5.1 Ambient Temperature Data**

Other notable climate details observed in 2025 at the Meadowbank site include:

- The number of days above 0°C was 135 compared to the average of 129.
- By the end of October 2025, the cumulative rainfall was slightly below average at 225 mm, compared to the 253 mm average since 2014.
- Freshet began around May 22, 2025, and occurred quickly due to warmer temperatures in June.
- In the fall, ice and snow accumulation began around October 7, 2025.
- October temperatures fluctuated around 0°C all month, leading to freeze/thaw events.

### 5.2 Infrastructure Surveillance

Inspections are conducted for all critical infrastructure as prescribed in the OMS manual, including regular scheduled inspections and inspections following changes in conditions or significant rainfall events. Inspection results are reviewed by geotechnical engineers or geotechnical engineering supervisors.

InSAR displacement monitoring has been implemented during the snow free period.

Instrumentation monitoring now includes the use of alert levels to support follow-up and analysis. Any variations in the performance of the structures are assessed and reported to the Engineer of Record.

In general, all infrastructure remains in good operating condition. Notable anomalies previously identified were further investigated and monitored as follows:

- In response, increased pore water levels at (VWP) Pz60+550 of the East Dike, geophysical investigations were completed in August 2025. Following the TARP (Trigger Action Response Plan) level raise to Yellow, AEM is considering installation of additional instrument(s) at East Dike.

- The Bay-Goose Dike inclinometer casing at 31+885 was equipped with an SAA in July 2025 for automated data acquisition. The Yellow TARP has been maintained in view of the latest thermistor and piezometer data. A geophysics campaign has been carried out from Sta. 31+600 to 32+000 to assist with the interpretation of the instrument data in this sector.

### 5.3 East Dike

At the vibrating wire piezometer (VWP) Pz60+550, located downstream of the cut-off, an unexplained pore water pressure rise occurred over the period from March to May 2025. The pressure was noted to remain elevated from May until late July 2025, when a rapid decrease occurred down to the installation elevation (i.e. lower than historic values). The July pressure decrease was noted to correspond to a rapid rise in temperature by approximately 9°C in line with the annual temperature rise in Second Portage Lake. The elevated pressures experienced at Pz60+550 between May and late July exceeded historical highs and even exceeded the water level in Second Portage Lake. Consequently, the functionality of the instrument is suspect, however the reading is currently stable at a value equivalent to the installation elevation and as such, for the moment, an interpretation of a dry condition can be made.

*The concerns about functionality of Pz60+550 are considered legitimate given that historical data indicates pressure spikes to beyond the nominal capacity in 2014 and 2015 when the temperature recorded by the instrument descended below freezing for the first times. Subsequent temperature readings have been in the -0.5 to -3°C range and it is understood to have remained frozen over the last 12 years.*

*Nonetheless, the rapid fluctuations in piezometric level accompanying the temperature increase led to the declaration of an increase in TARP level to Yellow, which is justifiable and appropriate. It should be noted that the neighbouring piezometers at Stn. 60+490, also a known seepage area, recorded their highest values in 12 years, although the piezometers have been trending up at a steady rate in recent years.*

No changes to the structure or seepage flow rates have been observed.

In response to the observed instrumentation readings, geophysical surveys have been carried out to help detect voids and potential seepage zones. These surveys included:

- Electromagnetic Survey
- Ground Penetrating Radar
- Electrical Resistivity Tomography

The data reduction, analysis and interpretation have now been completed, and results indicate some areas of potential seepage pathways, though the techniques may not have the ability to identify actual flow. This work is further discussed in section 7.0 of this report.

The path forward includes the installation of instrumentation and increased monitoring. Grouting preparedness is underway with identification of equipment and materials including additives to achieve rapid set of the grout if needed to block flow. A specialized grouting drill rig has been mobilized.

The following points are noted by the Board:

Indeed, seepage flow rates at 60+550 or slightly further to the north that report directly to the dike toe are small as can be seen on Photos 1 and 2 in Appendix B. Examination of the cross-section and longitudinal profile, shown in Figure 5.2 below, indicates that the instrument at 60+550 while situated in the core trench downstream of the cutoff, is at a topographic high and consequently any seepage would drain to neighbouring areas and to downstream. Provided no ice dams are present around the instrument, a piezometer reading indicating a dry state could be expected. Seepage may travel from 60+550 towards 60+490 where it would drain towards the pump station A. Seepage through the rock may be intercepted at the pump station A or may daylight on the pit wall further downstream.

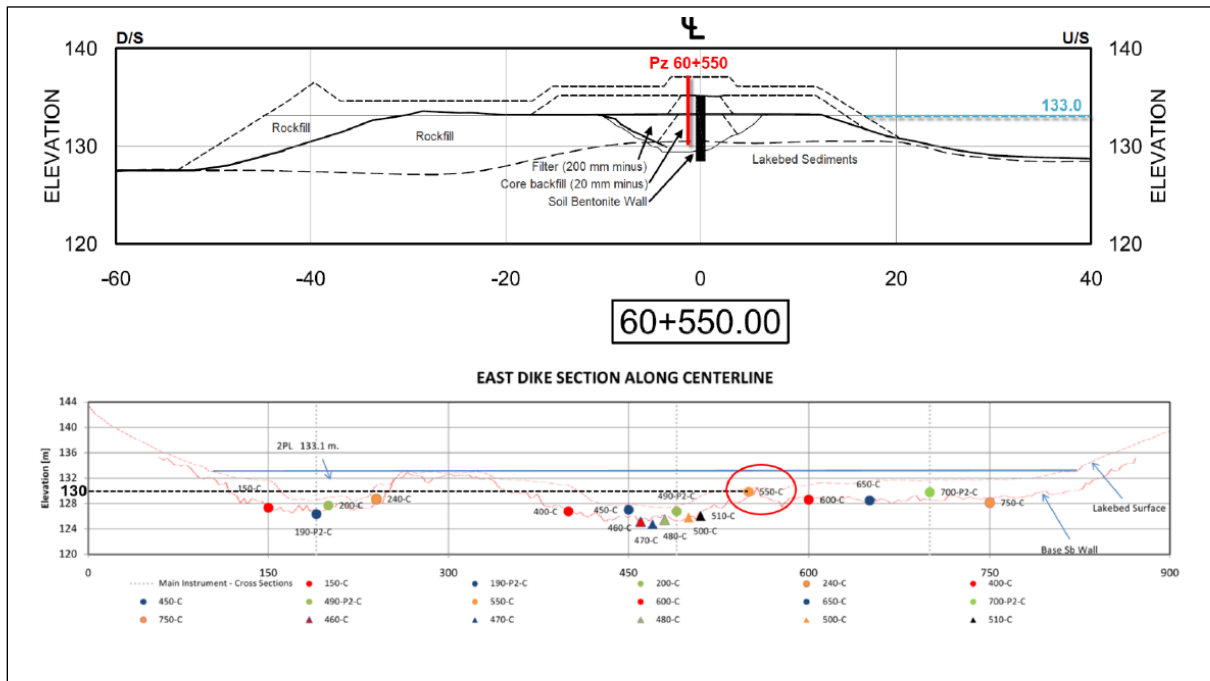
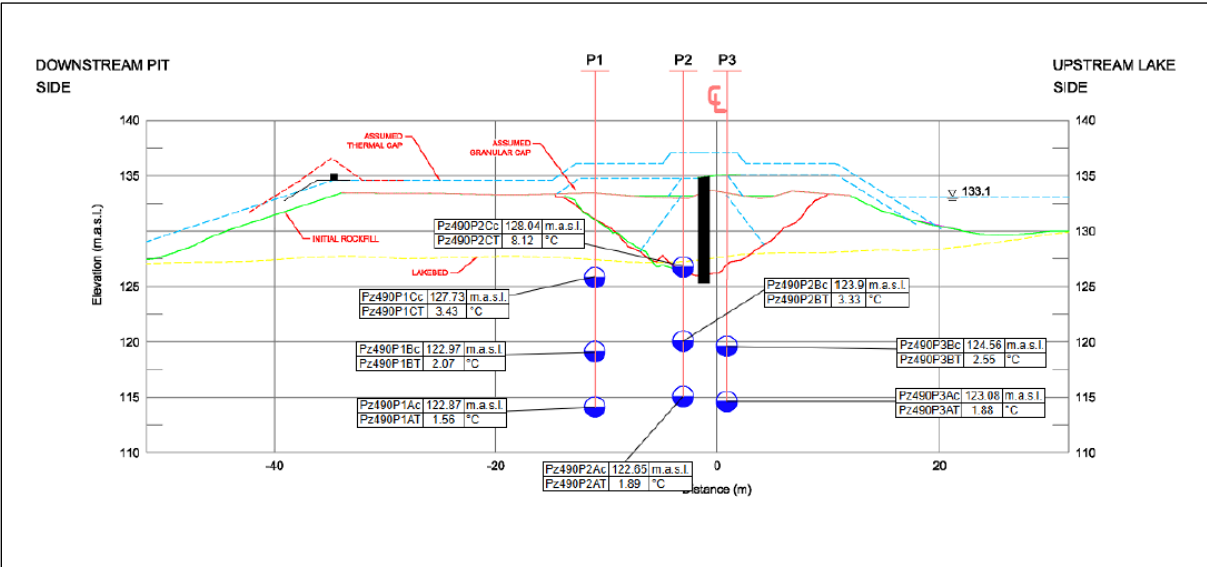


Figure 5.2 Location of Pz550



**Figure 5.3 Instruments at 60+490**

The piezometer installed at 60+490 in a similar location (Pz490P2C) in Figure 5.3 also indicates a dry state except for brief periods during freshet. The other seven instruments, installed in the bedrock show downward gradients and a general hydraulic gradient from upstream to downstream. Indeed, pressures recorded by these instruments have been steadily increasing over the past 12 years (see Figure 5.4 below), a phenomenon which is attributed to flow constrictions due to progressive freezing of the terrain downstream of the dike. However, the flow rate is enough to contribute a heat flux and prevent freezing below the dike as can be seen in the temperature readings shown in the lower half of Figure 5.4.



**Figure 5.4 Readings of instruments at 60+490**

*On Photos 3 and 4 in Appendix B, certain features are noted that could help to explain the changes occurring at 60+550. The windrow would encourage snow accumulation in winter and act as an insulator to limit freezing during winter months. Sediment deposits on the surface show possible periods of surface run-off accumulation that could have led to infiltration of water in July 2025. Since the site visit, AEM has proceeded with the removal of the windrow with a view to enhancing freeze-back. In addition, a small trench has been excavated downstream of Stn. 60+550 to reduce water accumulation at the toe and facilitate inspection.*

*The situation appears stable at the moment, but the increased monitoring frequency is still justified. AEM seeks to enhance the monitoring of this area of possible concern. Thermistor strings in the dike and in the foundation downstream together with additional piezometers in unfrozen ground may provide the complementary information to explain the current situation and to monitor the evolution during progressive raising of the water level in Pits E and A.*

*The Board concurs with the decision to prepare for any remedial works but recommends that AEM make every effort to fully understand the reasons for the observations and to identify the location of any seepage before embarking on a grouting program. To this end, evaluation of the trends should include comparisons with early performance right after initial dewatering, and before any ground freezing and mine pit excavation.*

#### 5.4 Bay-Goose Dike

As mentioned above, the Bay-Goose Dike TARP level has been kept at YELLOW since February 2024 when temperature increases at Sta. 31+880 and sharp pore pressure increases at several piezometers in the area were recorded. A permanent SAA was installed at station 31+885 to replace the existing inclinometer, and will enable early identification of any movement.

The Board requested additional temperature data to facilitate further high-level reflections on the piezometric levels, and this was provided subsequent to the November meeting. The Board provided comments on the material presented in 2024. The following narrative re-examines the data but, essentially, confirms the conclusion reached previously.

*From the Figures 5.5 and 5.6, certain observations can be made. Note first of all that these instruments are not frozen. The temperatures recorded by the thermistors incorporated in the piezometers have remained above zero since their installation. This is probably due to the fact that the series at Stn. 31+885 are located at lower elevations than the homologous installations elsewhere in Channels 1 and 2. The area constitutes a topographic low for the sector and consequently would attract seepage and infiltration from precipitation.*

*The two possible mechanisms can be identified from the graphs in Figure 5.6. The lower piezometers, P2-A1, P2-A2 and P2-B1, are believed to be influenced by backwater curves related to the raising of the water level in the Goose Pit. The pit water level rose by 0.5 m in May 2023 followed by a sharp raise from el. 114 to el. 118 in October 2023 and reached 121.75 in November 2025. The piezometers followed a similar trajectory.*

*In contrast, the cyclic changes recorded by the upper piezometers P2-B2 and P2-C, have, at least in part, a seasonal fluctuation, with values much higher than the pit water level. The increases in 2023 and 2024 occur primarily during the early winter period and are therefore unrelated to rainfall. Observations of temperature at depth, particularly in Northern regions, indicate a lag between ambient temperature lows and highs with those at depth. Peak temperatures are*

recorded during the winter period and, conversely, low values occur in summer, unless there is water flow through the system. Generally, the depth of penetration of freezing temperatures reached el. 130± and a stationary freezing front may have generated an ice lense in the cement-soil-bentonite (CSB) cut-off wall. Site meteorological data shows a warming trend since 2022 as can be noted from Figure 5.8. The 2024 values, show an untypical spike with potential thawing of the hypothetical ice lense at the 130 m elevation. The CSB is resistant to erosion but may support an open fissure.

It should also be noted that certain trends are observed in other instruments at neighbouring stations such that it is difficult to establish a precise location of a source of seepage through the cut-off. Downward gradients are indicated and there is no evidence of a condition prejudicial to dike stability. However, close monitoring is required, and the Board supports the decision to maintain the YELLOW Tarp status. A careful review of topography (natural foundation and key trench excavation) is recommended to define observation points and strategic locations for excavation of the snow to expose toe areas during the winter period when a reactivation of seepage could occur. AEM has, in fact, adopted such an approach as was mentioned during a conference call held on December 18<sup>th</sup> to update the Board on the current status. Further work to complement the instrument array, partially clear snow from the upstream side of the crest to promote freezing, and planning for potential engagement of Willowstick services to enable focus on potential sources of seepage were also discussed during this call.

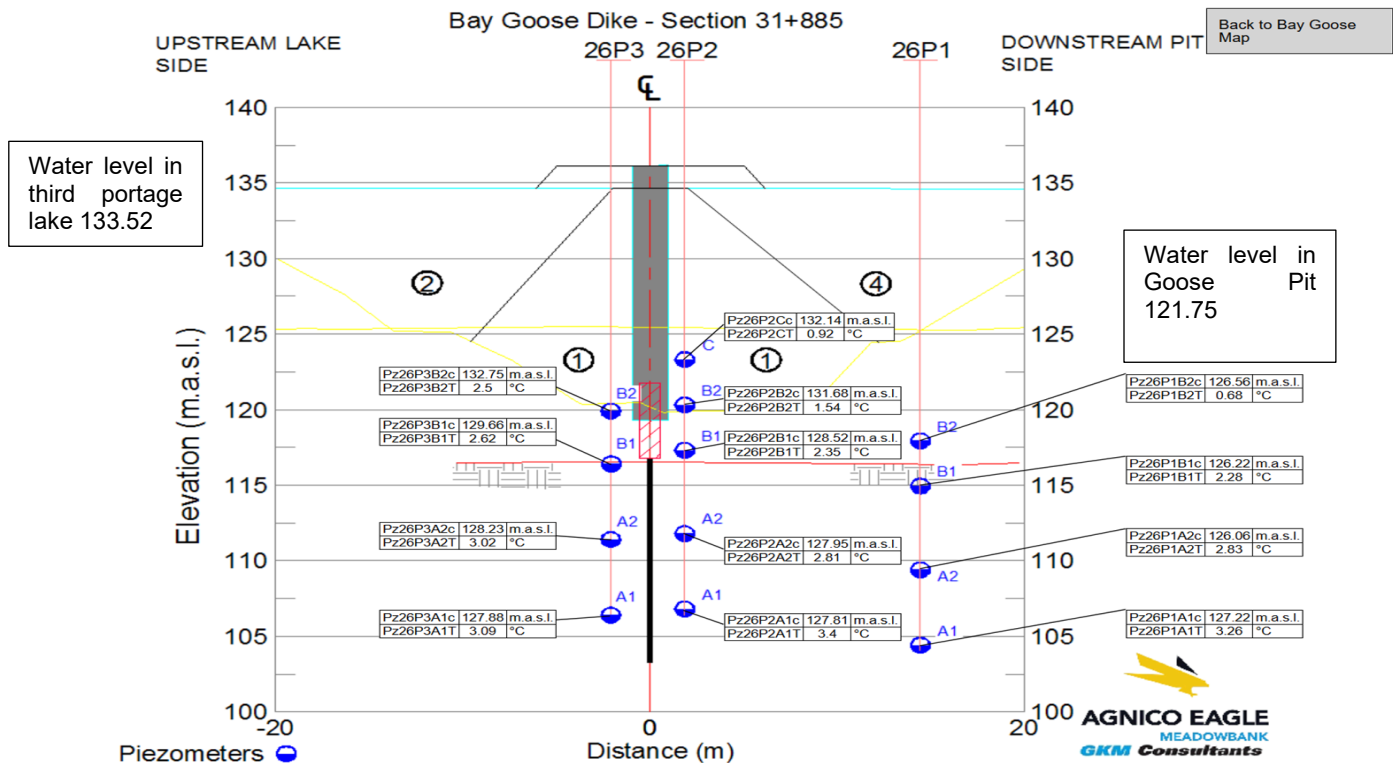
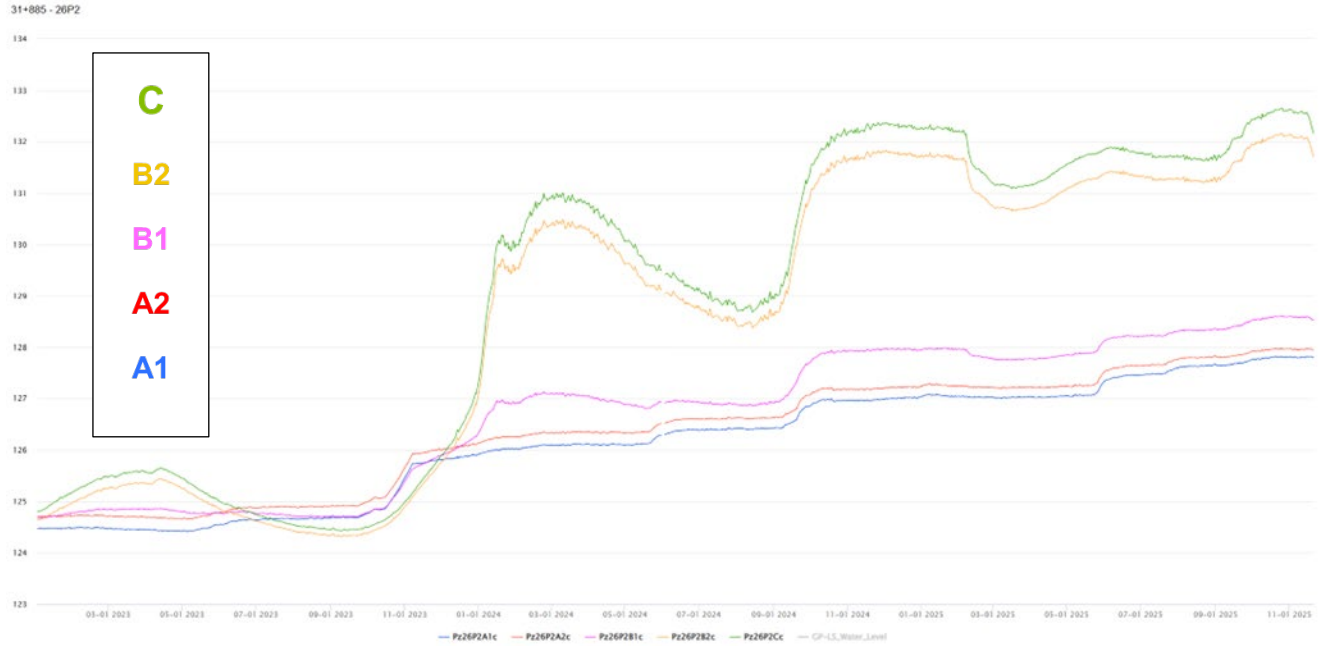
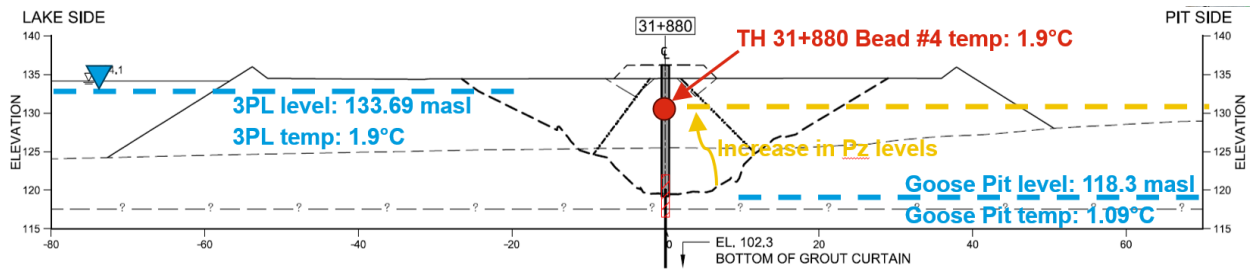


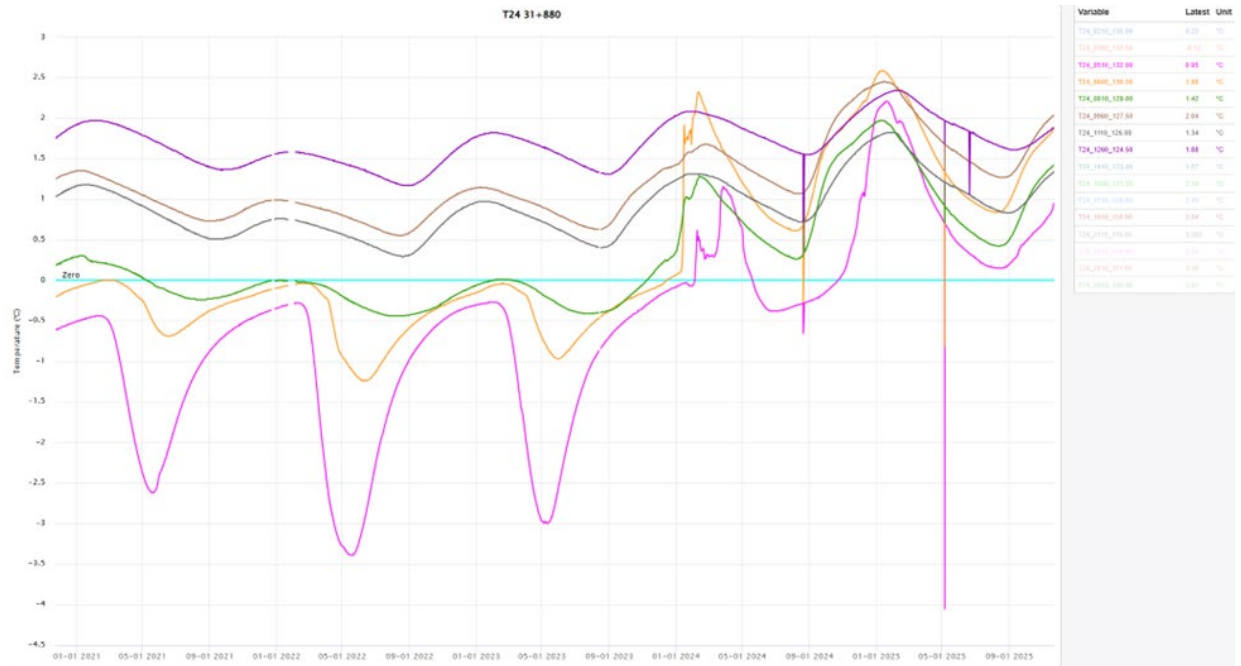
Figure 5.5 Piezometer installations at Stn. 31+885



**Figure 5.6** Piezometric levels at select instruments of the P2 column for Stn. 31+885



**Figure 5.7** Observations drawn from thermistor T24 data and presented in December 2024.



**Figure 5.8 Thermistor string T24 at Stn. 31+880, selected readings from 2021 to 2025**

### 5.5 Other structures at Meadowbank

As far as the other water management structures at Meadowbank site are concerned, little or no change has been noted at South Camp Dike or the Vault Dike, and the dikes are performing as intended. The slight warming at depth below Vault Dike continues but without impact.

## 6.0 WATER MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE AT AMARUQ

### 6.1 Weather Statistics

Meteorological conditions at Amaruq were, unsurprisingly, similar to those at Meadowbank. The following table gives enough information to appreciate the temperature trend over the last few years.

Year	No. of Days Above 0°C <sup>1</sup>	Yearly Average (°C)
2019	118	-11.4
2020	111	-10.9
2021	126	-9.8
2022	129	-9.5
2023	165	-9.7 <sup>2</sup>
2024	149	-8.1 <sup>2</sup>
2025	135	-8.7

Other notable climate details observed in 2025 at the Amaruq site include:

- The number of days above 0°C was 135 days compared to average of 133.
- By mid-November, the cumulative rainfall was 261 mm, compared to the 277 mm average since 2014 but, higher than Meadowbank by approx. 37 mm.
- Freshet began early in mid-May 2025 and occurred quickly due to warmer temps in June.
- Fall temperatures arrived late, staying above 0°C until mid-October, as was the case in 2024.

*Such conditions may have an influence on the behaviour of structures for which permafrost degradation or aggradation are elements of their design.*

### 6.2 Site visit

The Board made a site visit in August to Amaruq to observe the current status of water management infrastructure in preparation for the performance discussion held in November. It was noted that all the dikes and other components of infrastructure are performing as intended, with the only change since last year being recent resurfacing of the IVR Dike following the conclusion that no further movement or settlement was occurring.

### 6.3 Overall Performance Review, Maintenance and Surveillance Activities

Whale Tail Dike remains at YELLOW TARP level; however, the dike exhibits satisfactory performance with stable seepage conditions.

All other structures remain at the GREEN TARP level with no visual indications of abnormal conditions.

General instrumentation maintenance has been carried out, and the current instrumentation coverage is deemed adequate. Construction of an additional V-notch downstream of Whale Tail Dike was cancelled and reliance will be on visual appreciation of the non captured flow.

IVR Dike crest resurfacing project has been completed following review of most recent Lidar survey indicating that no further deformation is occurring.

The Saline Ditches required the usual clean-up after freshet, as well as following some operational incidents (i.e. CRF cement and haul truck spills).

Similar to Meadowbank, inspections are conducted for critical infrastructure at Amaruq as prescribed in the OMS manual. InSAR displacement monitoring has been implemented during the snow free period, and the data is compared to drone surveys, although there are the same limitations as noted above.

Alert levels are now used to support instrumentation analysis and any variations in the performance of the structures are reported to the Engineer of Record. Note that this position continues to be internal though a change of personnel took place this year

#### 6.4 Whale Tail Dike

Seepage conditions are stable and the V-notch culvert functioned well throughout the year with only one brief interlude of ice accumulation that affected the automated reading. As mentioned above, the additional V-Notch project has been cancelled. To put this into perspective, the main V-notch, installed at a culvert outlet and housed in a sea-can, records flows in the region of 75 m<sup>3</sup>/h (excluding seasonal fluctuations) whereas the ungauged parallel flow is estimated to be of the order of 25 m<sup>3</sup>/h for an estimated baseline total of approximately 100 m<sup>3</sup>/h, significantly lower than the 600 m<sup>3</sup>/hr in May 2019, when the grouting program was initiated. This has generally been steady, if not reducing slightly over the last three years of monitoring. Seepage water quality (TSS) trends also remain steady within the compliant range (6.0 – 9.5) since late 2022.

The thermistors show trends similar to the previous years, with seasonal variations associated with lake water temperature. The minor warming trend in most instruments noted in 2024, continued in 2025 as can be expected from the meteorological data. The bedrock remains unfrozen in the lakebed area east of the west abutment with an overlying warming trend. Frozen conditions are exhibited at depth at the east abutment, but again with a warming trend. A flow path warming trend is observed in the fine filter and upper bedrock, between approximately Stns. 0+500 and 0+590.

For the piezometers, trends were in line with historical readings. Some readings can be considered to be anomalous, or at least unrelated to lake level, such as P2-D at stn. 0+701 that has recorded a piezometric elevation of 157.7 m for the period of August to September over the last three years. *Infiltration fed by precipitation run-off on the abutment would be the possible alternative explanation for these pressures that exceed the crest of the cut-off.*

As far as deformations are concerned, the inclinometers show no unusual trends compared to previous years. The performance is therefore satisfactory with no progression of cracks since the thermal berm construction.

In summary, there are some changes, but the primary overall status as judged by seepage rates is satisfactory. *The question could be asked is whether there is 100% or at least a representative capture of seepage, recognizing that a fraction thereof could by-pass the weirs and report through the bedrock towards the Whale Tail pit. However, assuming that ground conditions are similar from one year to the next, then a change in the observations is as important as absolute values.*

*The Board suggests that AEM could review the TARP level for this structure, given the generally stable condition of the ground temperatures and seepage rates. The high potential risk classification for this structure is sufficient justification for frequent surveillance regardless of the TARP level.*

#### 6.5 WRSF Dike

There is no seepage from the dike towards downstream area however and little or no water ponding against the upstream toe for most of the year.

Thermistor coverage is adequate with 6 of 9 thermistors fully operational. The foundation remains frozen; the thermal berm and water management strategy enabling the promotion of permafrost aggradation.

No movement of the dike is indicated by InSAR monitoring.

#### 6.6 Mammoth Dike

The TARP level is green, and the dike is in good condition and performing as intended with no signs of degradation of the structure. Thermistor coverage is deemed adequate (3/3) and the instruments indicate a frozen foundation and continued permafrost aggradation.

No movements were identified by INSAR monitoring.

#### 6.7 IVR Dike

The TARP level is green and performance is satisfactory. Instrumentation coverage is deemed to be adequate with 5 of 7 thermistors fully operational. The foundation and key-trench remain frozen.

Resurfacing of the settlement area over the key trench was completed in August. InSAR data indicates no significant movement or settlement within the structure.

#### 6.8 South Whale Tail Channel

The TARP level is green, and the channel is performing as per design intent with only a small progression of settlements at the invert since construction. The channel performed well during freshet 2025 and water remains clear with no sediment transport.

#### 6.9 IVR Diversion Channel

The channel is performing to design intent. There has been no significant progression of historical settlement within the channel structure.

## 6.10 UG-WRSF Saline Ditch

The ditch is performing to design intent with only minor water accumulation near the South Leg outlet. General maintenance included clean-up of spilled muck into the ditch and cement spills accumulated in the ditch, with negligible impact on the performance.

## 6.11 UG Ore Stockpile Saline Ditch

This ditch is also performing as per design intent. General maintenance included fine filter removal from the channel and culvert, and more tires were installed to better delineate the ditch.

## 7.0 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE STABILITY & SEEPAGE REVIEW

A review is being carried out by BGC for East Dike, Bay-Goose Dike, and Central Dike to assess the extended design life of the structures and the potential impact of rising water levels and changing operating conditions. The study objectives are to:

- Review the stability of Meadowbank Dikes during the late operations, early closure years and post-closure, incorporating changing water levels in the pits and the thermal state of the dike/foundations.
- Assess the safety and integrity of the infrastructure which will operate for a longer period than initially designed (about 10 years in the original design).
- Provide recommendations on the flooding schedule and determine whether any additional work is needed to ensure safe operations during the transition stage and going into closure.

The initial work completed up to the Board's August visit included a review of the available information, including geotechnical conditions, as-built data, operation history and performance data. An update of the Design Basis had also been completed and was under review by AEM.

A geophysical campaign had also been undertaken between August 11 and 18, 2025, just prior to the Board's site visit, to assist with the characterization of the current condition of the various structures as input to the analytical work being completed. The specific purpose and preliminary results of the geophysics were presented to the Board in November, by a representative of BGC. The purpose of the work is generally summarized as follows:

- Investigate the rapid thawing phenomenon observed in instrumentation on East Dike.
- Assess the condition of the cut-off wall in sectors of interest on East Dike and Bay-Goose Dike.
- Provide inputs for the remediation measures and instrumentation needs on East Dike.
- Provide insight for future surveys in the context of geotechnical reviews of the long-term integrity of the dikes.

AEM had sought additional means to identify actual or potential seepage pathways and the family of geophysical tools employed by BGC aimed to fulfill this task. A combination of Electro Magnetic Survey, Ground Penetrating Radar and Electrical Resistivity Tomography was used. *The Meadowbank water retention dikes are comprised of a number of different materials, of different densities, in saturated and dry states, and may be frozen or unfrozen. These parameters change from one area to another along the dikes. The surveys were able to identify these variations; however no clear indication of new or potential seepage pathways was obtained.*

The geotechnical review covered East Dike and Bay Goose Dike as well as Central Dike. Coupled thermal - seepage and stability analyses were undertaken for several cross-sections on these structures. The thermal analyses considered the climate change scenario SSP5-RCP8.5 over a period of 75 years. Pit flooding scenarios contributed to the changes in operating conditions for the dikes. The models were calibrated to current as-measured conditions.

From the preliminary analyses completed, BGC generally concluded that:

- The pit flooding (and dewatering) schedule is considered adequate for all stages, in terms of physical stability.
- A higher operational water level than the current maximum (El. 125 m) during the closure works is acceptable for dike stability.
- Local failure of the overburden around the pit is likely to be more of an issue and monitoring will be required during flooding.
- Monitoring of instruments will continue to be essential to confirm that the dikes are behaving as expected.
- The current level of monitoring and instrumentation coverage on the critical infrastructure is considered generally adequate, with a recommendation to replace dysfunctional instruments on East Dike.

*Following the August site visit, the Board made the request to be advised of the terms of reference (TOR) for this work. All three components of the analyses will be sensitive to boundary conditions and other assumptions used. For example, snow cover in winter can significantly affect the extraction of heat (ingress of freezing). The heterogeneity of the overburden and bedrock is difficult to model in 3-Dimensions for seepage analyses. Material properties will govern the stability analyses. Consequently, it would be optimistic to expect that this work will provide reliable predictions of values for measuring performance. Nevertheless, the work will be valuable in identifying factors that govern the sensitivity of the quantifiable performance objectives.*

*The Board believes that these design verifications are an important first step in understanding the long-term risks and developing any mitigating actions for the critical infrastructure. AEM will review the initial report and should provide feedback to BGC to better refine and focus the studies to ensure they are answering the right questions. The Board looks forward to completing a more in-depth review of the assumptions, analyses completed and preliminary results, and requests that the full report be provided for reference.*

*AEM is contemplating significant drawdown/refilling cycles for Goose Pit (15 m to 20 m annually), for water management, that may have an influence on the stability of the pit walls and perhaps more importantly on the overburden in areas such as the channels 1, 2 and 3 of the Bay-Goose Dike foundation. These areas can be seen in Photos #6 and #7 of Appendix B. Consequently, the Board concurs with BGC conclusion to the effect that “Local failure of the overburden around the pit is likely to be more of an issue and monitoring will be required during flooding.” However, the analyses completed to date have not addressed local conditions such as these.*

The Board encourages ongoing review of potential risks that may develop during late operations and into early closure. Identification and delineation of potential consequences will help to better orient further analytical studies.

## 8.0 OVERALL SITE WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY UPDATE

### 8.1 Meadowbank Site

An operational plan has been developed for the ELOM 2030 mine life scenario. A key focus of the plan has been the reduction in freshwater consumption to 0.1 m<sup>3</sup>/t of ore processed to reduce the amount of water reporting to the water balance and ultimately requiring treatment. As previously mentioned, good progress has been made related to this with the current consumption rate at around 0.10 m<sup>3</sup>/t, down from 0.26 m<sup>3</sup>/t in 2022. The new long-term target has been proposed as 0.03 m<sup>3</sup>/t (with a treatment plant at the mill).

Given seasonal restrictions and water level targets in the pits, AEM is in the early stages of using the semi-batch treatment method for water within Goose Pit, whereby water treated in the pit, is transferred to Vault Pit in early summer, with Goose Pit refilled again from Pit A in late summer/early fall as demonstrated on Figure 8.1. Transfer rates of 1390 m<sup>3</sup>/hr are anticipated for these operations and the water transfer system between Goose and Vaults pits is currently being constructed. AEM is considering water quality targets for transfer of water to the Vault pit for this scenario related to the limited residence time of water in Goose Pit. The Board notes that continuous flow and treatment through Goose Pit could also be reviewed as a potential means of optimizing water treatment strategies. This would have the added advantage of not creating drawdown periods that may be prejudicial to stability of the pit walls and overburden.

As part of the plan, the dewatering of the Vault mine pit is a priority, and it is anticipated that discharge from Vault Pit itself to Wally Lake will need to occur simultaneously with water transfer from Goose Pit at depth in the Vault pit. The requirements for the freshwater cap thickness will be a key consideration in better defining this part of the water management strategy. A water treatment plant, for TSS removal, for the Vault water is currently in the plan, with the foundation pad already constructed, and procurement/shipping of the mechanical systems in progress. The water transfer system from the Vault Attenuation Pond to Wally Lake is complete and was functional in summer 2025, and the system from Goose Pit to Vault Pit is in progress as previously mentioned.

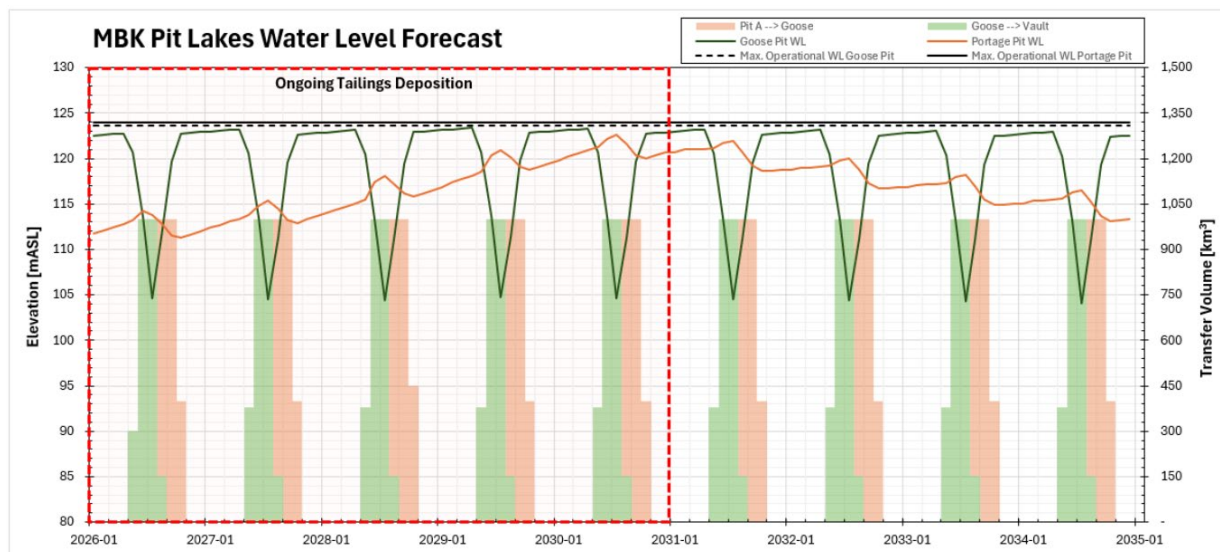


Figure 8.1 Meadowbank Pit Lakes Water Level Forecast

## 8.2 Amaruq Site

At the Amaruq site, the near-term water management strategy includes completing upgrades to the Final Water Treatment Plant (FWTP) to enable winter operation and discharge, in an effort to reduce water storage capacity requirements (i.e. contact and saline water) over the winter months. Procurement of the required materials is in progress.

## 9.0 SUMMARY

In summary, the main points of the Board's deliberations are:

- *AEM has been responsive to previous Board recommendations with good progress made on many of the items.*
- *The Board is pleased with the achieved reduction in freshwater consumption at the plant and that AEM plans for further reductions. These reductions will significantly help reduce the pressure on the overall water balance and ultimately the volumes of water requiring treatment.*
- *The Board notes that, based on the current assumptions, the tailings storage capacity will be very close for 2030. It is understood that Newfield are reviewing potential long-term storage options and the Board encourages being informed of the progress for this.*
- *The various tailings and water management structures at both the Meadowbank and Amaruq sites are performing well and as intended.*
- *AEM continues to do a good job with tailings and water management planning, including advancement of closure plans and related studies*
- *The Board cautions that in the event that water levels downstream of the Central Dike need to be rapidly reduced, additional stability analyses may be required to assess the impact of rapid drawdown on the West Road stability, and possibly the Central Dike.*
- *The Board cautions that further thought and planning into the final grading plans for the TSF North Cell should be carried out to minimize the depth of excavations into the tailings and through the Stormwater Dike to create an outlet channel.*
- *The TARP level increase (to YELLOW) for the East Dike and the verification of preparedness for any needed remedial work is appropriate. The Board is pleased with the actions to further investigate the anomalies in the instrumentation monitoring results at this Dike. Monitoring and evaluation are ongoing to delineate zones that may be the focus of remedial work. The Board supports this approach.*
- *The Board agrees with maintaining the TARP Level of Yellow for Bay Goose Dike and recommends that surveillance includes observation of potential seepage by strategically located excavations through the snow during the winter if instrument readings indicate a reactivation of openings in the cut-off.*
- *The Board is pleased with the performance and AEM monitoring of the Meadowbank and Amaruq structures. AEM could reconsider the TARP level (YELLOW) for Whale Tail Dike.*
- *For general background/baseline data, one or two strategically placed thermistor strings would not go amiss. These could provide useful data on the effects of general ambient warming trends in areas unaffected by construction and seepage conditions. However, monitoring of snow depth at such instruments would be advisable for calibration.*
- *The critical infrastructure stability and seepage review recently carried out will be a valuable exercise, however the framing of the work and the definition of expectations should be discussed and fully developed with the consultants as soon as possible and before finalizing the report.*

- AEM has made good progress on treatment studies in Goose Pit. With respect to the planned batch-treatment of the water in Goose Pit, the Board notes that continuous flow and treatment through Goose Pit could also be reviewed as a potential means of optimizing water treatment.

## 10.0 NEXT MEETINGS

No firm plans for the next meetings have been made but the Board anticipates a similar arrangement for 2026 with a site visit in August followed by a two or two and a half day meeting towards the year end. Any other participation may be through ad-hoc conference calls.

## 11.0 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The MBK IRB (Board) wishes to thank the AEM personnel for organizing the August site visit which was highly successful and greatly appreciated followed by the November Montréal meeting. The presentations were well prepared and useful discussions were held.

Signed:



Kevin Hawton, P. Eng   R.V. (Ron) Nicholson, P.Geo. (ON)   D. Anthony Rattue, P. Eng.

ATTACHMENT A

ATTENDANCE AT AUGUST 2025 SITE VISIT

Attendance		
Laurier Allard	AEM	Critical Infrastructure General Supervisor
Yves Boulianne	AEM	Engineer of Record
Luc Chouinard	AEM	Project Manager, Meadowbank Closure (on-line)
Patrice Gagnon	AEM	Water Management and Geotechnical Engineering Supervisor
Ulysse Grosmangin	AEM	Water and Tailings Engineer
Eric Haley	AEM	Superintendent Enviro and Critical Infrastructure
Michel Julien	AEM	V.P. Environment and Critical Infrastructure
Miles Legault	AEM	Manager, Mining and Technical Services
Pablo Oliveira	AEM	Geotechnical Engineer
Camille Pelletier	AEM	Geotechnical Engineer
Behzad Soltani	AEM	Water and Tailings Engineer
Vanessa Wanie	AEM	Water Management Engineer
Michelle Sadler	AEM	Water Management and Geotechnical Engineering Supervisor
Gillian Allen	O'Kane	Consultant
Kevin Hawton		Review Board
Ron Nicholson		Review Board
Anthony Rattue		Review Board

ATTENDANCE AT NOVEMBER 2025 MEETINGS

Attendance		
Laurier Allard	AEM	Critical Infrastructure General Supervisor
Yves Boulianne	AEM	Engineer of Record
Rebecca Cousineau	AEM	Closure Engineer
Bobby Doroudiani	AEM	Permitting
Patrice Gagnon	AEM	Water Management and Geotechnical Engineering Supervisor
Eric Haley	AEM	Superintendent Environment and Critical Infrastructure
Jessica Huza	AEM	Corporate Director, Environment and Operational Risks
Matt Gilman	AEM	Advisor, Environmental Management
Michel Julien	AEM	V.P. Environment and Critical Infrastructure
Pablo Oliveira	AEM	Geotechnical Engineer
Camille Pelletier	AEM	Geotechnical Engineer
Jamie Quesnel	AEM	Permitting
Michelle Sadler	AEM	Water Management and Geotechnical Engineering Supervisor
Vanessa Wanie	AEM	Water Management Engineer
John Dockrey	Lorax	Consultant (on line)
Scott Jackson	Lorax	Consultant
Marion Habersetzer	BGC	Consultant
Gillian Allen	O'Kane	Consultant
Kevin Hawton		Review Board
Ron Nicholson		Review Board
Anthony Rattue		Review Board

ATTACHMENT B

SELECTED PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo #1 East Dike toe area at 60+550



Photo #2 Surface flow downstream from 60+550



Photo #3 Windrow at 60+550



Photo #4 Run-off flow path towards area at 60+550



Photo #5 Bay-Goose Dike, downstream of dike in area of channel 1



Photo #6 Bay-Goose pit, channels 1 and 2 of Bay-Goose dike.



Photo #7 Bay-Goose pit, channel 3 of Bay-Goose dike



## AGNICO EAGLE

**To:** D. Anthony Rattue, Ron Nicholson, Kevin Hawton

**From:** Agnico Eagle Mines, Meadowbank, Nunavut Division

**Date:** March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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### **RESPONSE TO MEADOWBANK DIKE REVIEW BOARD – REPORT N° 33**

The thirty-third meeting between the Meadowbank Dike Review Board (MBK IRB) and Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (AEM) was held November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in Montreal. The objective of the meeting was to present and discuss the status of the operations and construction of Meadowbank Complex Critical Infrastructures for water and tailings management. The meeting covers all Meadowbank Complex sites including Vault and Amaruq and is conducted yearly. On-ground site visits were also conducted for each site during a visit on August 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

On January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026, the Board provided their report (MBK IRB Report 33), with recommendations. The present letter provides the response from AEM to the Board recommendations. All recommendations are detailed in the following table along with their associated location, AEM action plan, the recommendation status, and the anticipated action completion date. This table will be used by AEM to follow-up on each action throughout the year and to update the Board when the next MBK IRB meeting is held.

Best Regards,

Eric Haley  
Environmental & Critical Infrastructure Superintendent  
Meadowbank, Nunavut Division  
Agnico Eagle Mines

MDRB 33 Recommendations and Action Plan

ID	Location	Year	Recommendation	Action Plan/Follow-up	Status	Responsible	Completion date
MBK IRB#33-1	Site-wide InSAR	2025	Data is compared to drone surveys although there are some limitations, including the apparent inability to make year-to-year comparisons. This aspect should be discussed with the service provider as it may present an important handicap to use of the technology.	A discussion is planned with the vendor to see if we can have a tie-point selection and back-process summer 2025. Tie-points to be used for all future summers.	Open	Geotech	
MBK IRB#33-2	Central Dike D/S Pond	2025	The Board cautions that in event that water levels need to be rapidly reduced, additional stability analyses may be required to assess the impact of rapid drawdown on the West Road stability, and possibly the Central Dike. There may be benefit in identifying potential scenarios and carrying out the analyses in advance.	AEM agrees with the risks and caution requirement highlighted by the board. At this stage, AEM does not identify any realistic short-term nor long-term plans to rapidly drawdown the d/s pond water level by a significant amount.	Closed	Geotech	Feb 26
MBK IRB#33-3	TSF	2025	The Board cautions that further thought and planning into the final grading plans for the North Cell should be carried out to minimize the depth of excavations into the tailings and through the Stormwater Dike.	As part of the TSF closure cover detailed engineering, extreme precipitation and melt scenarios will be reviewed. Work is also carried out to review extent and grades of the channels to minimize tailings excavation. Okane is modifying the capping landform to minimize excavation in tailings, as presented in the 60% Stage Gate meeting held on February 19, 2026.	Ongoing	Geotech / Okane Consultants	
MBK IRB#33-4	East Dike	2025	Thermistor strings in the dike and in the foundation downstream together with additional piezometers in unfrozen ground may provide the complementary information to explain the current situation and to monitor the evolution during progressive raising of the water level in Pits E and A.	AEM will assess the current instrumentation status and coverage and the requirements for additional instrumentation as per the board recommendation. AEM will also remain cautious to avoid any risk that drilling could induce to the structure by adding new instruments.	Open	Geotech	
MBK IRB#33-5	East Dike	2025	The Board concurs with the decision to prepare for any remedial works but recommends that AEM make every effort to fully understand the reasons for the observations and to identify the location of any seepage before embarking on a grouting program. To this end, evaluation of the trends should include comparisons with early performance right after initial dewatering, and before any ground freezing and mine pit excavation.	AEM will continue to monitor instrumentation and field conditions closely. Trends will be reviewed to compare new data to early post-dewatering baselines to separate seasonal/thermal effects from structural change. AEM remains cautious to avoid any risk that drilling could induce to the structure by adding new instruments or for grouting. AEM is working in on grouting remediation preparedness while using instrumentation, observations and targeted investigations such as the Aug 2025 geophysical surveys to understand and narrow potential flows paths.	Ongoing	Geotech	
MBK IRB#33-6	Bay-Goose Dike	2025	However, close monitoring is required, and the Board supports the decision to maintain the YELLOW Tarp status. A careful review of topography (natural foundation and key trench excavation) is recommended to define observation points and strategic locations for excavation of the snow to expose toe areas during the winter period when a reactivation of seepage could occur. AEM has, in fact, adopted such an approach as was mentioned during a conference call held on December 18th to update the Board on the current status. Further work to complement the instrument array, partially clear snow from the upstream side of the crest to promote freezing, and planning for potential engagement of Willowstick services to enable focus on potential sources of seepage were also discussed during this call.	The structure YELLOW TARP status is maintained and AME will continue proactive close monitoring of instrumentation and visual conditions, as per OMS Manual. Water quality sampling at downstream remains also in effect. As highlighted by the board, AEM proactively used equipment to expose and localize the seepage observations points, following a topography and foundation review. Snow clearing activities will continue in key areas during winter to expose the toe and allow direct inspection for seepage reactivation. Willowstick geophysics campaign deployment has been completed. Final results are under review by AEM. The information will be used to recommend locations for new instrumentation installation. However, AEM's approach is to remain cautious and avoid any unnecessary risk that drilling could induce to the structure by adding new instruments or for grouting. AEM will prioritize the assessment of the seepage flowrate as a priority prio to undertake drilling activities.	Ongoing	Geotech	
MBK IRB#33-7	Whale Tail Dike	2025	The Board suggests that AEM could review the TARP level for this structure, given the generally stable condition of the ground temperatures and seepage rates. The high potential risk classification for this structure is sufficient justification for frequent surveillance regardless of the TARP level.	As per usual annual OMS Manual review process, AEM will review the structure performance data and conditions. Surveillance scope and frequencies of each TARP levels will be adapted according the review and the board recommendations. Following the OMS Manual update and approval, changes in TARP level of the structure will be communicated and documented as per usual processes.	Ongoing	Geotech	
MBK IRB#33-8	Long-term Stability	2025	The Board encourages ongoing review of potential risks that may develop during late operations and into early closure. Identification and delineation of potential consequences will help to better orient further analytical studies. (Long term stability analysis from BGC).	As a next step following the modeling assessment, work will be undertaken to identify potential risks and consequences by reviewing vulnerable areas, comparing current behaviour to early baselines, mapping realistic "what-if" scenarios linked to late-life conditions, and screening which outcomes matter most for long-term stability. This risk/consequence framework will inform requirements for further long-term stability analyses focus on the most relevant scenarios.	Ongoing	Geotech	
MBK IRB#33-9	Long-term Stability	2025	The critical infrastructure stability and seepage review recently carried out will be a valuable exercise, however the framing of the work and the definition of expectations should be discussed and fully developed with the consultants as soon as possible and before finalizing the report.	AEM will review the objectives and expectations of these studies and establish a path forward.	Ongoing	Geotech	
MBK IRB#33-10	Water Management Strategy	2025	The Board notes that continuous flow and treatment through Goose Pit could also be reviewed as a potential means of optimizing water treatment strategies. This would have the added advantage of not creating drawdown periods that may be prejudicial to stability of the pit walls and overburden.	AEM will evaluate a continuous-flow treatment scenarios for Goose Pit and compare it to the current semi-batch approach, focusing on water quality, water balance, operational feasibility and stability implications. The operational scenario will be optimized to minimize large drawdown/re-fill cycles would reduce risk to pit walls and overburden, as noted by the Board.	Open	Water Management	
MBK IRB#33-11	General	2025	For general background/baseline data, one or two strategically placed thermistor strings would not go amiss. These could provide useful data on the effects of general ambient warming trends in areas unaffected by construction and seepage conditions. However, monitoring of snow depth at such instruments would be advisable for calibration.	AEM will review needs and explore suitable locations for baseline thermistor monitoring.	Open	Geotech	