



Water Resources Division  
Resource Management Directorate  
Nunavut Regional Office  
P.O. Box 100  
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence  
2AM-WTP1830  
Our file - Notre référence  
GCDocs# 93454649

April 9, 2021

Mr. Richard Dwyer  
Manager of Licensing  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0  
E-mail: [licensing@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:licensing@nwb-oen.ca)

**Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada review of responses to comments on the Adaptive Management Plan for the Whale Tail Project, Submitted by Agnico Eagle Limited for Water Licence 2AM-WTP1830**

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Thank you for your April 1, 2021 request for confirmation on whether the response of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (AEM) addresses the comments made by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) on the Adaptive Management Plan (AMP) for the Whale Tail Project. CIRNAC provided seven review comments on the AMP on February 22, 2021. AEM provided responses to those comments on March 26, 2021.

CIRNAC reviewed the responses pursuant to its mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act*. Based on AEM's response to CIRNAC's original eight comments, numbers 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 are resolved. CIRNAC would like to provide the following additional comments and recommendations for the Nunavut Water Board's consideration regarding comments 1 and 4:

1. In its response to CIRNAC comment #1, AEM referred to a decision letter issued on January 27, 2021 by the Nunavut Planning Commission. However, no reference or copy of the referred letter is provided. CIRNAC recommends that AEM provide a reference or a copy of the letter to CIRNAC for further review.
4. On CIRNAC comment #4, AEM did not provide an explanation on why two different depths of the thermal active layer have been applied or assumed in different management plans. CIRNAC would like to reiterate our original recommendation that

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AEM explain why two different depths of the thermal active layer have been applied or assumed.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to participate in this review. If there are any questions, please contact me at (867) 975-4555 or [david.zhong@canada.ca](mailto:david.zhong@canada.ca), or Bridget Campbell at (867) 975-4282 or [bridget.campbell@canada.ca](mailto:bridget.campbell@canada.ca).

Sincerely,

David Zhong  
Regulatory and Science Advisor