

File: 2AM-WTP1830/D1, D3

July 13, 2022

Alexandra Ozaruk Compliance Counselor Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Suite 540 Baker Lake, NU X0C 0A0 Jamie Quesnel
Director, Permitting and Regulatory Affairs
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
145 King Street East, Suite 400
Toronto, ON M5C 2Y7

Email: <u>alexandra.ozaruk@agnicoeagle.com</u> E-mail: <u>Jamie.Quesnel@agnicoeagle.com</u>

Subject: Whale Tail A47-N Design Report; Type "A" Water Licence 2AM-WTP1830, Whale Tail Pit Project; Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

Dear Alexandra Ozaruk and Jamie Quesnel:

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) received from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) on May 24, 2022 the document entitled "Whale Tail A47-N Design Report" dated May 2022 (Report) as the requirement of Part D, Item 1 and Part D, Item 3 of Water Licence No: 2AM-WTP1830 (Licence) that was originally approved by the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada on July 11, 2018.

The Report was distributed for interested parties' review with a deadline for submissions set for June 16, 2022. Submissions¹ were received from the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KivIA), Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA), and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) on or before June 16, 2022.

The KivIA recommended that Agnico Eagle provide the following information:

- Whether precipitation on site in 2021 deviated from average;
- Confirmation whether designed capacity of the sump is sufficient;
- Whether collected water will find its way to the open pit in the event of the sump overfilling, and
- Whether sump capacity can be increased "if the height of the pit ring road was included".

CIRNA requested information on water quality monitoring during and after construction and geochemical analysis of excavated material. ECCC noted it had no comments.

¹ Kivalliq Inuit Association, dated May [sic] 15, 2022; Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, dated June 16, 2022; Environment and Climate Change Canada, dated June 16, 2022.

On June 29, 2022, the Licensee provided its response to the Intervener comments stating:

The purpose of the A47-N sump is to intercept runoff water before it reaches the IVR Pit to minimize the amount of water to be managed within the IVR Pit and to ease mining operations. Without this sump, the water reporting in that area would flow through the ring road as it is not a water retaining infrastructure and be managed within the IVR Pit footprint. The pumping infrastructure in the IVR Pit is sized to manage such water and pump it toward the IVR Attenuation Pond, however it is more efficient for mining operations to manage this water before it reaches the pit to minimize the amount of water ponding on drill patterns.

The A47-N sump is designed to have an effective capacity of 5,040 m3 after excavation and rockfill placement, which allows to manage a 1:100 year peak flow event without having water reporting to IVR Pit. Year 2021 was an above average year for precipitation based on the years that the Whale Tail mine site has been operating.

In addition, Agnico Eagle noted that water quality monitoring would be conducted in accordance with the procedures set for the IVR Attenuation Pond, and geochemical testing would be conducted as described in the "Operational ARD-ML Sampling and Testing Plan – Whale Tail Pit Project".

Both CIRNA and KivIA confirmed their satisfaction with the Licensee's responses on or before July 12, 2022.

Copies of all documents received during the review of the Plans 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/D%20CONSTRUCTION/D1%2C%20D2/A47-N%20Sump

The Board acknowledges that the Report addresses the requirements of Part D, Item 1 of the Licence. The Licensee is advised that the Board's review of this document is a verification that the proposed activity is consistent with the existing terms and conditions of the Licence and more specifically with Part D, Item 1, and may proceed in accordance with the Report and drawings provided. It should be noted that the Board's acceptance is NOT intended or offered as any representation regarding the suitability of the plans nor third-party verification of the design, construction, planning or engineering discussed in the document.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 360-6338 or assol.kubeisinova@nwb-oen.ca at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Assol Kubeisinova Nunavut Water Board A/Director, Technical Services cc: Distribution List - Meadowbank