



File: 2AM-WTP1830/D1

January 23, 2026

Alexandra Ozaruk
Compliance Counselor
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division
Baker Lake, Nunavut, Canada X0C 0A0

E-mail: alexandra.ozaruk@agnicoeagle.com

Subject: Licence No: 2AM-WTP1830 Type A – Notice of Construction of Whale Tail GSP-2 Storage Pond by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited for the Whale Tail Project

Dear Alexandra Ozaruk:

On November 5, 2025, the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or the Board) received a Notice of Construction of Whale Tail GSP-2 Storage Pond (Notice) along with a design report titled Whale Tail GSP-2 Storage Pond Design Report (Design Report) from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee). This notice is required under Part D, Item 1 of the type A Water Licence 2AM-WTP1830 (Licence).

The Design Report stated that the GSP-2 Storage Pond is a temporary saline water storage pond and is part of ramping up of the production and the mining activities at the underground mine. The storage pond is required in operation to manage the increasing forecasted saline water quantity as the Mine expands to deeper locations below permafrost. The Design Report also noted that the GSP-2 is an approved facility under the License and will be constructed north of the approved IVR pit shell and south of Nemo Lake Road. Agnico Eagle noted that the construction of GSP-2 Storage Pond is planned for January 2026 and is anticipated to take 5 months to complete based on site and weather conditions.

On November 5, 2025, the NWB distributed the Notice and Design Report for public review and interested parties were invited to comment by December 5, 2025. The NWB received submissions from the Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Kivalliq Inuit Association (KivIA), and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO). DFO advised that they have no comments or recommendations at this time.

CIRNAC in their submission on November 28, 2025, provided the following recommendations:

- The Licensee to update the Design Report to comply with the reporting requirements outlined in Part D, Item 3 of 2AM-WTP1830.

- The Licensee to update the Design Report to include water management practices that would be used if construction overlaps with freshet and applicable management practices that would be used to mitigate potential impacts of construction on water quality.
- The Licensee to:
 - Clarify how the catchment runoff volume was derived, including outlining any assumptions, limitations, and results associated with the analysis; and
 - Assess the hydrological implications of constructing GSP-2 in the new proposed location, including any changes to pit inflows and water quality during operations.
- The Licensee to confirm the number of benches that are contemplated for construction and provide site-specific information that was used to justify the design assumptions.

KivIA in their submission on December 5, 2025, provided the following recommendations:

- The hydrological information used to determine the contingency for catchment runoff be provided.
- The information used in the extensive internal review (to identify the location for GSP-2) be provided.
- The geotechnical information used to make the assumption (an overburden thickness of 7 m, with a 1 m of contingency) be provided.
- The correct information be provided for the number of benches.
- The correct information be provided for the width of the single-lane ramp.
- Based on the 5-month schedule starting in January, 2026 the construction will likely overlap the 2026 freshet so applicable water management practices should be put in place.
- The material being removed from WSP-2 be tested for acid rock drainage and metal leaching and be reported in the 2026 Annual report.

On January 6, 2026, Agnico Eagle provided their response and additional information to parties' submissions. The NWB requested parties to confirm by January 20, 2026, whether they were satisfied with Agnico Eagle's response. CIRNAC requested an extension till January 28, 2026, to provide their conformation. On January 22, 2026, Agnico Eagle provided supplementary information to address CIRNAC's original recommendations.

On January 23, 2026, CIRNAC noted that *CIRNAC reviewed Agnico Eagle's response to comments on the Design Report and determined that the responses were not satisfactory. However, upon review of the supplementary information provided on Thursday, January 22, CIRNAC is satisfied with the responses provided to its comments. CIRNAC also noted that in the future, CIRNAC would appreciate a fulsome response from Agnico Eagle to its comments to avoid unnecessary delays in the regulatory process.* KivIA also confirmed on January 23, 2026, that *the KIA has reviewed the Agnico Eagle's response to comments on the Design Report GSP-2 Storage Pond for Water Licence, and the additional information provided, and has no additional comments.*

Copies of all documents received in support of the Notification can be accessed through the NWB's Public Registry site using the following Link:

[2AM-WTP1830 Whale Tail GSP-2 Storage Pond](#)

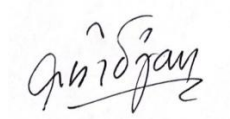
NWB's Review

The Licensee is advised that the Board's review of the Notice and Design Report is a confirmation that the proposed activity is consistent with the existing terms and conditions of the Licence. 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 Notice or Design Report. Further, in keeping with Part D Item 3 of the Licence, the Licensee shall within ninety (90) days of completion of the proposed construction works, submit to the Board for review a Construction Summary Report that includes as-built plans and drawings, documentation of field decisions that deviate from original plans and any data used to support these decisions in accordance with Schedule D, Item 1 of the Licence.

The Board would like to note that the issuance of this correspondence is before the deadline provided to parties to confirm whether they are satisfied with the Licensee's response. The parties who originally provided their submissions have already confirmed that they are satisfied with the response and additional information provided, and the Board does not expect to receive any further comments from other parties that did not provide submissions.

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

Sincerely,



Abid Jan
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Water Board

aj/rqd

Cc: Distribution List – Meadowbank