



Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
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Your file - Votre référence

Our file - Notre référence
GCDocs# 988008810

September 28, 2021

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

**Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada Review of the of
Landfarm Design Report & Landfarm Design Management Plan for Agnico
Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Whale Tail Project, Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-WTP1830**

Dear Richard,

Thank you for the September 7, 2021 invitation to review the Landfarm Design Report & Landfarm Design Management Plan submitted by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Whale Tail Project, Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-WTP1830

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) examined the application 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*. Please find CIRNAC comments and recommendations in the attached Technical Memorandum.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at (867) 975-4550 or Andrew.Keim@rcaanc-cirnac.c.ca

Sincerely,

A/Manager
Water Resources, Nunavut Regional Office
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada



Technical Review Memorandum

Date: September 28, 2021

To: Richard Dwyer, Manager of licencing , Nunavut Water Board

From: Andrew Keim, A/Manager, CIRNAC

Subject: **Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada Review of the of Landfarm Design Report & Landfarm Design Management Plan for Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Whale Tail Project, Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-WTP1830**

Region: ☐ Kitikmeot ☒ Kivalliq ☐ Qikiqtani

A. BACKGROUND

The Whale Tail (Amaruq) satellite deposit is located northwest of the Meadowbank mine and 150 Kilometers north of the hamlet of Bake Lake Nunavut. The project was first licensed by the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) in 2018 following a full environmental review completed by the Nunavut Impact Review Board on March 15, 2018. The project involves the construction, operation, maintenance, reclamation, closure and monitoring of an open pit gold mine.

Following licensing, additional infrastructure to support the Whale Tail and IVR pits were built at the Amaruq site including, truck shop/warehouse, fuel storage and additional camp facilities. In 2018, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM) proposed an expansion project to increase gold production from the original Whale Tail Pit Project by expanding mining activities at the Whale Tail Pit and development of the IVR open pit and underground.

The NWB Water License amendment process for the Whale Tail Pit Expansion Project was completed on 12 May 2020 and Water License Amendment No. 2AM-WTP1830 was issued. Commercial production under the Whale Tail Pit Expansion Project began December 2020.

The current submission by AEM under the Type A Water Licence 2AM-WTP1830 includes the following two documents as required by the Water License 2AM-WTP1830 Part D Item 1 and serve to meet the required 60 days notice prior to construction.

- 2AM-WTP1830 LANDFARM DESIGN MGMT PLAN
- 2AM-WTP1830 LANDFARM DESIGN REPORT



CIRNAC has no concerns with the updated Landfarm Design Management Plans or Design Report provided to the Nunavut Water Board by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd and offers only the following comment.

B. DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

The following table (Table 2) provides a summary of the documents reviewed under the submission.

Table 2: Documents Reviewed

Document Title	Author, File No., Rev., Date
2AM-WTP1830 LANDFARM DESIGN MANAGEMENT PLAN V2	Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. August 2021
2AM-WTP1830 LANDFARM DESIGN REPORT	6129-696-rep-001 SNC Lavalin , August 27,2021
2AM-WTP1826 AppG.7 Whaletail Pit Landfarm Design Management Plan Part 1	Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. April 2019
2AM-WTP1826 AppG.7 Whaletail Pit Landfarm Design Management Plan Part 2	Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. April 2019

C. RESULTS OF REVIEW

1. Responsibilities

Comment:

CIRNAC has reviewed the Landfarm Design Management Plan V2 and the Landfarm Design report provided by AEM and notes that a Summary of Landfarm activities and records to be kept appears in Table 6.2, page 24 of the Design Report.

This table details certain tasks, their frequency and the associated records to be kept related to those tasks however it fail to identify the responsible party for each activity. Additionally, the responsibility for reporting on these activities is also not clearly defined for the reviewer.