



Water Resources Division
Nunavut Regional Office
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence
2AM-WTP1826

December 07, 2018

Our file - Notre référence
CIDM# 1235510

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Sent via email: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) comments on Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (AEM's) Waste Rock Storage Facility (WRSF), Non-Potentially Acid Generating (NPAG) Stockpile and Overburden Stockpile Design Report and Drawings – Whale Tail Pit Project under AEM's Type "A" Water Licence No. 2AM-WTP1826.

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Thank-you for the email notice to interested parties, received on November 22, 2018, regarding AEM's WRSF, NPAG Stockpile and Overburden Stockpile Design Report and Drawings at the Whale Tail Pit Project.

CIRNAC reviewed and provided comment on AEM's WRSF, NPAG Stockpile and Overburden Stockpile Design Report and Drawings pursuant to its mandated responsibilities from the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act*. The following are CIRNAC's comments only on the WRSF engineering design submitted in the aforementioned report. CIRNAC's comments on operation of the WRSF, water management, construction material sorting, and inquiry on AEM's adaptive management mitigation strategy if 100 percent 'clean' WRSF cover is not achieved have already been provided to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) in the applicable management and monitoring plan submissions.

If you have any questions or require further information with respect to this matter, contact me at (867) 975-3877 or email michelle.blade@canada.ca, or Ian Parsons at (867) 222-9278 or email ian.parsons@canada.ca.

Regards,

Michelle Blade
Regional Coordinator, Water Resources, Nunavut Regional Office

Canada



Memorandum

To: Richard Dwyer, Manager of Licensing, NWB

From: Michelle Blade, Regional Coordinator, Water Resources, CIRNAC

Date: December 07, 2018

Re: **Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) comments on Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (AEM's) Waste Rock Storage Facility (WRSF), Non-Potentially Acid Generating (NPAG) Stockpile and Overburden Stockpile Design Report and Drawings – Whale Tail Pit Project under AEM's Type "A" Water Licence No. 2AM-WTP1826.**

Applicant:	Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (AEM)
Representatives:	Jamie Quesnel and Ryan Vanengen
Project:	Whale Tail Pit Project
Region:	Kivalliq

A. BACKGROUND

On July 11, 2018, the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) approved Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (AEM) Whale Tail Pit Project Type 'A' Water Licence No. 2AM-WTP1826 application. The Whale Tail Pit Project is a gold deposit located near Baker Lake, Nunavut.

SUBMISSIONS

The following documents were reviewed:

- **Whale Tail WRSF, NPAG Stockpile and Overburden Stockpile Design Report and Drawings** – Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division, November 2018.

CIRNAC reviewed and provided comment on AEM's WRSF, NPAG Stockpile and Overburden Stockpile Design Report and Drawings pursuant to its mandated responsibilities from the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act*. The following are CIRNAC's comments only on the WRSF engineering design submitted in the aforementioned report. CIRNAC's comments on operation of the WRSF, water management, construction material sorting, and inquiry on AEM's adaptive management mitigation strategy if 100 percent 'clean' WRSF cover is not achieved have already been provided to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) in the applicable management and monitoring plan submissions.



B. RESULTS OF REVIEW

Section	Pages	Comments
Drawing: Whale Tail WRSF Layout	Appendix A: Project Site Layout	<p>On the provided site layout, we noted the legend for a temporary road. AEM is to clarify the purpose of this road. We assume it will be built and used to facilitate the construction of the WRSF. We do not see any construction narratives describing how the indicated road will be put in place.</p> <p>AEM is to provide adequate construction drawings for the installation of the temporary road in the design report if required.</p>
Permafrost	Section 2.6	<p>AEM's design report states "<i>the typical depth of the active layer is 2 m in this region of Canada. The typical permafrost ground temperatures at the depths of zero annual amplitude (typically at the depth of below 15 m) is approximately -8.0 °C in areas away from lakes and streams.</i>" CIRNAC requests the thermistor details and temperature profile be provided for the aforementioned measurements at the Whale Tail Pit site.</p>
Instrumentation during construction & closure/post-closure	Section 4.6.1 & Section 4.6.2	<p>AEM's design report states "<i>an adaptive monitoring strategy will be implemented in which the decision to install additional thermistor in operation will be based on the analysis of the results of the thermal monitoring program.</i>" CIRNAC requests further details on what temperature, depths and timing would trigger the decision to install additional thermistors and/or signal the WRSF design is not performing as intended.</p>