



ᓄᓇᓂᓪ ᐃᓕᓕᓂᓪ ᑲᓂᓕᓂᓪ
NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File: 2AM-WTP1826/TR/D1, 2

December 20, 2018

Marie-Pier Marcil
Environmental Compliance Counselor
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
145, King Street East Suite 400,
Toronto, ON M5C 2Y7

Jamie Quesnel
Environmental Superintendent - Nunavut
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
145, King Street East Suite 400,
Toronto, ON M5C 2Y7

E-mail: marie-pier.marcil@agnicoeagle.com

E-mail: Jamie.Quesnel@agnicoeagle.com

Subject: Whale Tail WRSF, NPAG Stockpile and Overburden Stockpile Design Report and Drawings; Type “A” Water Licence 2AM-WTP1826, Whale Tail Pit Project; Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

Dear Ms. Marcil and Mr. Quesnel:

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) received from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) on November 22, 2018, the document entitled: “Whale Tail WRSF, NPAG Stockpile and Overburden Stockpile Design Report and Drawings” (Report) as a requirement of Part D, Item 1 of Water Licence 2AM-WTP1826 (Licence) that was approved by the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Canada on July 11, 2018. The Report was dated November 2018.

The Report presents the 60-day construction notice of the Whale Tail WRSF full foot print, the NPAG stockpile, and the overburden stockpile and provides final design and construction drawings and a detailed report of the planned construction, operation and closure activities of these infrastructures.

The Report indicates that *the area located north-west of the open pit, has been identified as the Whale Tail WRSF for waste rock placement. Waste rock and overburden will be trucked to the Whale Tail WRSF until the end of mine operations, with distribution according to the operations schedule.*

To ensure segregation of sufficient quantities of NPAG for closure considerations, a stockpile of NPAG of 2 Million Tonnes (Mt) will be created in the footprint shared with the planned overburden storage location to the southeast of the Whale Tail Pit. The NPAG stockpile is not planned as a permanent structure. The NPAG material will be utilized during the closure phase, and NPAG stockpile is not expected at closure.

The overburden is of glacial till origin, composed of a thin layer of organic material overlying a layer of non-cohesive soil with variable amounts of silt, sand, and gravel (lakebed sediments, till

and till-like material). The feasibility of overburden segregation between lakebed sediments and organic material will be assessed during the stripping stage.

A portion of the stripped overburden will be temporarily stockpiled in the overburden stockpile near Whale Tail Dike and where the contact runoff will naturally flow into the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond. This overburden will be used for restoration purposes at closure. The lakebed sediments and the till and till-like materials (which are saturated) will be co-disposed with waste rock in the Whale Tail WRSF and will be surrounded with waste rock for stabilization. Codisposition of saturated overburden with the waste rock will minimize containment requirements (e.g. construction of a basin) in the overburden stockpile. All the overburden stockpiled in the Whale Tail WRSF will be covered with NPAG waste rock.

The Report was distributed for interested parties' review with a deadline for submissions set at December 7, 2018. On December 5, 2018, the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) informed the NWB that they do not have comments at this time. On December 7, 2018, comments were received from the Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC). On December 19, 2018, Agnico Eagle provided responses to CIRNAC comments. On December 20, 2018, CIRNAC informed the NWB that Agnico Eagle responses have addressed CIRNAC comments.

The Board acknowledges that the Report addresses the requirements of Part D, Item 2 of Licence 2AM-WTP1826, and has accepted the Design Report for Whale Tail WRSF, NPAG Stockpile and Overburden Stockpile, as required by Part D, Item 1 of 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 the Part D, Item 2, 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 karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca at your earliest convenience.

Regards,

Karén Kharatyan
Director of Technical Services

cc: Distribution List - Meadowbank