



Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie & Northern Region
5019 52nd Street, 4th Floor
P.O. Box 2310
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

ECCC File: 6100 000 008/015
NWB File: 2AM-WTP1826

July 11, 2018

Via email at: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licencing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Mr. Dwyer:

RE: 2AM-WTP1826 – Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Whale Tail Project – Water Treatment Plant Design Report and Construction Water Treatment Plant Operations and Maintenance Manual

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) regarding the above-mentioned report and manual, and is submitting comments via email. ECCC's specialist advice is provided based on our mandate, in the context of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*.

ECCC reviewed the Design Report and did not have any comments. The following comment is provided on the Construction Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual:

1. As per Section 2.1.2, sludge is sent to the rock fill structure located in the energy dispenser, which is a minimum of 31 m from the Whale Tail Lake shore. Total suspended solids are passively removed from the water by percolating onto the rock fill structure located in the energy dispenser and water will flow by gravity back into Whale Tail Lake.

ECCC recommends that the Construction WTP O&M Manual includes regular inspections of the sludge discharge location to ensure that particulate materials do not migrate to surface waters.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4733 or Melissa.Pinto@canada.ca.

Sincerely,

[original signed by]

Melissa Pinto
Senior Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Georgina Williston, Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)
ECCC Review Team