



Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence
2AM-WTP1830
Our file - Notre référence
CIDM#1292722

February 12, 2021

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

Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's reply to Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's response to our comments on the Design Report of IVR Attenuation Pond D-1Dike for water licence #2AM-WTP1830 - Whale Tail Pit Project

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Thank you for your February 9, 2021 invitation for reply to Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (AEM) February 9, 2021 response to Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's (CIRNAC) February 5, 2021 comments on the Design Report of IVR Attenuation Pond D-1Dike.

- 1. Pond Capacity** – CIRNAC is satisfied with the clarification on the pond's capacity and appreciates AEM and the Nunavut Water Board's help and instructions to find the correct version of the Water Management Plan and Load and Water Balance. It appears the pond design will almost meet the 413 411 m³ requirement from the Golder 2019 Mean Annual Water Balance Update included as an appendix in version 5 of the Water Management Plan (July 2020). A mistake in the pond water surface elevation and storage will be corrected in Table 29 of the next revision of the Water Balance Update.
- 2. Seasonal Operating Water Levels** – CIRNAC's comments included a recommendation for the licensee to *"define operating water levels for both the summer and fall/winter and clarify how they propose to manage freshet meltwater if the pond is at maximum operating level over winter."* The only information provided in AEM's response on normal operating levels is that they *"will be set at a lower level [than maximum operating level] based on operational strategy"*, and will be included in the next update of the Water Management Plan. This is insufficient information if the pond comes into service prior to the Water Management Plan update. CIRNAC

recommends the licensee provide the requested information in a plan addendum or commit to updating the plan prior to the pond coming into service.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to participate in this review. If there are any questions, please contact me at (867) 975-3876 or sarah.forte@canada.ca, or Bridget Campbell at (867) 975-4282 or bridget.campbell@canada.ca.

Sincerely,



Sarah Forté
Water management specialist