



July 16th, 2018

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

Re: Agnico Eagle Mines – Meadowbank Division Responses to CWTP Design Report and OMM

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

As requested, the following information and comments are intended to address the recommendations outlined in the below letters:

- ECCC – July 11, 2018, 2AM-WTP1826 – *Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Whale Tail Project – Water Treatment Plant Design Report and Construction Water Treatment Plant Operations and Maintenance Manual*
- CIRNAC – July 9, 2018, *Crown - Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's CIRNAC) Review of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's Water Treatment Plant Design - Water Licence 2AM-WTP1826 - Whale Tail Project*

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

Manon Turmel
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Environmental Compliance Counselor



1) Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)

Comment: 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.

Recommendation: 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.

Agnico Eagle Mines response:

Agnico Eagle agrees and has revised section 2.1.2 to include:

After micro-sand separation, the sludge is sent to the rock fill structure located in the energy dispenser (expected solid at 0.5% solid depending on TSS feed water quality at a rate of approximately 54m³/h). Regular inspections of the sludge discharge location will be completed to ensure that particulate materials do not migrate to surface waters.

The revised document can be found in Appendix A.

2) Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's (CIRNAC)

Comment: CIRNAC has completed a review of the above and is generally satisfied with the Water Treatment Plant Design and as such has only one general comment. Although not directly related to the water treatment plant itself, reading the documentation, CIRNAC found TSS controls such as double placement of TSS barriers (booms/curtains). However, CIRNAC could find no reference to mitigation measures if the booms/curtains were to be ineffective as well as mitigation measures for controlling TSS in the event of strong winds that would reduce the effectiveness of TSS barriers.

Recommendation: CIRNAC recommends that the applicant look into introducing mitigation measures in the event of a wind storm and/or if the current method is ineffective.

Agnico Eagle Mines response:

Agnico Eagle will install anchored shallow turbidity curtains in the near shore, therefore reducing the possibility of impacts due to winds. However, if the turbidity curtains are ineffective, Agnico Eagle will halt construction activities which potentially generate TSS, monitor downstream of curtains, repair the curtains and proceed when TSS levels meet Type A Licence limits for construction (Part D Item 6).