



May 18, 2021

Karen Costello  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
PO Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

NIRB File No.: 16MN056  
NPC File No. 149515  
NWB File No. 2AM-WTP1830

**Re: Whale Tail Project Modification – IVR and Whale Tail Pushbacks – Implications to Monitoring**

Dear Ms. Costello,

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle) is writing to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) to inform the NIRB of monitoring activities associated with the proposed Modification to the Whale Tail Project; specifically, the IVR Pushback and Whale Tail Pushback.

**1. Background**

On March 30, 2021 Agnico Eagle submitted an application to the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) to complete a screening of the proposed project changes to the Whale Tail Project, whereby Agnico Eagle has advanced engineering and design to include the IVR and Whale Tail Pushbacks. The NPC concluded on April 20, 2021 that the proposed changes were exempt from screening by the NIRB as the IVR and Whale Tail Pushbacks do not change the general scope of the original or previously amended activities (Attachment A) and that Agnico Eagle should inform the NIRB on potential implications to the monitoring programs.

Subsequently, Agnico Eagle will be submitting a notification of Modification per Type A Water Licence 2AM-WTP1830, Part G, Item 3a-g for the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) review and approval.

**2. Implications to Monitoring**

Agnico Eagle does not anticipate any additional monitoring from that already included within the Type A Water Licence 2AM-WTP1830, particularly as there are no new structures associated with the Modification. Agnico Eagle will adhere to the sampling locations, parameters measured, and frequencies of sampling as outlined in Schedule D, Table 2 – Monitoring Program of the Water Licence, as well as the Whale Tail Project Water Quality and Flow Monitoring Plan.

No new sediment or erosion control measures are required. The measures outlined in Section 3.1.4.5 of the Whale Tail Project Water Management Plan are sufficient for the Modification associated with the IVR and Whale Tail Pushbacks.

### **3. Closure**

Agnico Eagle is committed to responsibly manage waste and water resources to minimize or eliminate potential effects to the environment in accordance with the Project Certificate No. 008-Amendment 001, the Type A Water Licence 2AM-WTP1830, and objectives as outlined in Management Plans for the Project.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Jamie Quesnel  
Director, Permitting & Regulatory Affairs  
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

cc:

Nunavut Water Board

Attachments:

Attachment A    NPC Exempt from Screening Letter



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Nunavut Planning Commission  
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

April 20, 2021  
NPC FILE No. 149515

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Dear Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Manzo, Ms. D'Amours-Gauthier, Ms. Robinson, Ms. McCaie, Mr. Gillis, Maksagak, and Ms. Turmel:

RE: **NPC File No. 149515 [IVR and Whale Tail Pushbacks]**

- Related NPC FILE No. 148297, and 148953
- Related NIRB FILE No. 03MN107, 11EN010, 16MN056, Related NWB FILE No.: 2AM-WTP1830.
- Location: Kivalliq Region; [approximately 150 km north of the Hamlet Baker Lake, near Amaruq]

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The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. Mineral Exploration : A change to the Whale Tail Pit mine site development and intensification of mining activities including IVR Pushback in the southwest portion of the IVR Pit and under the east portion of the Whale Tail WRSF, and Whale Tail Pushback in the northeast portion of the Whale Tail Pit.

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal on July 12, 2002, July 21, 2003, March 10, 2011, October 15, 2015, July 16, 2015, and October 16, 2018, which still apply. In addition, associated activities were previously reviewed by the Nunavut Impact Review Board, including the development of an open pit mine (Whale Tail and IVR) and a haul road establishment (NIRB FILE NO.: 16MN056, Project Certificate No. 008). It conforms to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan (KRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, G, and H of the KRLUP.

The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of the understanding that the proposed IVR and Whale Tail Pushbacks do not change the general scope of the original or previously amended project activities, and the exceptions noted in Section 12.4.3 (a) and (b) of the Nunavut Agreement do not apply. *However, the proponent is encouraged to discuss potential implications for the project's monitoring program with the NIRB.*

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the regulatory authorities identified by the proponent. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149515&sessionid=>

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NUPPAA) to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the NUPPAA.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 979-3444.

Sincerely,



Goump Djalogue  
Senior Planner, MCIP, RPP  
Nunavut Planning Commission