



Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
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Your file - Votre référence
2BB-BOS1727
Our file - Notre référence
GCdocs # 105557101

August 26, 2022

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 Comments on
Agnico Eagle Mine Ltd.'s Fuel Farm Enlargement Design Report for Type B
Water Licences 2BB-BOS1727 for the Hope Bay Belt Project.**

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Thank you for your August 8, 2022 invitation to review the referenced fuel farm enlargement design report for the Hope Bay Belt Project.

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) examined the Report and its attachments pursuant to its mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act*.

Please find CIRNAC comments and recommendations in the attached Technical Memorandum for the Nunavut Water Board's (NWB) consideration.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at (867) 975-4738 or by e-mail at vincent.okonkwo@canada.ca or Andrew Keim at (867) 975-4550 or by e-mail at andrew.keim@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca

Sincerely,

Vincent Okonkwo
Sr. Environmental Assessment Specialist



Technical Review Memorandum

Date: August 26, 2022

To: Richard Dwyer, Manager of Licensing, Nunavut Water Board

From: Vincent Okonkwo, Senior Environmental Assessment Specialist, CIRNAC

Subject: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada Comments on Agnico Eagle Mine Ltd.'s Fuel Farm Enlargement Design Report for Type B Water Licences 2BB-BOS1727 for the Hope Bay Belt Project.

Region: ☒ Kitikmeot ☐ Kivalliq ☐ Qikiqtani

A. BACKGROUND

Hope Bay gold mine project is located on a property approximately 20km x 80km along the south shore of Melville Sound in the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut, and continued to be operated by TMAC Resources Inc. (TMAC) in 2021. TMAC was acquired by Agnico Eagles Mines (AEM) on February 2, 2021 and is now a wholly owned subsidiary of AEM. On January 1st, 2022, AEM and TMAC amalgamated and continued to exist under the name AEM. Accordingly, by operation of law and without any further acts or steps necessary, TMAC ceased to exist and continued as Agnico Eagle, and Agnico Eagle possessed all of the property, rights, privileges and franchises and is subject to all liabilities, including civil, criminal and quasi-criminal, and all contracts, disabilities and debts of TMAC.

Boston camp is part of the Hope Bay gold mine project located 60km south of Hope Bay. The camp is used by the AEM as a logistic center for the ongoing exploration activities in the area. Some of the infrastructure in the camp includes but not limited to a Sewage Treatment Plant, lodging facilities, and a fuel farm which the enlargement design report is currently under review.

On February 18, 2022, AEM announced its decision to place the Hope Bay project into care and maintenance to enable them to upgrade the existing infrastructure that included the enlargement of the fuel farm by installing eight (8) horizontal fuel tanks at Boston camp. The NWB invited interested parties on August 8, 2022 to comment on the fuel farm enlargement design report.



The documents reviewed are listed in Table 2 under Section B. A summary of CIRNAC recommendations can be found in Table 1. Review comments for the fuel farm enlargement design report are provided in Section C and References are in Section D.

Table 1: Summary of Recommendations

Recommendation Number	Subject
R-01	Recertification of the Reused Tank
R-02	Runoff Water Management

B. DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

The following table (Table 2) provides a summary of the documents reviewed under the submission.

Table 2: Documents Reviewed

Document Title	Author, File No., Rev., Date
2BB-BOS1727 6207-416-132-REP-001_R0 - Boston Camp Fuel Farm Enlargement - Design Report_For use-IMLE	Agnico Eagle, August 5, 2022
220808 2BB-BOS1727 62-416-230-001_R0-IMLE	Agnico Eagle, August 5, 2022
220808 2BB-BOS1727 62-416-230-002_R0-IMLE	Agnico Eagle, August 5, 2022
Licence No: 2BB-BOS1727 Type "B", Boston Advanced Exploration Project; Agnico Eagle Mines Limited; Modification No. 1 – Installation of additional fuel tanks and modification of the Sewage Treatment Facility.	Nunavut Water Board, May 7, 2022

C. RESULTS OF REVIEW

The following comments and recommendations are provided for the Nunavut Water Board's consideration.

1. Recertification of the Reused Tank

Comment

In section 1.1 of the design report, AEM states that:

"The tanks are reused from another site of Agnico Eagle and will be recertified by an independent and specialized firm before commissioning".



AEM provided the schedule of activities with regard to the pad upgrade, installation of the tanks and commissioning on section 1.3 of the design report, but did not mention in the schedule when the recertification of the reused tanks will take place.

Moreover, in section 4.2, AEM stated that it has retained the services of a specialized firm that will carry out the certifications but did to provide the details of the firm.

Recommendation

CIRNAC would recommend that AEM:

- Clarify when the recertification of the reused tanks is scheduled to happen.
- Provide details of the specialized firm retained to carry out the inspection and recertification, e.g. names, registration and certification status of the firm etc., when confirmed.

2. Runoff Water Management

Comment

AEM in section 5.3 of the design report states that the fuel farm pad will be sloped in such a way that the runoff water will be flowing down towards the existing pad. Also, the spill basin will be slightly sloped on the pad as well for ease of pumping out collected rainwater to the water treatment pond.

There is a risk of the runoff water from the pad being contaminated with the hydrocarbon, but AEM did not provide any detail how the runoff water will be managed. It is unclear if AEM is planning to build a channel that would convey the runoff water to the treatment pond where the potential contaminated water will be treated or treat the runoff water independently.

Recommendation

CIRNAC recommend that AEM clarify how they intend to manage the runoff water emanating from the fuel farm pad.

D. REFERENCES

Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act (2019)

Licence No: 2BB-BOS1727 Type “B”, Boston Advanced Exploration Project; Agnico Eagle Mines Limited; Modification No. 1 – Installation of additional fuel tanks and modification of the Sewage Treatment Facility.

Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act (2019)

Nunavut Water Board, August 1, 2017: Type B Water Licence 2BB-BOS1727