

P.O. Box 119 GJOA HAVEN, NU X0B 1J0 TEL: (867) 360-6338 FAX: (867) 360-6369 אבה בה' החבה' החבה' NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYIT
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File: 2BE-MEA0813 Amendment No. 2

August 10, 2011

Mr. David Frenette Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited C.P. 87 765 ch. de la Mine Goldex Val d'Or, Quebec J9P 4N9

Email: david.frenette@agnico-eagle.com

**Subject:** Application for Amendment No. 2 to Water Licence 2BE-MEA0813 – Request for

**Response to Reviewer Comments** 

Dear Mr. Frenette,

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) distributed the above-cited application for amendment to water licence 2BE-MEA0813 to interested parties on June 7, 2011. Following the review period, the NWB is in receipt of comments from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and Environment Canada (EC). The comments are available on the NWB's ftp site at the following link:

ftp://nunavutwaterboard.org/1%20PRUC/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2B/2BE%20-%20Exploration/2BE-MEA0813%20Agnico/2%20ADMIN/3%20SUBMISSIONS/

Prior to proceeding further, the NWB would like to provide Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (AEM) with an opportunity to respond to the comments received. Of particular note are the requests from INAC and EC for additional information including:

- The number of holes to be drilled within the thirty (30) metre high water mark;
- The location of each hole and its distance from the nearest water body; and
- A list of mitigation measures to ensure the protection of nearby water bodies from drilling activities. 1,2

The NWB asks that AEM address the comments submitted during the review process in a timely matter so as not to delay the process and no later than August 31, 2011. Should additional time be required,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Letter and Technical Review Memo from David W. Abernethy, INAC, to Richard Dwyer, NWB, Re: Type 'B' Water Licence No. 2BE-MEA0813, 2011 Amendment Application – Meadowbank Exploration Project – Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. – Kivalliq Region, dated July 7, 2011



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Letter from Allison Dunn, EC, to Richard Dwyer, NWB, Re: 2BE-MEA0813 Amendment Application, dated July 7, 2011

please contact the undersigned. The NWB may provide additional procedural instructions once a response has been submitted.

In addition, the NWB notes a conflict between AEM's water licence amendment application and the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) screening decision dated April 21, 2011 (NIRB File 11EN010). Condition 35 of NIRB's Screening Decision does not recommend any land based drilling within thirtyone (31) meters of the normal high water mark of a water body. By copy of this letter to the NIRB, the NWB requests confirmation that the project proposal does not require further screening pursuant to Section 13.5.1 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. If the project is exempt from screening pursuant to Schedule 12-1 of the NLCA, the NWB requests written confirmation from the NIRB that the project proposal is in fact exempt from screening.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the NWB office.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

David Hohnstein Director of Technical Services DH/kt/

Cc. A. Hanson, NIRB Kivalliq Distribution List

Attachment: Reviewer Comments

