

May 29, 2008

Thomas Kabloona Chairperson c/o Phyllis Beaulieu Manager of Licensing Nunavut Water Board Gjoa Haven, NU

Via email: <u>licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org</u>

Re: <u>Application Exempt from Screening: Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. – Amendment to Type B</u> Water License No. 2BE MEA0813

Dear Mr. Kabloona:

On May 28, 2008, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a positive conformity determination (Keewatin Land Use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission for Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd's (AEM's) application to amend their Type B Water License (2BE-MEA0813) with the Nunavut Water Board to expand the capacity of their exploration camp associated with the Meadowbank Gold Project (NIRB File No. 03MN107).

Section 12.3.2 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) states that:

"Project proposals falling within Schedule 12-1 shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB."

Furthermore, Schedule 12-1 (Item 5) of the NLCA identifies the following type of project proposal as being exempt from screening:

"Water uses that do not require a public hearing under 13.7.3."

The NIRB is of the understanding that activities such as this exploration camp fall within the original scope of the Meadowbank Project (NIRB File 03MN107) which underwent a Part 5 NLCA Review, and that the Terms and Conditions contained in the NIRB Project Certificate (No. 004) issued in December 2006 suffice to mitigate any potential adverse impacts.

The NIRB is also of the understanding that the application for (amended) water use sent to NIRB does not require a public hearing and therefore, this application is exempted from screening through Schedule 12-1.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact NIRB's Manager of Environmental Administration, Leslie Payette at lpayette@nirb.ca or (867) 983-4605.

Best regards,

Jeff Rusk

Director, Technical Services

For:

Stephanie Autut Executive Director

Cc: Rachel Gould, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.

Louise Grondin, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. Larry Connell, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. Bobby Suluk, Nunavut Planning Commission