



NIRB File No.: 15EN050
NPC File No.: 148143

November 13, 2015

David Frenette
Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
CP 87, 765 chemin de la mine Goldex
Val-d'Or, QC J9P 4N9

Sent via email: david.frenette@agnicoeagle.com

Re: Notice of Screening for Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "Amaruq, Meadowbank and White Hills" project proposal

Dear David Frenette:

On October 21, 2015 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM) "Amaruq, Meadowbank and White Hills" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission) with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan.

Please note that the referral from the NPC was triggered by cumulative effects concerns pursuant to subsection 80(1) of *NuPPAA* and are related to:

- a) expired and active mineral interests nearby, including advanced projects,
- b) that this project could induce additional activity, and
- c) the area has been identified as having value and priority to local communities for:
 - i. caribou migration
 - ii. general wildlife
 - iii. muskox.

Pursuant to section 86 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number 15EN050.

INFORMATION REQUEST

Following a preliminary completeness check, the NIRB determined that the proposal as submitted did not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening. On October 30, 2015 the NIRB requested that the AEM provide additional information in support of

this proposal by November 13, 2015. On November 10, 2015 the NIRB received the requested additional information to commence with the screening.

PROJECT SCOPE

Project Scope:

The proposed “Amaruq, Meadowbank and White Hills” project is located within the Kivalliq region, between 40 to 140 kilometres (km) north of the community of Baker Lake. The Proponent intends to conduct exploration activities for gold mineralization. The program is proposed to take place from 2016 to 2018 with potential for additional years of exploration.

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following works or activities:

- Exploration activities to include ground or aerial geophysical survey, prospecting and diamond drilling (on-land and on-ice drilling activities);
- Use of water for drilling activities;
- Development of winter accesses (not winter trails) to transport equipment to drill sites;
- Use of helicopter(s) to move drills, equipment and workers;
- Use of Dozer D6 in winter to move drills to exploration areas near existing facilities;
- Use of snowmachines for transport;
- Use of fuel for drilling activities with minimum amounts stored at the drill site(s);
- Use of propane for heat;
- Use of hazardous materials and chemicals including drilling additives;
- Wastes generated at sites transported daily to either Amaruq or Meadowbank camps for proper disposal;
- Ongoing archaeological investigations within the planned exploration area; and
- Use of existing facilities at Amaruq or Meadowbank sites.

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at the following location <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/15EN050-AEM-Amaruq,%20MB,%20White%20Hills/> and include:

- *NPC Screening Referral*
- *NPC Questionnaire and Conformity Determination*
- *NIRB Part 1 Summary Form in English and Inuktitut*
- *Non technical Project Proposal summary in English and Inuktitut*
- *NIRB Part 2 Project Specific Information Requirements*
- *Maps noting claims*
- *Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Type B Application for Land Use Permit*

- *Flight routes*
- *Spill Contingency Plan*
- *Waste Management Plan*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by AEM project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **December 4, 2015**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; if so, why;
- Whether the project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal, including:
 - Whether any cumulative eco-systemic and socio-economic impacts could result from the impacts of the proposed project combined with those of any other project that has been carried out, is being carried out or is likely to be carried out inside the designated area, or wholly or partly outside the designated area.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or require clarification, please contact the undersigned at (867) 857-2052 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho, M.Sc. EP
Senior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
 Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
 Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
 Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Enclosures (2): Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)