

NIRB File No.: 11EN010

NPC File No.: 148261 KIA File No.: KVCL314C01 NWB File No.: 2BE-MEA1318

July 13, 2016

The Honourable Carolyn Bennett Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: minister@aandnc-aandc.gc.ca; carolyn.bennett@canada.ca; and

infopubs@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "Amaruq Exploration – Portal/Ramp, Quarry and Advanced Underground Exploration and Bulk Sample" Project Proposal

Dear Ms. Carolyn Bennett:

On May 12, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s (Agnico Eagle) "Amaruq Exploration – Portal/Ramp, Quarry and Advanced Underground Exploration and Bulk Sample" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). Pursuant to subsection 92(4) of the NuPPAA, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister(s) extend the period for the submission of its written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 11EN010.

On May 19, 2016 the NIRB requested additional information on the proposal from Agnico Eagle, which was received on May 30, 2016 and the NIRB commenced screening pursuant to Part 3 of NuPPAA. Notice regarding the NIRB's screening of this project proposal was distributed on June 9, 2016 to parties potentially affected by this project with a deadline for comments to be submitted to the NIRB by June 30, 2016. On June 13, 2016 the NIRB received an extension request from Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada in order to allow parties to better provide comprehensive comments on Agnico Eagle's project proposal. The NIRB found this request reasonable and extended the commenting deadline to July 15, 2016. As a result of the additional time provided for the public commenting period, and an expectation that providing the project proponent with an opportunity to respond to comments may be necessary, the NIRB requires additional time to complete the screening of this project proposal.

Please be advised that all information pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at <a href="www.nirb.ca">www.nirb.ca</a> by using any of the following search criteria:

 Project Name: Amaruq Exploration Property - Portal/Ramp, Quarry and Advanced U/G Exploration and Bulk Sample Collection

NIRB File No.: 11EN010Application No.: 124668

The NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the NuPPAA. The NIRB anticipates that the screening of this project proposal will be completed by **August 19, 2016**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister(s) for consideration.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the responsible authority will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,

Ryan Barry

**Executive Director** 

Ryan Barry

Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Ryan Vanengen, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.

Stéphane Robert, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.

Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.

David Ningeongan, Kivalliq Inuit Association

Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association

Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board

Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada