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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File: 2BB-MEA1828

January 22, 2021

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Subject: Waste Management Plan, Quarrying Management Plan, Conceptual Closure and Reclamation Plan & RECLAIM Estimate; Type "B" Water Licence No: 2BB-MEA1828, Meadowbank Advanced Exploration Project; Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

Dear David Frenette, Jamie Quesnel:

On October 28, 2020, the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) received from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) as per the requirement of Parts D, E and I of Water Licence No: 2BB-MEA1828 Amendment No: 2 (Licence) the documents entitled (Plans):

- *Waste Management Plan* dated October 10, 2020 (WMP);
- *Quarrying Management Plan* dated October 2020 (QMP); and
- *Conceptual Closure and Reclamation Plan & RECLAIM Estimate* dated October 15, 2020 (CCRP).

The Plans were distributed for public review with the deadline set for December 2, 2020. Comments were received from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)¹. The Licensee responded with additional information², to which CIRNA provided its feedback³.

¹ Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA), dated December 2, 2020; Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), dated Nov 30, 2020, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) dated December 2, 2020.

² David Frenette (Agnico Eagle) to Richard Dwyer (NWB), Re: NWB File No. 2BB-MEA1828 Opportunity to address comments received regarding Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd's "2BB-MEA1828 update of Management Plans, dated January 11, 2021.

³ Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA), dated January 18, 2021.

Copies of all documents received during the review of the Plans can be accessed through the NWB's Public Registry and FTP site using the following links:

<ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2B/2BB%20-%20Bulk%20Sampling/2BB-MEA1828%20Agnico/3%20TECH/D%20WASTE%20DISP/>

<ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2B/2BB%20-%20Bulk%20Sampling/2BB-MEA1828%20Agnico/3%20TECH/E%20C%20A%20I%20O/>

<ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2B/2BB%20-%20Bulk%20Sampling/2BB-MEA1828%20Agnico/3%20TECH/I%20A%20and%20R/>

In its comments, CIRNA requested that the Licensee:

- Clarify why Quarry 1 is no longer referenced in the QMP;
- List the ammonia management procedures in the QMP;
- Provide the surface water management strategy for eskers 7 and 7B or provide a reference to it in the QMP;
- Include the requirement of labeling of waste containers in the WMP; and
- Clarify the date on Appendix A of the WMP.

ECCC noted that it had no comments. DFO recommended that the Licensee determine whether a Request for Review is necessary.

In its response to the intervenor comments, Agnico Eagle noted the following:

- Quarry 1 is currently under Water Licence No: 2AM-WTP1830;
- Agnico Eagle will not be conducting any blasting activities in Eskers 7 and 7B;
- The Licensee proposes the following wording to be included in the QMP:
No excavation will be done within 31 meters from a water body and beyond a depth of one meter above the high water mark or above the groundwater table. The floor of the pits will be located above the elevation of the surrounding area to promote natural drainage and avoid creating ponds. Should sedimentation from the pit occur, appropriate control measures will be installed (ex: silt fence or trench) to ensure protection of surrounding environment. Prior, during and after construction using material from a borrow pit, water flow originating from the borrow pit will be sampled according the Water Licence 2BB-MEA1828 item J14.
- There will be no camp in 2021. Therefore, the Licensee commits to providing an update to the WMP once the camp is reinstated;
- The Licensee commits to updating the date of Appendix A of the WMP.

On January 18, 2021, CIRNA confirmed that it is satisfied with Agnico Eagle's response.

The NWB fully reviewed the Plans in the context of interveners' comments and recommendations. Therefore, by way of this correspondence, and in accordance with Motion No: 2020-B1-030, the Board approves the documents entitled:

- *Waste Management Plan* dated October 10, 2020 and
- *Quarrying Management Plan* dated October 2020.

In addition, the Board acknowledges that the *Conceptual Closure and Reclamation Plan & RECLAIM Estimate* dated October 15, 2020 addresses the requirements of Part I of the Licence.

The Licensee is required to provide the updated WMP and QMP incorporating its commitments with the submission of the 2020 Annual Report. The Licensee is advised that the Plans can be implemented upon the issuance of this letter by the Board.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 360-6338 (ext. 31) or assol.kubeisinova@nwb-oen.ca at your earliest convenience.

Regards,

Assol Kubeisinova
Technical Advisor
Nunavut Water Board

cc: Distribution List – Kivalliq