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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File: 2BB-MEL0914/Amend 4

April 21, 2011

John Witteman
Consultant for Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd
601 – 2nd Street
Canmore, AB
T1W 2K2

Email: john-witteman@agnico-eagle.com

Subject: Amendment Request No. 4: Construction of an all-weather road.

Dear Mr. Witteman,

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB) acknowledges receipt of an amendment application from Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd (AEM or Licensee and formerly Comaplex Minerals), on February 15, 2011, regarding the Type “B” water licence 2BB-MEL0914. The application was revised and resubmitted to the NWB on April 18, 2011. The amendment request is for the construction of a 28-km all-weather access road between the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet and the Meliadine Gold Project site. The application consists of the following documents:

- Cover letter dated February 5, 2011;
- Water Licence application form signed and dated April 17, 2011;
- All-weather road Project Description document dated January 2011, with non-technical summaries in English and Inuktitut;
- Draft - Aquatic Baseline Synthesis Report dated November 2009 (Golder Associates);
- All-weather Access Road Meliadine Gold Project Feasibility Level Design dated January 20, 2011 (Golder Associates);
- Geomorphology and Soils – Meliadine Access Road dated February 1, 2010 (Golder Associates);
- Navigability Permitting Support Materials dated September 1, 2010 (Golder Associates); and
- Geochemical Assessment of Potential Road Construction Material dated December 2010 (Golder Associates).

In addition, the NWB also has the following plans on file related to the undertaking:

- Fuel Management and Spill Contingency Plan, November 2010;
- Interim Abandonment and Restoration Plan, November 2010;
- Waste Management Plan, August 2010;
- Water Management Plan, August 2010; and
- Waste Rock and Ore Management Plan, August 2010.

The above-mentioned information is available on the NWB’s ftp site at the following link (username: public; password: registry):

<http://nunavutwaterboard.org/1%20PRUC/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2B/2BB%20-%20Bulk%20Sampling/2BB-MEL0914/1%20APPLICATION/2011%20Amendment%204/>

The NWB undertook a preliminary review of the application and concluded that it meets the requirements of section 48(1) of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* ("Act"). However, the NWB retains the right to request additional information and studies pursuant to sections 48(2) of the Act or to issue guidelines for the provision of information pursuant to section 48(3) of the Act. A NWB Technical Advisor may be in contact with you to clarify any technical details related to your application.

The NWB notes that the Nunavut Planning Commission has been asked by the Nunavut Impact Review Board¹ to revisit the landuse plan conformity determination and provide further direction concerning the requirements of Appendix I and the guidelines of Appendix J of the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan.

To ensure this application is dealt with in a timely fashion, the NWB hereby forwards notice of all documentation to regulators and council of the municipality(ies) most affected by the project, inviting interested parties to begin to review the information and provide written submission by **May 18, 2011**. The NWB may provide further direction regarding the process pending the outcome of Article 12 screening.

Please note that related to the amendment 4 request to permit the construction and operation of the all-weather road is the issue of security for the Project. In its January 6, 2011 decision to issue Amendment 3 regarding the expansion of the underground exploration program, the NWB stated:

The NWB is also aware that the Licensee intends to submit a fourth amendment application early in 2011 for the construction of an all-weather road between Rankin Inlet and the Meliadine site, and that the Licensee is currently in the process of revisiting the security estimate through 2013 based on the all-weather road proposal...the Licensee is asked to update the security estimate at the time of submitting the fourth amendment application.

The NWB notes that an updated cost estimate for reclamation security has been provided for the proposed all-weather road. The information is available for review and can be found in Table 8.1 of the Project Description document.

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

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Phyllis Beaulieu
Manager of Licensing

DH/tla

Cc: Distribution list.
NPC
NIRB

¹ NIRB letter dated April 13, 2011 from Ryan Barry to Brian Aglukark (NPC).