

NIRB File No.: 08EN005 INAC File No.: N2007Q0040

October 25, 2010

Honourable Minister John Duncan Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada c/o Jeff Mercer, Manager of Land Administration Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Iqaluit, NU

Via email: jeff.mercer@inac-ainc.gc.ca and landsmining@inac-ainc.gc.ca

Re: Application exempt from Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's "Quarry/Mining Exploration, Meliadine Lake, Kivalliq" project

Dear Jeff Mercer:

On October 19, 2010 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received an application for a new Quarry Permit and an extension to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's (INAC) Land Use Permit (LUP) #N2007Q0040 for Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (AEM) "Quarry/Mining Exploration, Meliadine Lake, Kivalliq" project (formerly held by Comaplex Minerals Corp.).

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 08EN005) was received by the NIRB from INAC on January 8, 2008 and was created as a collective file number to two project proposals. This file was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On March 27, 2008 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to the NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

On April 26, 2010 the NIRB received an extension request from INAC for the same LUP. After a thorough assessment of the extension request, the NIRB determined that the application was exempt from further screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA, and reissued the enclosed screening decision report on May 31, 2010.

The current INAC application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (08EN005) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/2008/08EN005-Comaplex%20Minerals/

PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

As previously screened by the NIRB (File No. 08EN005), the "Quarry/Mining Exploration, Meliadine Lake, Kivalliq" project was located within the Kivalliq region, approximately 40 kilometres (km) north of Rankin Inlet. At that time, the Proponent requested to replace both its expiring INAC Land Use Permit and its Quarry Permit with new permits.

The activities/components associated with the two proposals included:

- Diamond drilling;
- Prospecting and mapping;
- Ground and/or airborne geographical surveys;
- Claim staking and trenching; and
- Quarry.

CURRENT APPLICATION:

AEM is proposing to extend their Land Use Permit #N2007Q0040 for another year to allow for quarrying to occur. In addition, AEM is applying for a new Quarry Permit to continue undertaking their quarrying activities from islands in Meliadine Lake.

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

"Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:

- (a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or
- (b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project."

After completing a review of the information provided in support of the current application, the NIRB is of the understanding that the proposed extension does not change the general scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in NLCA 12.4.3(a) and (b) do not apply. Therefore, this application is exempt from screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original March 27, 2008 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Autut Executive Director

