

**Anuraaqtuq Exploration Project** Meadowbank regional exploration

# **Exploration Activities**

## **Main Application Document and Project Description**

Supporting document to amend authorizations.

NPC: 148143 NIRB: 15EN050

CIRNAC: New land use permit application to submit. NWB: New water licence application to submit.

May 2024

#### 1. Project summary

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle) acquired mineral properties on Crown Lands from CIRNAC in 2024. Agnico Eagle named these mineral properties, the Anuraaqtuq exploration project. These properties are located on the west side of the Meadowbank property and at a distance between 85 km to 105 km mostly north of the Baker Lake community. The distance between these properties and the Meadowbank Camp site is between 24 km to 50 km. The exploration activities planned on these properties include prospection, till sampling, geophysical surveys, and diamond drilling.

Workers will be accommodated at the Meadowbank camp site and transport to and from the exploration sites will be conducted daily by helicopter.

To increase the safety for the workers during the exploration activities in this remote area, an exploration shelter, consisting of 3 small tents, is planned to be installed at the center of the property.

The present application has been prepared with the objective to obtain the required authorisations to conduct mineral exploration activities, including the installation of a temporary shelter. No worker is planned to stay at the shelter more than 12 hours unless bad weather prevents them from returning to Meadowbank.

#### a. Exploration activities

The exploration activities planned on these properties include prospection, till sampling, geophysical surveys, and diamond drilling. Diamond drilling is planned to start on Anuraaqtuq in the summer of 2024 with one diamond drill. According to the results, a second drill could be made available. Exploration activities are planned to be conducted periodically in the area.

## b. Exploration shelter

The proposed exploration shelter will include 2 tents to accommodate core logging and sampling activities. A third tent will be equipped to handle emergency medical aid. Those tents are planned to be located approximately at following coordinates: 96°48'47"W 65°6'52"N.

To store the petroleum products, secondary containments (berms) will be installed to store up to approximately 14,000 litres of fuel and gas (±70 drums or an equivalent volume in transportable double-wall tanks).

#### c. Major equipment planned to be used.

Most of the equipment planned to be used in the area will be the same that is used for the exploration activities in the Meadowbank exploration area. Transport of the equipment during the exploration season would be done by helicopter. Part of the equipment might be brought to the site by ground transportation during winter. Equipment planned to be used includes:

- 1 to 2 Diamond drills
- 1 D6 tractor
- 1 Helicopter
- 1 to 2 Snowmobiles
- 1 Snowcat

#### 2. Proponent information

Agnico Eagle is a Canadian publicly traded mining company listed on the Toronto and New York Stock Exchanges (NYSE: AEM, TSX:AEM) with head offices in Toronto, Ontario and is a senior Canadian gold mining company that has been producing precious metals since 1957. Its main operations are located in Canada, Finland, Mexico and Australia, with exploration and development activities in each of these regions as well as in the United States and Sweden. Agnico Eagle began exploring for minerals in Canada in 1953 and has been active in the Kivalliq Region since 1990.

Agnico Eagle has a proven reputation for sustainability and economic success wherever it operates. Its success is based on grassroots exploration and successful mining in politically stable countries. Agnico Eagle maintains strong relationships with the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC), the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA), the Nunavut Water Board (NWB), Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) and other regulators in advancing its projects. These relationships are built on thorough monitoring, transparent reporting, presentation of information to the regulators and stakeholders, and are backed by successful and accomplished operations.

## 3. Contacts for the exploration activities

## **Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd – Exploration Division**

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#### **Environmental Coordinator**

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#### 4. Required authorizations

#### a. Land use

Agnico Eagle has the responsibility for the proposed activities and for the reclamation and closure once completed. When its exploration program is completed, Agnico Eagle will ensure that its sites are clean. All drilling casings will be removed or cut at ground level.

#### b. Land use planning

All project proposals in the Keewatin Planning Region that require a licence or authorization from a land use authorizing agency must be assessed by the NPC for conformity with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan. The proposed exploration activities described in this application are entirely within the Kivalliq (Keewatin) region of Nunavut. Since a land use permit and a water licence are needed to conduct the proposed activities, a conformity determination is also needed from NPC.

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#### c. Inuit Owned Land and Crown Land

Land and environmental management of Inuit Owned Land (IOL) in this area are administered by KIA, and CIRNAC is the administrator for the Crown Land.

Since the area described in this application is completely within Crown Lands, Agnico Eagle will have to apply for a land use permit with CIRNAC before undertaking the proposed exploration activities. The area discussed is shown on Figure 1.

#### d. Water licence

The water use and waste generation associated to the exploration activities trigger the need to obtain a water licence with the Nunavut Water Board. This water licence will cover water used by diamond drills and the waste generated. The waste generated will be transported daily to the Meadowbank camp site with only the cutting produced by drilling that will be left on site and disposed of in natural depressions located at a distance of at least thirty-one (31) metres from the ordinary high water mark of any adjacent water body and where direct flow into a water body is not possible.

#### 5. Environmental screening

The information provided in this main application document has been compiled to meet the requirements established by the various regulatory organizations. We understand that a positive conformity determination and/or an environmental screening decision for this application could be required before any other agency can issue the required permits or licences that would allow Agnico Eagle to commence the works described in this document.

#### a. Public consultation

Agnico Eagle conducts public consultations and information sessions regularly in regard to its different Nunavut Exploration projects. As these mineral properties are located in relative vicinity with the Meadowbank mining complex, the information related to these exploration activities will be presented with the other exploration projects in the area.

#### b. Inuit heritage

To ensure Inuit heritage protection AEM conducts annual archaeological works on various exploration areas and these works are permitted by the Government of Nunavut. These works

include office and field investigations conducted by archaeologists to find, identify and report archaeological sites. Annual reports are submitted to the Government of Nunavut and include details of the completed investigations. These investigations are needed to protect archaeological sites during exploration activities.

#### c. Caribou protection

To limit the impact on the caribou, Agnico Eagle will apply the protection measures that are described in the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan and also in the Agnico Eagle Wildlife Protection and Response Plan developed for its exploration projects. Respecting protection measures in the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan, no exploration activities are planned to be conducted between May 15<sup>th</sup> and July 15<sup>th</sup> in the areas that are within a caribou protection area.

## d. Spill Contingency Plan

A Spill Contingency Plan has been developed for the exploration projects; the plan designates lines of authority and responsibility, and establishes proper reporting and detailed action plans in the event of a spill. This plan will be applicable to all employees and any contractors associated with activities in the proposed area.

## e. Waste Management

**Camp greywater**. No greywater will be generated.

**Toilet Waste** coming from Pacto toilets is planned to be disposed of at the Meadowbank camp site or temporarily stored in 205-litre drums with bolted lids and stored in sea cans and then transported south by boat for final disposal in an authorized disposal facility.

**Combustible waste** is planned to be transported to the Meadowbank camp site where it will be managed according to the waste management in place or will be transported south by boat for disposal in an authorized facility.

**Hazardous waste** will be segregated, temporarily stored in appropriate containers located in a sea can at the Meadowbank camp site. The final preparation will be conducted by a hazmat waste specialist consultant and then transported south by boat for final disposal or recycling in authorized facilities.

**Drill cuttings** will be disposed of in natural depressions located at a distance of at least thirty-one (31) metres from the ordinary high water mark of any adjacent water body and where direct flow into a water body is not possible.

**Non-combustible waste** is planned to be transported to the Meadowbank camp site where it will be managed according to the waste management in place or will be transported south by boat for disposal in an authorized facility.

### f. Fish protection during water withdrawal

To ensure fish protection during water withdrawal, water intakes with appropriate intake mesh sizes will be used as described in the "Freshwater intake End-of-Pipe fish screen guideline" published by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. To ensure protection of water bodies, including fish habitat, protection buffers are applied around water bodies during exploration activities.

Figure 1. Anuraaqtuq exploration project

