



145 King Street East, Suite 400
Toronto, Ontario M5C 2Y7
416-947-1212

Sent by Email

August 29, 2023

Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU
X0B 1J0

Re: July 2023 – Monthly Monitoring Report for Water License 2BE-HOP2232

This report is comprised of monitoring requirements as set out in Part J, Items 2 through 8, and 10 of water license 2BE-HOP2232. Some monitoring requirements stipulated in this license refer to facilities that have not been constructed, facilities that no longer exist, or facilities where activity is seasonal. Water levels in Windy Lake will be monitored in accordance with Part J, Item 9 during open water season. Sampling locations monitored under this license (seasonally or when facilities are operational) are provided in Figure 1 at the end of this report.

During the period of this report, the focus of activities under the Windy Regional Exploration license was on-land surface exploration drilling, water management and environmental compliance.

Part I Conditions Applying to Abandonment and Restoration

No abandonment or restoration work was conducted during the month.

Part J Items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10: Sewage Treatment Effluent, Bulk Fuel Containments, and Quarries

Windy Camp has been closed for operations since October 23, 2008 and New Windy Camp has not been constructed. Therefore, the license requirements relating to the Wastewater Treatment Facility (HOP-2 and HOP-3) are not applicable at this time. HOP-5 (Bulk Fuel Storage – Windy Camp) and HOP-6 (Bulk Fuel Storage Facility – Patch Lake) were dismantled in 2012. HOP-8 (Bulk Fuel Storage Facility at New Windy Camp) has not been constructed.

Water quality sampling and management was not required at HOP-7A, B or D (quarries A, B and D) as no discharge of water occurred from these areas this month.

Part J Item 7: Under-Ice Drilling Samples

Under-ice water quality sampling was not conducted this month as on-ice surface exploration drilling was not conducted.

Part J Item 8: Water Use Volumes

Geographical locations for all water sources and usage are maintained on file. All usage from water sources during the month were metered at the source. Daily water usage for the month is presented in Table 1 and Table 2.

Table 1: Daily water usage in cubic meters, July 2023.

Date	Regional Drill Water Usage (m3)
1-Jul	22.75
2-Jul	26.78
3-Jul	25.99
4-Jul	20.85
5-Jul	21.88
6-Jul	28.07
7-Jul	26.93
8-Jul	19.22
9-Jul	28.04
10-Jul	18.58
11-Jul	30.16
12-Jul	22.94
13-Jul	21.97
14-Jul	27.23
15-Jul	25.71
16-Jul	31.50
17-Jul	32.72
18-Jul	28.72
19-Jul	20.33
20-Jul	29.33
21-Jul	23.71
22-Jul	32.11
23-Jul	29.00
24-Jul	31.96
25-Jul	41.54
26-Jul	29.53
27-Jul	24.80
28-Jul	19.22
29-Jul	18.87
30-Jul	13.02
31-Jul	9.48
Monthly Total	782.94
Annual Total	4224.20

An error was identified on the June 2BE-HOP2232 monthly monitoring report. Table 2 provides the updated data for the daily water usage for June 2023.

Table 2: Updated daily water usage in cubic meters, June 2023.

Date	Regional Drill Water Usage (m3)
1-Jun	37.06
2-Jun	39.71
3-Jun	41.85
4-Jun	38.15
5-Jun	31.26
6-Jun	35.14
7-Jun	33.30
8-Jun	8.92
9-Jun	21.38
10-Jun	24.58
11-Jun	39.40
12-Jun	38.40
13-Jun	19.01
14-Jun	12.96
15-Jun	20.47
16-Jun	16.58
17-Jun	26.49
18-Jun	23.27
19-Jun	17.10
20-Jun	24.41
21-Jun	15.67
22-Jun	23.84
23-Jun	19.79
24-Jun	35.17
25-Jun	17.35
26-Jun	18.29
27-Jun	10.60
28-Jun	12.28
29-Jun	15.99
30-Jun	19.51
Monthly Total	727.93
Annual Total	3441.27

Water quality monitoring results and volumes extracted from the Windy Lake freshwater intake (HOP-1) for domestic, industrial, dust suppression and winter tracks are presented in the monthly monitoring report for license 2AM-DOH1335, Schedule I for Station ST-7A.

Incident Reporting

One incident pertaining to this license occurred this month:

Spill 2023-312 - On July 24, 2023, at 3:38 pm, during a routine drill inspection, an area of salt-impacted tundra was identified by Agnico Eagle at drill site HBM-23-110/120 (68° 2'28"N, 106°33'50"W). A temporary shutdown of drilling operations occurred to review the situation in order to identify and implement immediate corrective actions to reduce the risk of future re-occurrences. On July 25, 2023, at 12:00 pm Agnico Eagle notified the Nunavut Spill Line via email.

After the initial review of the situation, Agnico Eagle conducted an aerial survey of all the 2022-2023 drill sites. Approximately 3776 square meters of impacted tundra was identified during the initial aerial survey.

The main cause of the brine spill was the vibration from the spinning rods, which potentially caused the casing to unseal, leading to water seeping out. Other causes are linked to the washing of the drills with brine water and drills without a liner to catch drippings of brine water.

The following activities will/have been implemented as a result of the brine spill:

- Agnico Eagle has presented information to all exploration personnel and drilling crews on the different types of impacts to the tundra.
- Mandatory use of double walled casing for all drill holes at Hope Bay, minimum casing depth extended to 27 m. Casing depth to be recorded in shift report and captured in exploration database.
- Mandatory use of pressure testing equipment to verify casing seal.
- Installation of berm liner for all drill platforms.
- Secure the liner to casing to prevent drilling fluids from contacting the ground at all drill locations.
- Install rubber scrapers to wirelines to remove excess water on all drills.
- All drill rig washing has been stopped.
- Develop a Hope Bay Sinking Casing SOP and review with all drilling crews.
- Develop a Drill Site Inspection for Fly Drill Pads.

Agnico Eagle has implemented a weekly aerial survey of all 2022/23 drill pads to assess changes in vegetation from potential brine releases.

Agnico Eagle has retained external consultants to develop a field sampling plan for all impacted sites, including aerial photographs, ground photographs, soil sampling, and salinity measurements. The consultants will assess the level of impact and provide a quantitative measurement of impacted vegetation/tundra. A preliminary rehabilitation plan including baseline data and treatment recommendations for each area will be developed and provided as a follow up to the 2023-312 follow up report.

Should there be any questions regarding this monthly report, please contact me at guillaume.dumont@agnicoeagle.com.

Yours sincerely,



Guillaume Dumont-Vandewinkel
Environmental Coordinator
Hope Bay Project
(819) 759-3555 ext. 4600101

Cc:

Jonathan Mesher, Water Resources Officer, CIRNAC
Eric Steinmetzer, General Manager – Hope Bay, Agnico Eagle
Nancy Duquet-Harvey, Environmental Superintendent – Hope Bay, Agnico Eagle

Figure 1. 2BE-HOP2232 SNP Monitoring Locations

