



**NIRB File No.: 10EA018**  
KIA File No.: KVCL102J168  
NWB File No.: 2BB-MEL0914

July 12, 2012

The Honourable John Duncan  
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development  
Executive Offices  
10 Wellington St.  
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H4

Via email: [Duncan.j@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Duncan.j@parl.gc.ca) and [minister@aandc.gc.ca](mailto:minister@aandc.gc.ca)

**Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Agnico-Eagle Mines Inc.'s "Meliadine Bulk Sample" Project Proposal**

Dear Mr. Duncan:

Pursuant to Section 12.4.5(b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) hereby requests more time to screen the project proposal referenced above (KIA: KVCL102J168 and NWB File No: 2BB-MEL0914).

On May 4, 2012 the NIRB received an application from the Nunavut Water Board for an amendment to Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Water Licence for its "Meliadine Bulk Sample" project proposal. On June 7, 2012 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission for this file. Please be advised that the "Meliadine Bulk Sample" proposal was previously screened by the NIRB and was allowed to proceed pursuant to the Board's 12.4.4 (a) determination issued to your office on May 5, 2010 (NIRB File No. 10EA018). The NIRB has determined that the current amendment request may cause a change to the scope of the original proposal and as such the Board has proceeded to screen the application in accordance with Section 12.4.4 of the NLCA.

As you are aware, the NIRB will be facilitating the Final Hearing for its Review of Baffinland Iron Mine Corporation's "Mary River Project" from July 16<sup>th</sup> to July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012. During the time the Board is travelling and hosting the Final Hearing, the NIRB will be required to temporarily suspend its consideration of other files. Several of the NIRB's staff members will remain in the office during the Final Hearing and will continue with the advancement of regular file administration, including receipt of new project proposals, maintenance of the Board's online public registry, and regular communications with outside agencies, project proponents and the general public. Following July 31, the NIRB will endeavor to move forward on all open files as expeditiously as possible.

The NIRB is unable to provide a screening decision for Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Water Licence for the "Meliadine Bulk Sample" project proposal within the 45 day time period as per Section 12.4.5 of the NLCA and therefore requires additional time to screen the project proposal. It is anticipated that the screening process will be completed by **August 15, 2012**.

If this request is approved, the NIRB understands that the authorizing agency will inform the Proponent, stakeholders and interested parties on the extension.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a horizontal line that extends to the right.

Ryan Barry  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: John Witteman, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.  
Eric Lamontange, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.  
David Ningeongan, President, Kivalliq Inuit Association  
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association  
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board