



NIRB File No. 08CN076  
Previous NIRB File No. 03MN107

August 14, 2008

Larry Connell  
Regional Manager: Environment, Social and Government Affairs  
555 Burrard Street, Suite 375  
Vancouver, BC V7X 1M8

Via email: [lconnell@agnico-eagle.com](mailto:lconnell@agnico-eagle.com)

**Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd's Baker Lake Facilities Comprehensive Land Lease project proposal**

Dear Larry Connell:

On July 17, 2008 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd's (AEM or the Proponent's) application for a comprehensive land lease on Commissioner's land for their *Baker Lake Facilities* project proposal (the Project) from the Government of Nunavut, Department of Community and Government Services (GN-CGS).

On July 30, 2008, the NIRB received telephone confirmation from the Nunavut Planning Commission that a conformity determination (Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan) was not required for this project, as the activities applied for have impacts that occur solely within a municipality. NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number 08CN076.

A completeness check of the project proposal as submitted was found by the NIRB to contain insufficient information to conduct a Part 4 screening, and on August 8, 2008, the NIRB requested that the necessary information be submitted on or before August 15, 2008. On August 13, 2008, the NIRB received the required information, in addition to a request from the Proponent to withdraw the 32-person temporary camp component from the application.

This project is located in the Kivalliq region, within the municipal bounds of the Hamlet of Baker Lake. The Proponent currently holds leases for the use of Commissioner's land within the Hamlet. The proposed consolidation of these leases would incorporate all of them into one comprehensive land lease.

Project activities to be incorporated into the proposed comprehensive land lease include:

- Dry freight storage area;
- Fuel tank storage area;
- Explosives storage;
- Access roads; and

- Floating/spud barge to be anchored in Baker Lake for the offloading of barges at the marshalling area.

Please note that some of the above components, including the access roads, dry freight, fuel tank, and explosives storage areas were previously screened and subject to a Part 5 Review per the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement (NLCA) as components of the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project (NIRB File No. 03MN107). As such, those activities remain subject to the terms and conditions contained within the NIRB's Project Certificate No. 004, issued December 30, 2006 for the Meadowbank Gold Project.

The Proponent suggested in the application information, that the spud barge currently before the Board does not significantly vary from the barge unloading facilities proposed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement submitted to the NIRB in October 2005. While this may be the opinion of AEM, it is the NIRB's mandate to assess project proposals for any potential adverse effects resulting from a proposed activity, and in this case, the impacts of a spud barge were not considered during the NIRB's original Part 5 Review of the Meadowbank project. The proposed spud barge/floating dock is therefore the primary focus of this screening, and is, for the purpose of this application, considered to be a new component.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's ftp site at <http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/08CN076-Agnico-Eagles%20Mines%20Ltd/1-SCREENING/> including:

- *NIRB Part 1 Form in English (August 13, 2008)*
- *Non-technical Project Summary in English (August 13, 2008)*
- *GN-CGS Request to NIRB to commence Part 4 Screening (July 17, 2008)*
- *AEM Correspondence to GN-CGS – Updated Application for Land Lease (July 14, 2008)*
- *AEM Correspondence to Mayor of Baker Lake – Updates to fuel tank farm and marshalling area construction (June 22, 2008)*
- *AEM Correspondence to GN-CGS – Initial Application for Land Lease (May 27, 2008)*
- *Application for Commissioner's Land (May 23, 2008)*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the NLCA, the NIRB shall proceed to screen the Project Proposal. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process, and will copy you on screening related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access.

The NIRB is copying interested Parties and municipalities most affected by AEMs project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested persons to comment directly to the NIRB by **Friday August 22, 2008**.

The NIRB would like Parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic and socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please send your comments to the attention of the NIRB's Manager of Environmental Administration, Leslie Payette via email at [lpayette@nirb.ca](mailto:lpayette@nirb.ca) or via fax at **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the undersigned at 867-983-4615 or [ahanson@nirb.ca](mailto:ahanson@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,

*(original signed by:)*

Amanda Hanson  
Assistant Technical Advisor  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc:      Distribution List  
            Gladys Joudrey, *Government of Nunavut Department of Community and Government Services*

Attachments:  
    Comment Form