



Nunavut Regional Office  
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Your file - Votre référence  
11RN017  
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5510-5-28-2

June 6th, 2011

Kelli Gillard  
Technical Advisor  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
P.O. Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0  
*Via electronic mail to: info@nirb.ca*

**Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "All-Weather Road" project proposal.**

Ms. Gillard,

On May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) submitted comments to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) requesting additional information on Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s (AEM's) "All-Weather Road" project proposal. INAC has reviewed AEM's May 23<sup>rd</sup> response and would like to offer the following comments for the NIRB's consideration in making a screening decision.

***Need for the Project/Alternative Assessment***

In order to better understand the need for this project, INAC requested additional information and analysis of the proponent's needs, the current preferred approach (*i.e.*, an all-weather road) and the available alternatives, including a comparison of the impacts of each option. INAC has reviewed AEM's response and has found only limited additional information was provided, and no comparison of the impacts of each option. The information requested in relation to this question remains outstanding.

***Section 4 Use of the Road***

In response to one of INAC's May 6<sup>th</sup> comments, asking what steps AEM has taken or plans to take in cooperation with the Government of Nunavut's transportation officials to ensure that appropriate planning for the development, operation and maintenance of a public highway is undertaken, AEM has stated that their intention is for the road to be a private road with appropriate signage

indicating this. However, it has also been made clear that the intention is still for unrestricted public use. In this scenario, issues previously raised with respect to design, construction and maintenance standards, traffic management, emergency response, snow clearing and the management of hazards, policing, and by-law and other regulatory enforcement remain outstanding.

INAC appreciates the opportunity to participate in the screening of Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "All-Weather Road" project proposal. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Margaux.Brisco@inac-a-inc.gc.ca](mailto:Margaux.Brisco@inac-a-inc.gc.ca), or by phone at (867) 975-4549.

Sincerely,

[original signed by]

Margaux Brisco  
A/Manager, Environment