



**NIRB File No.: 11RN017**

Other Relevant NIRB File No.: 11MN034

AANDC File No.: N2011F0024

November 1, 2011

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

Sent via email: [Duncan.J@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Duncan.J@parl.gc.ca) and to [minister@aandc.gc.ca](mailto:minister@aandc.gc.ca)

**Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Meliadine All-Weather Access Road Project Proposal**

Dear Mr. John Duncan:

Pursuant to Section 12.4.5(b) of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement (NLCA), the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) hereby requests more time to screen the project proposal referenced above (AANDC File No. N2011F0024).

On September 26, 2011 the NIRB received Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.'s (AEM or the Proponent) "Meliadine All-Weather Access Road" project proposal from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). The current AANDC application appears to be in support of AEM's *revised* road proposal, which was submitted to the NIRB on September 29, 2011 for consideration as an exception to the Board's review of the Meliadine Gold Mine project (NIRB File No. 11MN034) pursuant to Section 12.10.2(b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA).

As the Board is currently considering AEM's *revised* Meliadine All Weather Access Road project proposal pursuant to NLCA Section 12.10.2(b), the NIRB is not able to provide a screening decision on AANDC application N2011F0024 within the requested 42 day time period as per NLCA Section 12.4.5. The Board therefore requires additional time to screen the project proposal. It is anticipated that a determination pursuant to NLCA Section 12.10.2(b) will be released by the Board later this calendar year.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the authorizing agency will inform the Proponent, stakeholders and interested Parties of the extension. Furthermore, the NIRB's NLCA 12.10.2(b) determination and any related recommendations will be reported directly to your office, with copy to AANDC's Nunavut Regional Office.

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 long horizontal line that extends to the right.

Ryan Barry  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Larry Connell, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.  
John Witteman, Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.  
Jeff Mercer, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (Nunavut Regional Office)  
Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board  
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report for File No. 11RN017 (*July 4, 2011*)