



Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence
11EN010
Our file - Notre référence
CIDMS # 1135299

March 7, 2017

Sophia Granchinho
Manager, Impact Assessment
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 Mine Ltd's "Pilot study – Hovercraft Implementation in Nunavut" Project Proposal

Dear Ms. Granchinho,

On February 17, 2017 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on Agnico Eagle Mine Ltd's "Pilot study – Hovercraft Implementation in Nunavut" project proposal. Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request:

Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;

INAC notes that the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA) in a letter to Agnico Eagle Mines (AEM) dated October 13, 2016, voiced concern over the potential usage of Hovercraft and emphatically refused support prior to the submission of this proposed pilot project. Furthermore, the KIA has continued its opposition to the usage of Hovercraft in its February 17, 2017 review of this project, noting a lack of baseline information on wildlife, marine mammals, birds, fish and their habitats, heritage resources, traditional land uses, Inuit harvesting activities, community involvement and consultation and local development. The KIA also voiced concern over the cumulative effects of the proposed Hovercraft pilot project, noting that the project site is already in an area under intense activity pressure with the presence of the Amaruq Road and the Whale Tail project.



Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

INAC notes that the potential for cumulative eco-systemic and socio-economic impacts has been a concern and continues to be a concern for this most recent proposed pilot project application. Considering the number of projects being proposed and currently conducted by the Proponent in the region, INAC believes that an assessment of potential cumulative impacts is warranted. INAC recommends that the Proponent addresses the potential cumulative impacts of the project as a whole, including the activities of this project amendment and the other past and reasonably foreseeable projects in the area.

INAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent throughout any further review phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Norman M. Scully at (867) 975-4554 or by e-mail at norman.scully@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

[Original Signed by]

Charlotte Lamontagne
A/Manager, Impact Assessment