



NIRB File No.: 17EA068
NPC File No. 148647

December 13, 2017

To: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, P.C.
Minister of Crown - Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: minister@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca and carolyn.bennett@canada.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "Huckleberry Exploration" Project Proposal

Dear Honourable Carolyn Bennett,

On November 22, 2017 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received John Tugak's "Huckleberry Exploration" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). **Pursuant to subsection 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister extend the period for the submission of the Board's written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 17EA068.**

On November 23, 2017 the NIRB requested that Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (the Proponent) complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to subsection 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that the information provided be sufficient to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and that sufficient information has been provided to commence screening. Following a preliminary completeness check of the proposal as submitted on December 4, 2017, the NIRB determined that the proposal did not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening; therefore on December 6, 2017 the Board requested that the Proponent provide additional information. On December 12, 2017 the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*. On December 13, 2017 the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties with a request for comments to be submitted for the Board's consideration by January 12, 2018. As the public commenting period for this file overlaps with the holiday season, the NIRB has provided parties with additional time to ensure adequate public consultation on the proposal, and expects to also provide the Proponent an opportunity to respond to the concerns prior to the Board making its decision.

All documents received and pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: Huckleberry Exploration
- NIRB File No.: 17EA068
- Application No.: 125187

The NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days as set out in the NuPPAA. The NIRB anticipates that the screening of this project proposal will be completed by **February 9, 2018**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister for consideration.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the responsible authority will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: David Frenette, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
John Tugak, Huckleberry Claims
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Maria Serra, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada