

# **Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. Meliadine Extension Public Hearing Presentation by Environment and Climate Change Canada**

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September 12-20, 2023

# Rankin Inlet, NU

2023.12.20

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Canada

# Overview

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- Mandate
- Relevant acts and regulations
- Status of Environment and Climate Change Canada's comments
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- *Department of the Environment Act*
- *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*
- *Fisheries Act – Pollution Prevention Provisions*
- *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
- *Species at Risk Act*

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- Environment and Climate Change Canada submitted 16 technical review comments, which are all considered resolved.
- Environment and Climate Change Canada's technical review comments were related to air quality, climate change, water quality and wildlife.
- Technical review comments that were unresolved after the Technical Meeting and were also not related to the airstrip will be discussed in more detail in the following slides

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- Environment and Climate Change Canada recommended that Agnico Eagle follow the guidance in the Strategic Assessment of Climate Change and its draft Technical Guide to provide a better understanding of the Project's greenhouse gas emissions and its impact on climate change.
- Agnico Eagle provided additional details around estimated greenhouse gas emissions, mitigation measures, their net-zero plan and carbon sinks in January and February 2023.
- Environment and Climate Change Canada reviewed the additional information and provided additional recommendations in ECCC-TRC-14, ECCC-TRC-15 and ECCC-TRC-16.

**ECCC-TRC-14: Land-use Change Emissions**

# Resolved

- Agnico Eagle provided an estimate of greenhouse gas emissions on February 9, 2023, which did not include emissions related to land-use change.
- Environment and Climate Change Canada recommended Agnico Eagle provide an estimate of land-use change emissions to be included in the Project's direct emissions during the construction phase.
- Agnico Eagle provided a revised emissions estimate on June 13, 2023, which sufficiently incorporated land-use change emissions.

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# ECCC-TRC-15: Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Intensity

## Resolved

- Agnico Eagle provided a memo incorporating the guidance for mitigation principals in the Strategic Assessment on Climate Change on February 9, 2023. In this memo the Project's greenhouse gas intensity was claimed to be 50% lower than the world average without supporting details.
- Environment and Climate Change Canada recommended that Agnico Eagle explain the above statement.
- In response, Agnico Eagle shared a study that provided the global average greenhouse gas intensity for gold mining and clarified the greenhouse gas intensity of the current Meliadine operations, and not the proposed extension, is half of the global average.
- Agnico Eagle also noted that the proposed extension will have an important influence on reducing the carbon footprint of mine operations given the Best Available Technologies and Best Environmental Practices being proposed.



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**ECCC-TRC-16: ከጥገራ ጋር የሚገናኝ የጋራ ጥያቄ**

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- Agnico Eagle provided an assessment of the Project's impact on carbon sinks on January 30, 2023.
  - In Section 3.3 of the assessment, two different values were included as the total carbon sink impact. Environment and Climate Change Canada recommended that Agnico Eagle correct or explain the difference in estimates.
  - Agnico Eagle confirmed that there was a typo in the original document and provided a revised version.

# ECCC-TRC-07: Assessment of waste rock and tailings in-pit disposal

## Resolved

- Environment and Climate Change Canada recommended that a full assessment of the proposed in-pit disposal be done.
- Agnico Eagle provided an In-pit Deposition Assessment and held a workshop with interested parties to further discuss the assessment on February 6, 2023.
- Agnico Eagle clarified that in addition to the assessment provided, future studies specific to the mine plan would be submitted for review through the water licence process before any in-pit deposition of tailings or waste rock.
- Environment and Climate Change Canada agrees that the remaining concerns can be mitigated by proposed measures, which can be addressed through the water licence process.



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# ECCC-TRC-08: Groundwater Monitoring

## Resolved

- Environment and Climate Change Canada recommended that additional groundwater monitoring be done to support assessing impacts associated with in-pit disposal of mine wastes.
- Agnico Eagle provided an In-pit Deposition Assessment including discussion of groundwater and held a workshop with interested parties to further discuss the assessment on February 6, 2023.
- Future studies will be submitted for review through the water licence process before any in-pit deposition of tailings or waste rock, including a pit-specific study of interactions between stored water and groundwater.
- Environment and Climate Change Canada agrees that the remaining concerns can be mitigated by proposed measures, which can be addressed through the water licence process.



**ECCC-TRC-08: မေပိုင် အုပ်ချုပ်မှု အဖွဲ့  
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# ECCE-TRC-09: Lake B7/Saline Pond B7 at Closure

## Resolved

- The final closure configuration of Lake B7 (Saline Pond B7) did not appear to block access by aquatic life. Environment and Climate Change Canada requested clarification around the configuration of B7, its expected water quality and mitigation measures.
- Agnico Eagle will monitor water quality predictions at Saline Pond B7 during operations and closure until water quality meets discharge criteria.
- Agnico Eagle will assess different closure and mitigation measures for Saline Pond B7 as part of the Final Closure and Reclamation Plan based on monitoring data. These options may include barriers to prevent fish access.





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# Annex 1: Current Status of Environment and Climate Change Canada's Technical Review Comments

ECCC-TRC-01	Identification of pathways	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-02	Emissions standards for proposed equipment purchases	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-03	Redistribution of fugitive emissions	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-04	Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards online link	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-05	Effects of Meliadine Extension on Climate Change	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-06	Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-07	Assessment of waste rock and tailings in-pit disposal	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-08	Groundwater Monitoring	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-09	Lake B7/Saline Pond B7 at Closure	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-10	Climate Change	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-11	Migratory Bird Pathways of Effects	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-12	Meteorological Data	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-13	Species at Risk	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-14	Land-use change emissions	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-15	Greenhouse Gas Intensity	Resolved
ECCC-TRC-16	Total Carbon Sink Impact Estimate	Resolved



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