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For the Reconsideration-Process of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's "Meliadine Extension" Project Proposal Bēgha nayetı há ëdıı Aginco Eagle Mines Limited "Meliadine Extension" Bēgha Hok'ats'ëde Detł'ısı

Prepared for the Nunavut Impact Review Board
 September 2023

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Outline

- Mandate
- Relevant Acts and Scope of Review
- Technical Review and Recommendations
 - Groundwater Quantity
 - Permafrost
 - Mine Waste Management

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T'at'u dēt'ısı

- Ėdırı Bēgharı
- Ėtk'ēsı Bēghā Dēt'ıs chu Nēnēt'ı há
- Nēnēt'ı T'ahı Yenırırısı chu T'alye hası
 - Nih Tu T'anēt'tē
 - Nih Hoʔtēn ılaghē nēnē k'ēyaghē
 - Nih yorıldēdhı Ası Ađel Boghēdı



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Mandate



- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) is a federal department responsible for ensuring the country's natural resources are developed sustainably, competitively and inclusively.
- NRCan is a science-based department, with nearly half of its employees being scientists, engineers or technicians.
- NRCan scientists are conducting research on permafrost, groundwater, mine waste characterisation and management as well as environmental dispersal and effects associated with acid rock drainage and/or metal leaching.
- NRCan also provides scientific support to organizations that advance knowledge in mine waste management, including in areas such as prevention and control of acid rock drainage and metal leaching, disposal technologies, mine water treatment.



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Ēdirī Bēgharī

- Canada Nih Hots'ī Asiē k'ēyaghē hots'ī k'olde bēts'ēn norēlth'ī nih hots'ī asiē bēt'orēdhī há, t'ahī hētiē yorēl'sī ēla bētorē?a há.
- Canada Nih Hots'ī Asiē (NRCan) science-bēgharī t'ahī ēyir ēghēdalanasi, t'ahī ēghēdalan nahiē scientist, engineer huto tsatsanē bēnī hūlī basī ēghēdalanā.
- NRCan hētiē dōyā scientist hadat'ī ho?tēn gha yēdareldēn, nih tu tth'ī, nih yeridēdhī asiē āldedhī boghēdi ēyī hēl nih basī t'āt'u asiē bēredisi ēyī chu acid tthe tth'ī bēt'a t'ahune hasī tjt'īl chū/tsatsanē tjt'īlē.
- NRCan scientific denē ēts'ēdanī nih naghēldēdhī asiē āldedhī basī, ēsone ch'a acid tthe boghēdi hēl bēt'a t'ahune hasī tjt'īl chū tsatsanē tjt'īlē, t'āt'u āldedh hasī, tu boghēdi tth'ī bēt.

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Relevant Acts and Scope of Review

- Regulator for the *Explosives Act*:
 - Provision of licenses for the storage and manufacture of explosives
- Scientific Analysis Provided:
 - Groundwater Quantity/flow (hydrogeology)
 - Permafrost
 - Mine Waste Management

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Ēłk'ēsı Bēgha Dēt'ıs chu Nēnēt'ı há

- Ērit'ıs Bēgharı Asiē Ētēłk'ēdhı Ts'ı Ērit'ıs:
 - Ērit'ıs bēgharı asiē senılye chu Asiē Ētēłk'ēdhı hodle bası
- T'ahı asiē hēnırnıı tth'ı bēgharı:
 - Nıh Tu T'anēt'ē/hēt'ēt (hydrogeology)
 - Nıh Ho?tēn łaghē nēnē k'ēyaghē
 - Nıh yorıldēdhı Asıı Ađel Boghēdı

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Technical Review: Groundwater Quantity

- Hydrogeological data are collected to characterize subsurface properties and groundwater conditions in order to develop an understanding of groundwater flow and interactions with surface waters.
- Groundwater models are used to help quantify and assess current groundwater conditions and predict those expected to develop as a result of mining and closure activities.
- Groundwater data and knowledge are essential for assessing impacts on groundwater quantity and quality, and groundwater interactions with surface waters.

Specific Issues Considered:

- Complexity of vertical groundwater flow through taliks and their monitoring
- Assessment of tailings and waste rock disposal in exhausted pits
- Assessment of closure and post-closure phases
- Effect of saline water storage in B7
- Groundwater flow basin near the Discovery underground mine
- Inclusion of grouting in hydrogeology model and groundwater inflow estimates

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Nënëṭ'ı T'ahı Yenirıñısı: Nih Tu T'anēṭ'ē

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- Hydrogeological bēgha k'oja há asiē bēts'eldēn ēdirı nih k'ē tu t'at'ēsı ēyi bēgharı bēnērdı há t'at'u nih hots'ı tu hēt'ēlsı ēyi chı tu nih daghē ēla t'at'u hēt'ēl bēnērdı há.
- Nih hots'ı tu boghēdi ts'ı asiē bēt'orē?a tu t'anēṭ'ē chı nēt'ı ēṭth'ı bası há ēdirı nih hots'ı tu t'at'ēsı há ēyi chı t'ane hası bēgharı nih gha dēldhı bēgharı bēdarēti bası.
- Nih hots'ı tu bēgha k'oja há asiē bēts'eldēnı, ēyi hētiē bēt'orē?a bēgharı asiē nēt'ı há nih hots'ı tu t'anēṭ'ē chı t'at'ēsı tth'ı, ēyi chı tu nih daghē ēla t'at'u hēt'ēl bēnērdı há.

Hētiē dēgharı ēṭth'ı Asiē t'at'ēsı Bēgha:

- Hētiē borēnilē nih ts'ı tu t'ası hēt'ēlsı ēdirı t'ahuk'ē ttha hots'ēn nih ho?tēnsı hoyēho?a chı t'ahı boghēdi ts'ı asiē hēt
- Asiē ēla hoyēho?a k'ēyaghē nılyē nēt'ıē há ēyi chı the aḷdedhı nih k'ēyaghē
- Bēdarēti nēt'ı ēyi chı bēdarēti-bēt'aghē bēgharı
- Tu dēdha hēt ēṭth'ı B7 k'ēyaghē boghēdi
- Nih hots'ı tu hēt'ēl bēk'ēnalsit ts'ı asiē T'ahı bulı nih yaghē nih naldēdhı k'ēyaghē
- Bēdarēlye hēt hydrogeology ts'ı asiē ēyi chı nih hots'ı tu dāt'ı t'anēṭ'ēsı honidhēn

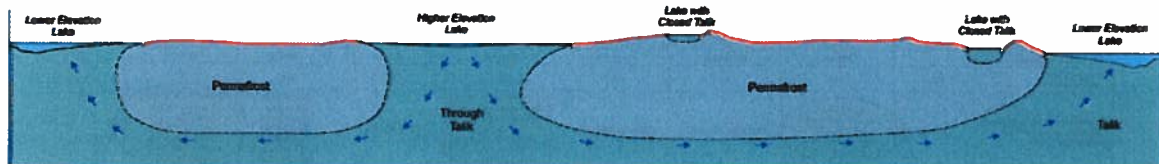
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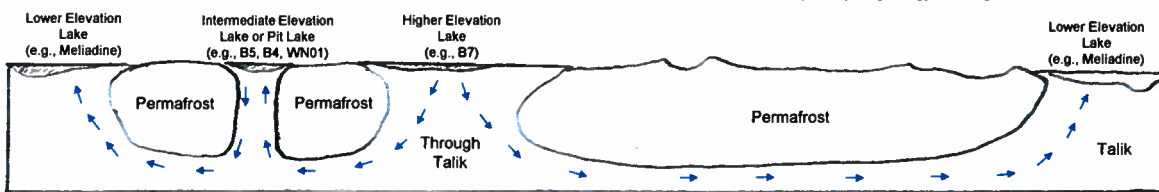
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Conceptual permafrost and groundwater flow model

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Source: Appendix G5, Summary of Hydrogeology Existing Conditions, Dec 2021



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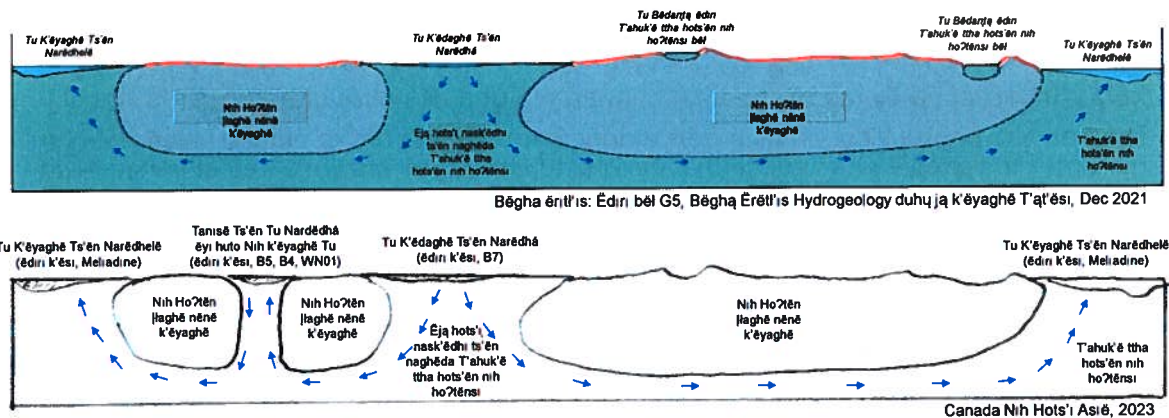
- Intermediate elevation lakes with through talik can receive groundwater flow from upslope lakes and/or provide groundwater flow to downslope lakes, with implications for in-pit disposal

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T'aṭ'u honɿdhən nɪh hoʔtən ɿlaghə nənə k'ëyaghə ch́u
nɪh tuə hət'əlɪ ts'ɿ asɿə



- Tanisè Ts'ën Tu Nardédhá éjā hots'ɿ nask'édhri ts'ën naghèda t'ahuk'è ttha hots'ën nih ho?tënsi nih hots'ɿ tu bəghā nɪt'ɪt tu k'ədaghè hots'ɿ *chu/ëyri huto* nih hots'ɿ tu hanèle k'ëyaghè tu ts'ën, èdiri bèl há nih-k'ëyaghè bèrèdi há

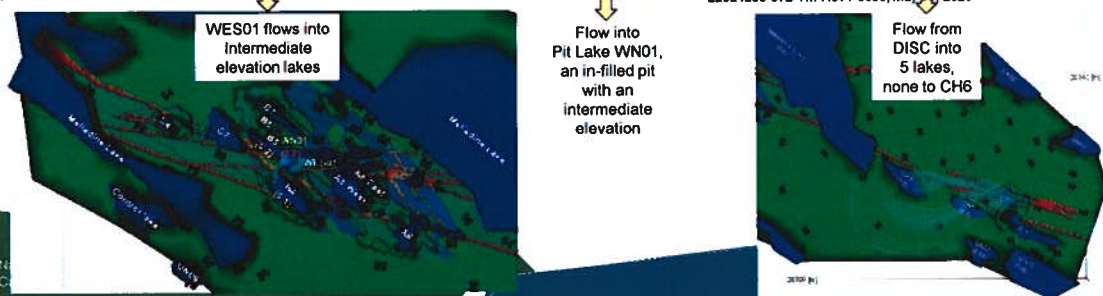
Seepage from/to in-filled pits/pit lakes

Table 2: Predicted Contingency Discharge from Inflated Pipe to Downgradient Surface Water Lakes and Pit Lakes								
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Pit Bottom Elevations: Boccell Elevations	m asd	-15 Tailings	-30 Tailings	-45 Tailings	-65 Tailings	-75 Tailings	-5	75 Waste Rock
Boccell Elevations ¹	m asd	69	54	47	44	47	49	16
Underlying Underground		present	not present	not present	present	present	present	present
Pit Maximum Pit Lake Elevations	m asd	62.5	63	63.6	66.5	68.7	69.3	67
Accumulated and Predicted Contingency Water Flux using Numerical Groundwater Model	m/day	Lake B4 - 0.1 Pit Lake W001 - 0.7 Lake B5 - 0.2 (total contact water savings = 1)	Meladine Lake - 0.2	Meladine Lake - 4.1	No Pit Lake Discharge No Meladine discharges to Pit Lake Total Discharge to Pit Lake = 65.7	Lake B4 - 0.82	No Pit Lake Discharge No Meladine discharges to Pit Lake Total Discharge to Pit Lake = 2.0	Meladine Lake - 0.6 Lake W01 - 0.6 Lake C11 - 1.0 Lake C16 - 0.4 Lake W02 - 0.0 (total contact water savings = 2.0)
Transit Time (first arrival of contingency water seepage) Using Numerical Groundwater Model ²	Years	Lake B4 - 436 Lake W01 - 70 Lake B5 - 70	Meladine Lake - >1000	Meladine Lake - 275	not applicable	Lake B4 - 85C	not applicable	Meladine Lake - >1000 Lake W01 - >1000 Lake C11 - >1000 Lake C16 - >1000 Lake W02 - >1000

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(d) Travel times do not include time to service over full width below the point of travel time measurement, but faster than specified as a result of how the loads are incorporated in the road.

Source: WSP Technical Memo, Reference no. 22524250-972-TM-Rev1-6000, May 05, 2023



Bëch'ëli ëja hots'ı/ts'ën bëyaghë-danëla nih
k'ëyaghë/nih k'ëyaghë tu

[illegible]

Hēl'ēl Nih
K'ēyaghē Tu
WN01 ts'ēn,
bēya-danēlq nih
k'ēyaghē Tanisē
Ts'ēn Tu
Nardēdhā hēl



Technical Review: Permafrost

- Knowledge of permafrost is required to minimize the impacts of the project on the environment, and the impacts of the environment on the project.
- Knowledge of distribution of permafrost and unfrozen ground (talik) is essential for determining groundwater flow pathways.

Specific Issues Considered:

- Thermal modelling- To support design of Mine Waste Storage Facilities
- Ground thermal regime in the project area
- AEM response to Commitment 19 (Thermal modelling of temporary water storage in pits)
- AEM response to Commitment 42 (In-pit deposition alternative and disposal study)

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Nēnēt'ı T'ahı Yenırırısı: Nih Hoʔtēn ılaghē nēnē k'ēyaghē

- Nih Hoʔtēn ılaghē nēnē k'ēyaghē bēghā k'oja horēt'ı ēdirı k'arēʔı há nih bası, ēyi chı́ nih t'anodhi hası t'ahı bası eghēdaladası.
- Nih Hoʔtēn ılaghē nēnē k'ēyaghē bēghā k'oja t'at'u narıt'ı hası ēyi chı́ t'ahı nih hoʔtēn hılēsı (T'ahuk'ē ttha hots'ēn nih hoʔtēnsı) bēgharı nih ts'ı tu t'ats'ēn hēt'ētsı bēk'oja há.

Hētıē dēgharı Ėłth'ı Asiē t'at'ēsı Bēghā:

- Hodhēt Ts'ı Asiē – Nih yorıldēdhi Asiē Aıdedhi Kōē t'at'u hodle há
- Nih hodhēl bēgharı t'ahuk'ē bēghā ēghēdaladası
- AEM Commitment 19 ts'ēn yaghıtı (Hodhēt Ts'ı Asiē tha hots'ēn hılē tu k'oniē nih ghāıdedhi k'ēyaghē)
- AEM Commitment 42 ts'ēn yaghıtı (Bēyē-nih ghā ghāıdedhi k'ēyaghē bāthēni aıdedhi chı́ bēghā bēts'eldēn)



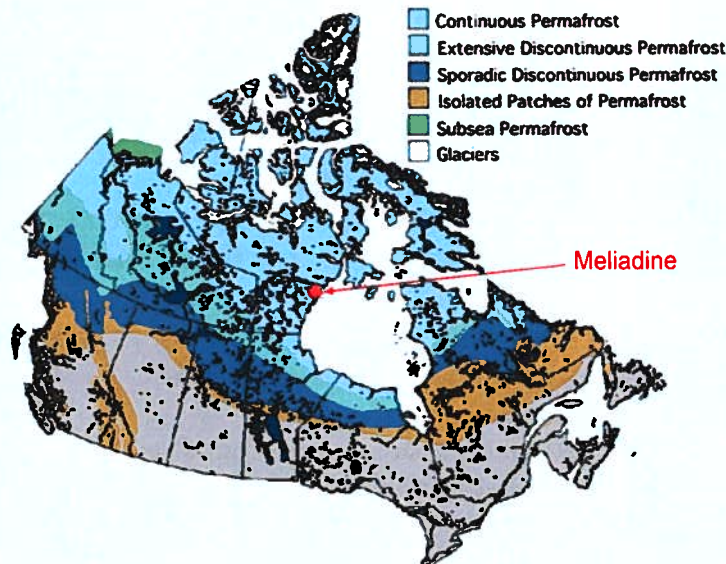
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Geologic Survey of
Canada, NRCan

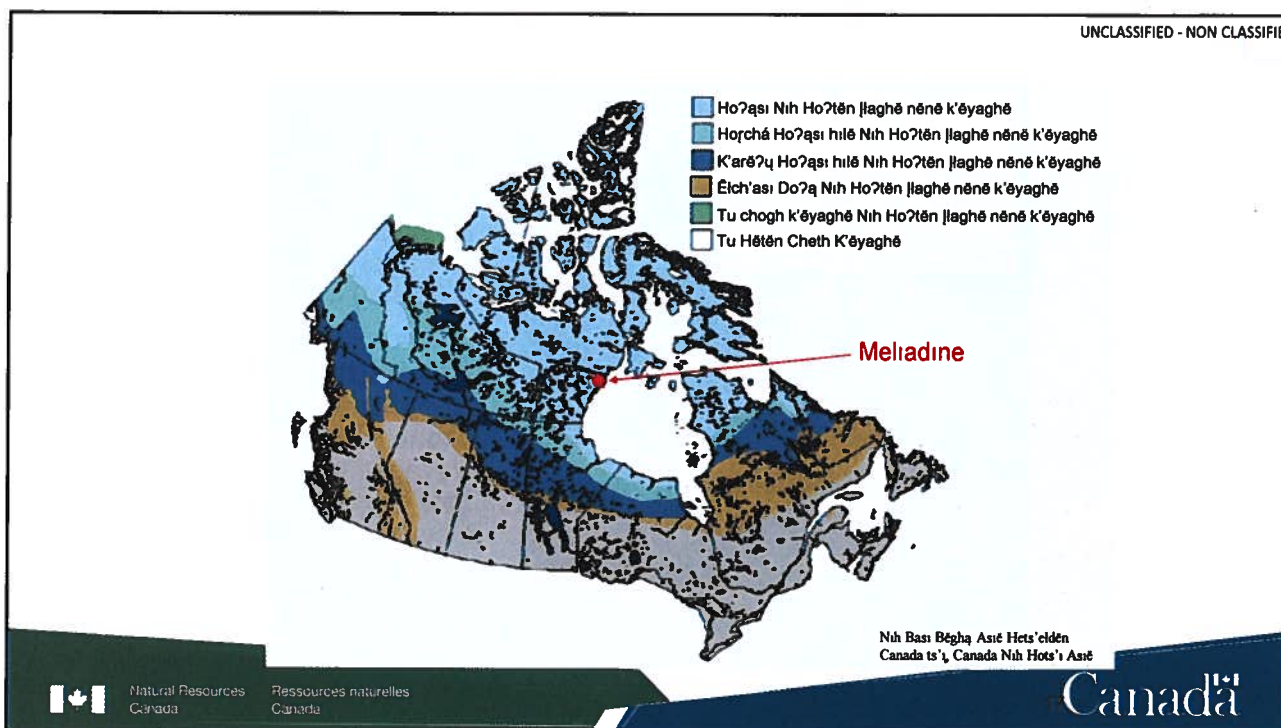


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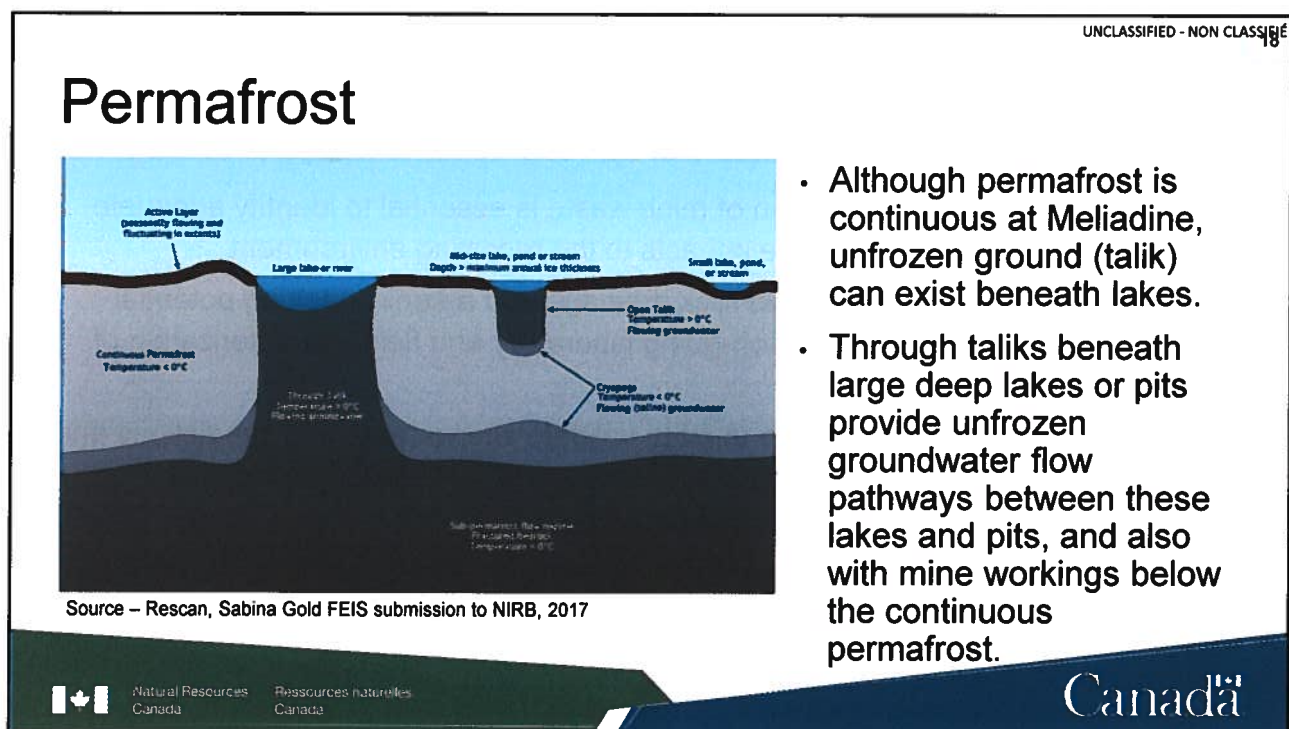
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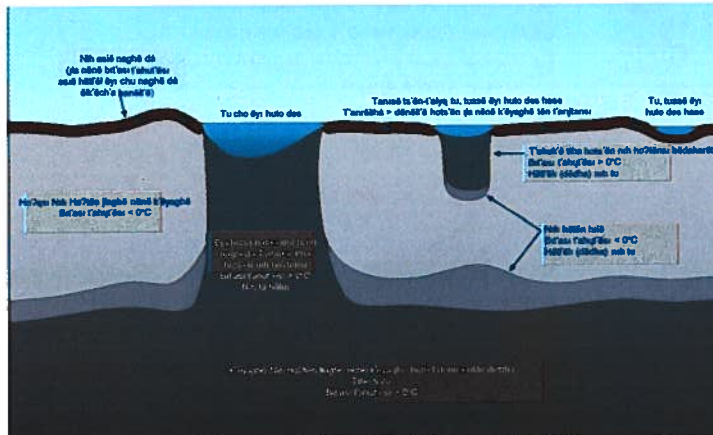
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Nih Hoʔtën ɭaghë nënë k'ëyaghë



Bégha érit'is – Rescan, Sabina Tsába Dóltthoghí Nih T'at'ésí Basí Érit'is (FEIS)
Nunavut Nih T'at'ésí Basí Déné Dóltth'í bét's'én érit'is nílchudh (NIRB), 2017

- Nih Hoʔtën ɭaghë nënë k'ëyaghë èlɥ k'ot'ë kolú Meliadine k'ëyaghë, nih hētën hilē (T'ahuk'ë ttha hots'ën nih hoʔtënsí) èlɥ tu yaghë ts'ën k'ot'ë.
- T'ahuk'ë ttha hots'ën nih hoʔtënsí ènaldhën hēt tu cho yaghë ts'ën èyir hilē de nih k'ëyaghë tu hētën hilē nih hots'í t'ats'ën hēt'ët há tu chú nih k'ëyaghë bēgēsí èyí chú nih ghaldēdhí k'ëyaghë ts'ën nih hoʔtën ɭaghë nënë k'ëyaghë bēyaghë ts'ën tth'í hoʔtën hāt'ë.

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Technical Review: Mine Waste Management

- Representative characterization of mine waste is essential to identify adequate management methods to limit the impacts to the receiving environment.
- Some mine waste presents acid rock drainage and arsenic leaching potential. Therefore, NRCAN recommends on-going laboratory and field characterization of mine waste.
- This characterization should be used to validate site water quality predictions and the proponent should adapt its mine waste management strategy accordingly.

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Nënët'ı T'ahı Yenırınısı: Nih yorıldēdhı Asıı Ađel Boghēdı

- Nih ghađdēdhı asıē ađdedhı hētiē t'at'u halye hası, boghēdı hēt t'at'u nih bēt'a k'arē?u besdōle ch'a.
- Nahiē nih ghađdēdhı asıē ađdedhı acid tthe hat'ıl k'ē chū arsenic bēch'ēli huto há. Ėyi?a NRCan hadıı hok'ēt'a-bēgha ēghēlada t'at'u nēt'ı hēt ēyi chū t'ahı asıē ađdedhı t'at'ēsı gharı há.
- T'ahı asıē ađdedhı t'at'ēsı gharı há bēt'orē?a walı tu t'at'ēsı há, ēyi?a nih ghađdedhı asıē ađdedhı boghēdı t'ane honıdhēsı ēltth'ı boghēdı há.

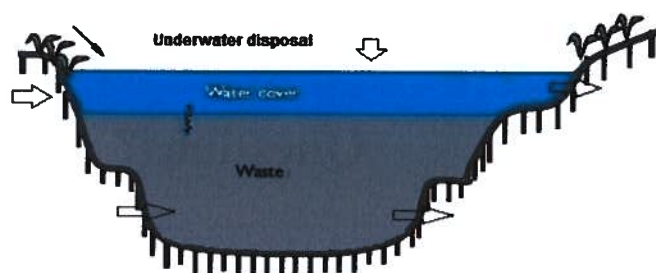
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Mine Waste Management: In-pit Disposal



- In-pit disposal under the water table reduces/eliminates:
 - acid rock drainage and metal leaching;
 - groundwater contamination if appropriately designed; and
 - maintenance of above ground dam structures.
- NRCan recommends that acid rock drainage and arsenic leaching mine waste be placed in exhausted open pits to the extent practicable as recommended by MEND 2.36.1 and 2.36.1b

Source: Pit disposal concept (adapted from MEND report 2.36.1 "Review of in-pit disposal practices for the prevention of acid mine drainage – Case studies"), from [Subaqueous in-pit disposal – Mine Closure \(gk.f\)](#)

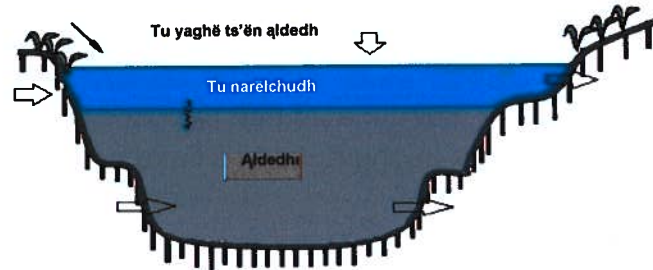
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Nih yorıldēdhi Ası Ađel Boghēdi: Nih k'ēyaghē – yisē Ađdedh



- Nih k'ēyaghē – yisē ađdedh tu yaghē hots'ı k'arē?u/bēd'ı halyē:
 - acid tthe hatt'ı k'ē chū tsatsanē bēch'ēli,
 - nih tu nēzūlē ēlth'ı halya de; ēyı chū
 - nih k'ēdaghē tu bēdarja boghēdi.
- NRCan bēgharı ēdirı acid tthe hatt'ı k'ē chū arsenic bēch'ēli nih ghāldēdhi asi ē ađdedhi ēja nilye hā nih k'ēyaghē ēdirı MEND 2.36.1 chū 2.36.1b ērit'ı bēgharı hā.

Bēgha ēnt'ı's: Nih k'ēyaghē t'ahonidhēnsı (MEND ēnt'ı's hots'ı yıchū 2.36.1 "ēnt'ı's nēnet'ı nih k'ēyaghē – yisē asi ē ađdedhi t'at'u haldhēnsı ēdirı acid nih ghāldēdhi hēl'ēli – ēnt'ı's bēts'ēldēn'ı")
[ēja hots'ı](#) [Tu yaghē ts'ēn nih k'ēyaghē – yisē Nih ghāldēdhi Bēdarja \(gik fu\)](#)



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Questions?



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