

Sayisi Dene Dedliné chu Northlands  
Denesúliné Dene Dedliné

NIRB Dene hél yati det'al – Diri gha yati:

"Meliadine Extension" T'a ho'é hozeké  
Agnico Eagle's Meliadine Mine ha

Bek'e Pehhádi Za 2023

Presentation from

*Sayisi Dene First Nation and  
Northlands Denesuline First Nation*

NIRB Public Hearing – Technical Session:

"Meliadine Extension" Project Proposal for  
Agnico Eagle's Meliadine Mine

September 2023

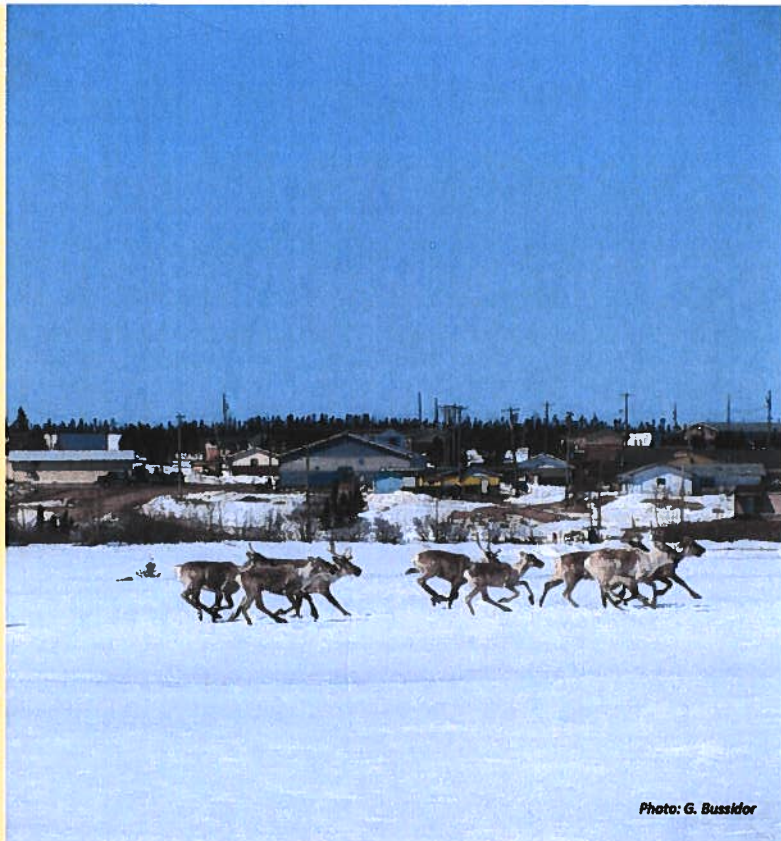


Photo: G. Bussidor

NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

Date: September 16, 2023

Exhibit No.: 40

## Diri gha yati ha

- Sayisi chu Northlands begha yuní gha honi
- T'a ho'é ha sí begha k'énézélyále
- Agnico Eagle t'adi sí
- Naihi asie selyá walí
- Asie kúdoné begha k'énézélyále
- Diri ho'é ho?á
- Diri ho'é honjdhen walí

## Presentation Outline

- Background on Sayisi and Northlands
- Project features of concern
- Agnico Eagle responses
- Issues potentially resolved
- Remaining concerns
- Actions required
- Recommendations



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- Caribou have been central to Sayisi and Northlands existence for thousands of years
- Caribou continue to be crucial to our ability to maintain our culture and our way of life
- Any negative impacts to the declining Qamanirjuaq caribou herd or its habitat could affect our people and our rights







## T'agha k'enézélyale

- 1) Etthén t'uk'é núle edy halye ú, núla t'ághe chu sjne asíe ho'é ttheye ghádálana ghá. Bet'á etthén k'á?ý hane chu t'a?y begha honáre hodezelten thene hane.
- 2) T'uk'e etthén núle sí honáre, windfarm hú?á t'á t'ahú?á ha sí k'ója híle
- 3) T'a?ý etthén tu k'é húl'tj chu tulu k'é húl'tj bet'á behha horenjle t'á edy hane

## Areas of Concern

- 1) Changing caribou calving, post-calving and summer distribution near the mine. Impacts diluted by size of caribou effects study area
- 2) High uncertainty about negative long-term sensory impacts from windfarm in post-calving range
- 3) Negative impacts to caribou crossing movements from waterline adjacent to Discovery Road



Photo: C. Werner



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- 4) Etthén howedi t'anétt'e gháre chu t'anjtha het'i begha k'ója sí bedi halye hotiyé híle
- 5) Etthén tulu k'é húl'tj hotiyé begha nanóhta híle

## Areas of Concern

- 4) Caribou protection measures for group size and distance threshold shutdowns are not sufficient
- 5) Caribou movements while 'approaching' and 'leaving' the all-weather access road have not been adequately assessed



Photo: C. Werner



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## AEM t'agha k'enézéyale gha héyalti # 1

- T'uk'e etthén núla nìh ètahálya nisi chu sìne dólth'er net'í nisi begha yati t'uk'e ttheye eghádalana 2012 chu 2022 hots'j. T'a?u benálna sí boret'i hile.
- T'uk'e wind turbine dóla sí bets'i díhtth'agh heltsi Terrestrial Advisory Group hél begha yati

## AEM Responses to Concern # 1

- Provided updated impact assessments & habitat selection of caribou during post-calving and summer periods near mine infrastructure between 2012 and 2022. Impacts not significant
- Some concerns addressed at the Terrestrial Advisory Group included baseline noise monitoring and alternate wind turbine locations



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## AEM t'agha k'enézéyale gha héyalti # 2

- Windfarm Management Plan ts'i begharé etthén howedi ha ho?ánél'e halye
- Núret'ís k'e ho?ánél't'e t'uk'e etthén nádé sí boret'i thela ha; Kivilliq hots'j ąłnedhe Advisory ełá déłth'i bets'én yati det'al
- Njłts'i heltsi híti halye t'uhú etthén 5 km njłt'a dé.

## AEM Responses to Concern #2

- An additional caribou monitoring study will be added to the Windfarm Management Plan
- Additional maps of increased caribou presence provided; continues to consult with Kivalliq Elders Advisory Board
- Wind turbines shutdown when caribou at 5 km



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### AEM t'agha k'enézéyale gha héyakti # 3

- Erit'is n̄la harelyu tulu t'áhot'i ts'i chu tulu etthén t'uk'e h́t'j ts'i ú, tu k'e h́t'j ú, t'uk'e waterline náre chu bets'i ert'is water line nask'adhe tulu hots'i
- Southeast Meliadine Lake nask'adhe hots'én ha erit'is begháre ts'edél hotiyé begháladá híle etthén h́t'j húto tu k'e h́t'j t'ahha naréht'j! dóha

### AEM Response to Concern # 3

- Provided schematic profiles of all-weather access road intersection with Discovery Road, waterline coverings and diagram of adjacent waterline near the road
- Did not provide specific plan for southeast Meliadine Lake crossing or waterline markers to assess for potential caribou deflections



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### AEM t'agha k'enézéyale gha héyakti # 4

- Agnici Eagle bets'j begháre etthén howedi gháre t'aʔu etthén bowedi thene halye híle t'aʔu bowedi chu t'anélt'e etthén chu t'anjtha ts'én bowedi s̄i baz̄i nezu beghálada

### AEM Response to Concern # 4

- Agnico Eagle maintains there is no evidence to show there is a need to change caribou protection measures and that current group size and distance thresholds are effective and conservative



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## AEM t'agha k'enézyale gha héyalti # 5

- Ttheye ghádálana gha etthén t'at'u húlt'i howedi chu windfarm náre beghálada enahút'e
- T'a erit'ís begha detl'ís nísí Etthén tulu ts'én heht'i chu etthén tulu natl'i hotiyé neht'i gha hqni híle chu naihi asie 7á behha hqrela gha yalti híle

## AEM Response to Concern # 5

- Analysis of caribou movements near mine and potential windfarm are completed
- Analysis did not adequately explain or interpret caribou movements 'approaching' and 'leaving' all-weather access road and conflicted with other evidence



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## Asie selyá hogha

- Agnico Eagle naihi asie begha k'enérilyale ni yegha nádé ha, asie nít'il chu asie darjít'éth bazí
- Naihi asie beghálada enahút'e híle, eyi alú t'at'e

## Issues Potentially Resolved

- Agnico Eagle has committed to resolve some of our concerns, such as spill response and noise monitoring
- Some commitments have not yet been fulfilled, so concerns remain



Photo: M. Code



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## T'a begħa k'enerilyále sí' alú t'at'e

- 1) Ttheye ghádálana ghá alú?ázé etthén h́tł'į́ k'aní hots'i nanet'į́, ḱlú k'aldqné net'į́ nísí h́l thene hajá
- 2) Begħa hotiyé k'ojá híle chu t'at'ú etthén bazí edų hane ghóni t'uk'e windfarm hó?ą sí náre
- 3) Tulu chu tu ghá asíe hołé t'á etthén t'at'u nįh chu tu k'e h́tł'į́ bet'á behha horená ghóni

## Remaining Concerns

- 1) Increased caribou movements near the mine have been re-assessed for significance, but conflict with observed impacts
- 2) High uncertainty and risk of negative impacts to caribou from windfarm location
- 3) Road and waterline structures may have negative impacts on movements of caribou at water crossings



Photo: CWC



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## T'a begħa k'enerilyále sí' alú t'at'e

- 4) T'at'u etthén bowedi hotiyé híle t'at'ú etthén nohtł'į́ edų hane ghóni
- 5) Etthén "h́tł'į́" chu "nohtł'į́" tulu t'áhot'i k'e waterline ńt'á bazí, alú begħa k'ojá hozel'įh

## Remaining Concerns

- 4) Caribou protection measures are not sufficient to mitigate potential negative impacts to caribou migration patterns
- 5) An analysis of caribou movements 'approaching' and 'leaving' the all-weather access road before waterline installation, is still needed



Photo: CWC



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## T'a hołé hoʔa

Alú asíe hołé hoʔa t'at'u dúwé hane ch'azí chu asíe hołé t'á dúwé húne ch'á:

- 1) Etthén t'uk'é húl't'i edy hane bazí
- 2) Etthén t'uk'é núle ú, núta t'ághe chu sjíne nádé bazí
- 3) Etthén t'at'u eteltsi chu sudághena bazí

## Actions Required

Additional actions are needed to avoid negative impacts and to minimize project effects that could:

- 1) Change caribou migration patterns
- 2) Cause negative impacts to caribou while in calving, post-calving and summer habitats
- 3) Negatively impact caribou herd productivity and health



Photo: M. Code



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## Diri hołé ha honjdhen

- 1) Agnico Eagle k'anj hots'i nanayelʔjh chu t'a k'ałdoné yunathé t'ahúʔa ha sí chu t'a asíe hqzú asíe hołé etthén bazí ú, t'a k'ałdoné net'i ʔá ú, t'a asíe bet'á dúwé nísí etthén húl't'i bazí chu ttheye ghádálana hoʔánjtha halye ha sí tth'i. Diri benj daltsi ts'én t'u/Meliadine Extension bet's'én t'a daltsi húdzi nísí ts'én t'u hołé
- 2) Windfarm nút'á ch'azí chu

## Recommendations

- 1) Agnico Eagle reconsider and revise existing impact predictions and significance determinations related to caribou, based on detected impacts, such as impacts to known caribou crossings, and the proposed extended mine life. This should be done prior to the approval/recommended approval of the Meliadine Extension proposal
- 2) The proposed wind farm should not proceed



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## Diri hołé ha honjɔdhen

## Recommendations

3) T'aʔú etthén heltł'í si bowedi chu t'at'u dzeƙaredai bowedi southeast Meliadine Lake etthén húltł'j bowedi Discovery Road waterline nút'á ts'én t'u

4) Etthén łą ʔá húa bowedi húa hohhow, łle etthén heltł'íl tth'í bowedi hél t'anjtha naltł'j tth'í hoʔánjtha ts'én bowedi ttheye ghanádé náre chu tulu hokł'tł'á bet'á hot'j náre ha.

5) Etthe`n bowedi "nútł'í" chu "húltł'j" hukł'tł'á tulu t'áhot'í k'e Meliadine baži t'a asíe hek'éth halye chu t'a Extended halye ha hozeké nisí baži honeti bóndhj ts'én t'u.

- 3) Further assessment of caribou movement and behavior monitoring at the southeast Meliadine Lake caribou crossing should be conducted prior to the installation of the Discovery Road waterline
- 4) The caribou group size threshold for migration protocols be reduced to allow more small groups to experience protection measures and increase the distance threshold for the mine operations and all-weather access road
- 5) Key analysis of caribou movements 'approaching' and 'leaving' the all-weather access road be completed prior to approval/recommended approval of the Meliadine Extension proposal



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## Diri hołé ha honjɔdhen (ałú behą yati)

## Recommendations (continued)

Project Certificate náke begháreye:

- Term chu Condition k'anj hots'í naretł'ís #43 – Tech'ądíe chu tuk'e naredai sī – t'ahha sī
  - T'at'ú etthén howedi sī t'anélt'e chu t'anjtha naltł'í senalye t'a yunł ts'í netł the ne hájá gháre
- Term chu Condition k'anj hots'í naretł'ís # 54 – 'Tech'ądíe ta'nóhtł'j'
  - T'uk'e etthén hqlą húltł'j hotiyé net'j southeast Meliadine Túé belonghe t'sén bet'á t'a senalye ha sī net'í

2022 hots'í diri baži ertł'ís halya sī diri dóhdzi baži esódi híle

Two additions to the Project Certificate:

- Revise Term and Condition # 43-Terrestrial Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – General
  - Revise caribou protection group size and distance thresholds based on recent changes to caribou distribution
- Revise Term and Condition # 54-'Movement of Wildlife'
  - Conduct a study of the major caribou crossing at the southeast end of Meliadine Lake to implement specific mitigations

No information provided in the 2022 Annual Report changed these recommendations



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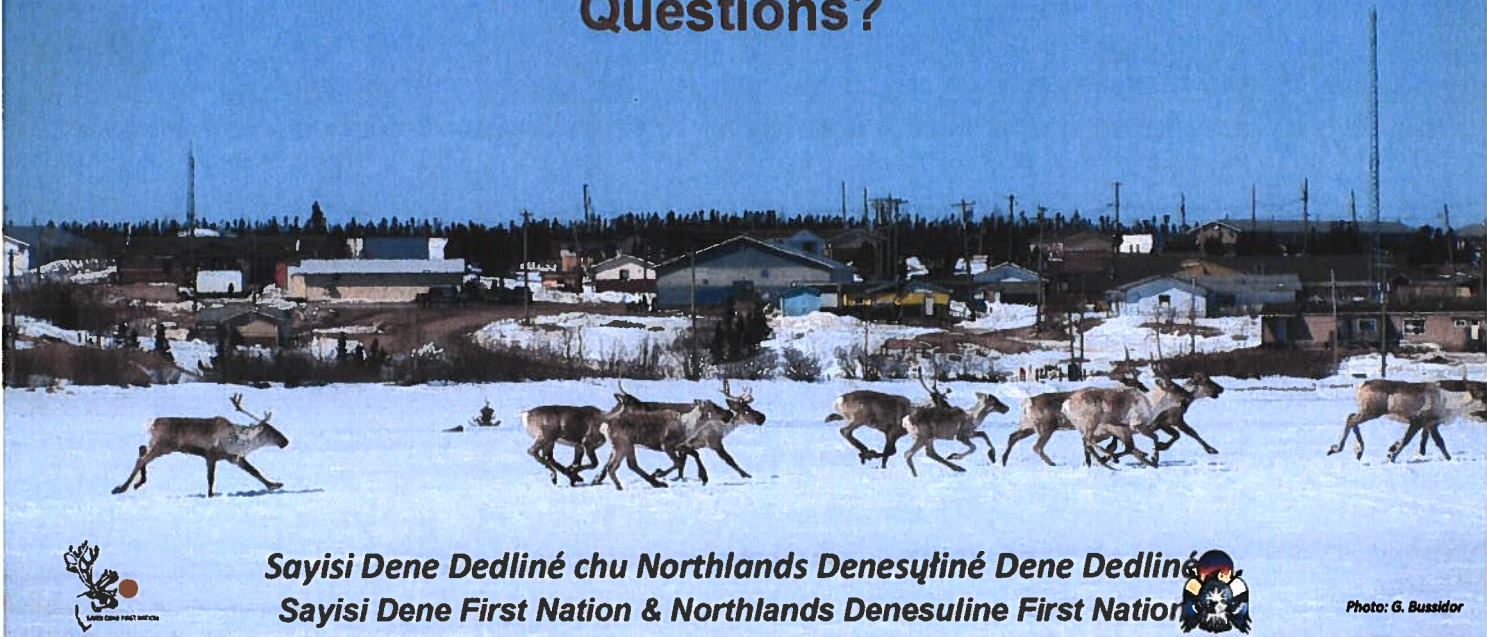






Beghą herułker hurúl?jh húsá?

Questions?



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Photo: G. Bussidor

