

NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED  
MELIADINE EXTENSION PROJECT PROPOSAL  
NIRB FILE NUMBER 11MN034

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PUBLIC HEARING

VOLUME 1

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Rankin Inlet, Nunavut

September 12, 2023

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1 Proceedings taken at Singiitug Complex Recreation Hall,  
2 Rankin Inlet, Nunavut

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4 NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

5	K. Kaluraq	Chair of Hearing
6	P. Kadlun-Omingmakyok	Panel Member
7	G. Alikut	Panel Member
8	P. Kusugak	Panel Member
9	A. Ehaloak	Panel Member
10	C. Emrick	Secretary-Treasurer

11

12 NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD STAFF

13	T. Meadows	Legal Counsel
14	R. Barry	Executive Director
15	T. Arko	Director, Technical Services
16	K. Gillard	Manager, Project Monitoring
17	L. Klassen	Technical Advisor II
18	E. Koide	Technical Advisor III
19	L. Atatahak	Administration Support

20

21 PROPONENT

22

23 AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)

24	B. Armstrong	Legal Counsel
25	C. Kowbel	Legal Counsel
26	M. Turmel	Superintendent, Permitting and

1		Regulatory Affairs
2	C. Prather	Permitting Technical Advisor,
3		Water Management
4	J. Range	Regulatory Specialist
5	E. Malindzak	Permitting Specialist,
6		Aquatics
7	S. Lacourse	Permitting Specialist, Social
8		& Land
9	D. Kritterdlik	IQ & Wildlife Advisor
10	P. Kusugak	Director, Nunavut Affairs
11	A. Buchan	Director, Nunavut Affairs;
12		Stakeholder Engagement
13	L. Syvret	Director, Shared Services
14		Nunavut
15	L. Chouinard	Project Manager, Meliadine
16		Extension
17	M. Gillman	Environment Superintendent
18	S. Savoie	Environment General Supervisor
19	J-C. Blais	General Manager, Meliadine
20		Operations
21	C. Fernandes	General Superintendent, Mining
22		Operations
23	D. Rodrigue	General Superintendent
24	J. Aggark	Community Liaison Officer,
25		Chesterfield Inlet
26	N. Allen	Project Manager, Nunavut

1		Decarbonization
2	D. Coulton	Consultant, Senior Wildlife
3		Biologist
4	G. Sharam	Consultant, Senior Wildlife
5		Biologist
6	V. Young	Consultant, Acoustic Scientist
7	J. Quesnel	Director, Permitting and
8		Regulatory Affairs
9	C. Paradis St-Onge	Nunavut Communication
10		Coordinator
11	K. Chenel-Fournier	Communication Counselor
12		
13	INTERVENORS	
14		
15	NUNAVUT WATER BOARD (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)	
16	A. Shaikh	Technical Advisor
17		
18	NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INCORPORATED (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)	
19	N. Gonzalez	Legal Counsel
20	D. Nouvet	Legal Counsel
21	P. Irngaut	Vice President
22	G. Nirlungayuk	Director, Wildlife and
23		Environment
24	B. Dean	Assistant Director, Wildlife
25		and Environment
26	R. Mercer	Resource Management

1		Coordinator
2	E. Greene	Senior Research and Technical
3		Advisor
4	H. Uniuqsaraq	Acting Chief Operations
5		Officer
6	D. Lee	Biologist
7		
8	KIVALLIQ INUIT ASSOCIATION (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)	
9	J. Katz	Legal Counsel
10	L. Manzo	Director of Land
11	D. Kuksuk	Vice President
12	G. Karlik	Chief Executive Officer
13	A. Sexton	Geologist
14	M. McDougall	Aquatic Biologist
15	A. Gunn	Aurora Research
16		
17	GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)	
18	E. Carroll	Legal Counsel, Justice
19	N. Pudluk	Assistant Deputy Minister of
20		Environment
21	D. Haney	Manager, Land Use and
22		Environmental Assessment,
23		Department of Environment
24	S. Atkinson	Wildlife Biologist, Department
25		of Environment
26	A. Cyr-Parent	Director, Mineral and



1 DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS (REGISTERED  
2 SPEAKERS)

3 J. Audet-Lecouffe Senior Biologist Fish and Fish  
4 Habitat  
5 P. Harper Biologist, Fish and Fish  
6 Habitat  
7 A. Beattie Unit Head, Fish and Fish  
8 Habitat

9

10 HEALTH CANADA (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)

11 J. Anderson Impact Assessment Specialist  
12 J. Kaushansky Impact Assessment Specialist  
13 W. Wilson Senior Environmental Health  
14 Advisor  
15 N. Lyrette Senior Environmental Health  
16 Advisor

17

18 TRANSPORT CANADA (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)

19 J. McHattie Legal Counsel  
20 S. Tielesh Legal Counsel  
21 A. Downing Regional Senior Environmental  
22 Supervisor, Technical and  
23 Environmental Services  
24 R. King Indigenous Relations Unit  
25 N. D'Souza Project Officer, Environmental  
26 Assessment

1 K. Magee A/Senior Project Manager,  
2 Environmental Assessment  
3  
4 NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)  
5 P. Unger A/Director, Impact Assessment  
6 Division  
7 P-O. Edmond Manager, Impact Assessment and  
8 Consultation  
9 R. Goulet Manager, Lands and Minerals  
10 J. Cole Senior Researcher, Lands and  
11 Minerals  
12  
13 KANGIQLINIQ HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ORGANIZATION  
14 (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)  
15 N. Kaludjak HTO  
16 R. Pilakapsi HTO  
17  
18 ATHABASCA DENESULINE NE NE LAND CORPORATION (REGISTERED  
19 SPEAKERS)  
20 K. Rasmussen Ecological Consultant  
21 R. Robillard President and Chief Negotiator  
22 K. MacDonald Admin  
23 K. Mercredi Chief  
24  
25  
26

1 SAYISI DENE AND NORTHLANDS DENESULINE FIRST NATION  
2 (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)

3 K. Olson Legal Counsel  
4 G. Bussidor Sayisi Dene First Nation  
5 Chief Negotiator  
6 B. Denechezhe Northlands Denesuline  
7 First Nation  
8 Chief Negotiator  
9 D. Chranowski Wildlife Biologist Advisor

10

11 HAMLET OF RANKIN INLET (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)

12 M. Hickes Community Representative  
13 A. Kabvitok Community Representative  
14 L. Curley Community Representative

15

16 HAMLET OF BAKER LAKE (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)

17 D. Owingayak Community Representative  
18 E. Elytook Community Representative  
19 L. Nukik Community Representative

20

21 HAMLET OF WHALE COVE (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)

22 P. Kabloona Community Representative

23

24 HAMLET OF CHESTERFIELD INLET (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)

25 S. Sammurtok Community Representative  
26 H. Aggark Community Representative

1	L. Miminalik	Community Representative
2		
3	TADOULE LAKE (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)	
4	E. Bussidor	Community Representative
5	K. Clipping	Community Representative
6		
7	LAC BROCHET (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)	
8	M. Antsanen	Community Representative
9	N. Denechezhe	Community Representative
10	T. Shaoullie	Community Representative
11		
12	BLACK LAKE (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)	
13	C. Sayazie	Community Representative
14	J. Laban	Community Representative
15	D. Bigeye	Community Representative
16		
17	FOND DU LAC (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)	
18	L. Mercredi	Community Representative
19	M.N. Pacquette	Community Representative
20	D. McDonald	Community Representative
21		
22	HATCHETT LAKE (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)	
23	B. Tsannie	Community Representative
24	E.M. Denechezhe	Community Representative
25	P. Gazandlare	Community Representative
26		

1 INTERPRETERS/TRANSLATORS ( INUKTITUT )

2 J. Tucktoo Language Translator

3 M.R. Angoshadluk Language Translator

4 B. Dean Language Translator

5

6 INTERPRETERS/TRANSLATORS ( DENE )

7 D. Alphonse Language Translator

8 N. Pacquette-Mercredi Language Translator

9

10 COURT REPORTERS

11 D. Lopez, CSR(A), RPR Official Court Reporter

12 S. Burns, CSR(A), RPR, Official Court Reporter

13 CRR

14

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1 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 9:09 AM)

2 Opening Remarks

3 THE CHAIR: My name is Kaviq Kaluraq, and  
4 I'm the chairperson of the Nunavut Impact Review Board.  
5 On behalf of the Board, I would like to welcome you to  
6 the start of the NIRB public hearing associated with  
7 the NIRB's assessment of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited  
8 Meliadine extension proposal, which is the modification  
9 of the existing Meliadine Gold Mine project.

10 For those of you attending in Rankin Inlet,  
11 welcome to Rankin, and for those of you participating  
12 over the audio-video link, thank you for your  
13 participation.

14 Just before we begin, I would like to ask you to  
15 turn off your cell phones or put them on "silent"  
16 before we begin. Before the meeting starts, we are  
17 starting the meeting with an opening prayer given by  
18 Lootie Toomasie.

19 Opening Prayer

20 THE CHAIR: Just before we begin, I would  
21 like to invite Harry Towtongie, Mayor of Rankin Inlet,  
22 to give opening remarks. Harry.

23 MR. TOWTONGIE: Thank you.

24 I would like to welcome -- I would like to welcome  
25 you to Rankin Inlet, all the people -- all of you from  
26 different communities, lands, from Saskatchewan, from

1 all over Kivalliq. So our community is developing.  
2 Everything is good, and there are some things that are  
3 growing that are unfamiliar with us.

4 Before I talk, I want to acknowledge the Elders  
5 that are here, and I would want you to listen to the  
6 Elders and heed them, but we also have to communicate  
7 with the youth and share knowledge with them. We have  
8 to consider the future and, when dealing with what we  
9 are doing, always consider the future so that they can  
10 also be aware and inform the development going on. And  
11 I want to encourage all of you, if you have something  
12 to say, speak out because in the coming days there will  
13 be less opportunity to address your concerns.

14 But welcome to Rankin Inlet and feel free to  
15 ask -- the deputy mayor will be in attendance here, so  
16 welcome to Rankin Inlet. Make yourself at home.  
17 Welcome and mahsi cho. Thank you.

18 THE INTERPRETER: I can't hear her. I can only  
19 hear myself.

20 THE CHAIR: (NO ENGLISH FEED) however, we  
21 were saddened to hear that there have been several  
22 deaths in the community in this past week, and the  
23 Board is thinking a lot of those who are gone. We'd  
24 like to have a moment of silence.

25 (MOMENT OF SILENCE)

26 THE CHAIR: Before we move too far into

1 the details on the Board's assessment, I want to  
2 describe the format of this hearing so everyone is  
3 aware of all the participants here in the room or  
4 participating through the audio-visual feed.

5 Following the end of the public health orders  
6 required during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board has  
7 returned to its in-person proceedings.

8 Sorry. I'm just -- I usually follow along in  
9 Inuktitut, so -- and I've been trying to find the right  
10 channel.

11 The Board continues to prioritize holding the  
12 hearing in person in the closest potentially impacted  
13 community to allow the public to participate and to  
14 speak to the parties and the Board directly. However,  
15 due to the limits on the availability of hotel rooms in  
16 Rankin Inlet and with the number of intervenors  
17 participating in this assessment, the Board has  
18 provided an audio-video link for this hearing so that  
19 parties providing support to the representatives in the  
20 room can view the proceedings remotely and will be able  
21 to speak to provide follow-up support, if required.

22 For everyone participating by the audio-visual  
23 feed, be assured that we're linked to you, and if you  
24 need to speak up as experts, we will hear you.

25 As we may be switching back and forth between the  
26 in-person video and audio links during the hearing, we

1 ask everyone to be patient in waiting for your turn to  
2 speak. Agnico Eagle and formal intervenors have  
3 provided the Board with a list of key speakers who will  
4 be my primary contact. When a question is directed to  
5 the proponent or intervenors, I will direct the  
6 question to your key speaker, who can then turn the  
7 microphone over to the member of their team who will  
8 answer.

9 If you're participating by Zoom, when your name is  
10 called, please click on the "raise your hand" button at  
11 the bottom of the screen, and this will help the techs  
12 identify you more quickly so that they can unmute your  
13 line and turn on your camera.

14 So that everyone is aware, because the Board has  
15 prioritized in-person participation, although the Board  
16 will do everything we can to ensure that the remote  
17 link remains stable and available, as we all know,  
18 sometimes the technology is interrupted due to  
19 circumstances outside of the Board's control. If this  
20 occurs, the Board will continue with the in-person  
21 proceedings as planned. We thank everyone in advance  
22 for your flexibility and patience as we work through  
23 any interruptions in remote access.

24 Simultaneous interpretation of the proceedings is  
25 being provided throughout the meetings from  
26 interpreters here in Rankin Inlet. In the Zoom feed,

1 you can choose the language feed you want to hear, but  
2 when you go to speak, you may have to turn off the  
3 interpretation feed to provide feedback.

4 For the people here in Rankin Inlet, receivers are  
5 available from the sign-in table, and the receivers are  
6 set to Channel 1, floor sound; Channel 2 in English;  
7 Channel 3, Inuktitut; and Channel 4 in Dene.

8 If you are having trouble hearing the proceedings,  
9 please see our technical support, Ryan Dempster, from  
10 Pido at the side of the room. If you're having issues  
11 with the online feed, please email Emily Koide at  
12 ekoide@nirb.ca.

13 Just a quick reminder to everyone participating in  
14 this hearing that no one is permitted to record or  
15 rebroadcast the images, video, or audio of these  
16 proceedings in any form without the express written  
17 consent of the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

18 Failing to follow these directions may result in  
19 sanctions by the Board, including suspending access to  
20 the live feed or being asked to leave the hall.

21 The NIRB is generating a transcript from these  
22 proceedings, which will be available through --  
23 following the hearing on the NIRB's public registry.

24 Now that you know how to participate in our  
25 proceedings, I will give you some background about the  
26 purpose and process of this hearing. As I stated

1 already, I am Kaviq Kaluraq, the chairperson of the  
2 Nunavut Impact Review Board, and I'm from Baker Lake.  
3 I have served continuously with the Board since my  
4 first term in 2010. With me are my fellow board  
5 members. We are the decision-makers for this  
6 assessment. I will now turn over the microphone for  
7 them to introduce themselves in order. Starting from  
8 the far end of the table with Guy.

9 MR. ALIKUT: (INUKTITUT SPOKEN - NO  
10 TRANSLATION)

11 MS. EMRICK: Good morning. My name is  
12 Catherine Emrick. I'm from Calgary, and this is my  
13 sixth year serving as a board member. Thank you.

14 MR. KADLUN-OMINGMAKYOK: I'm Phillip  
15 Kadlun-Omingmakyok, and I'm from -- (NO ENGLISH  
16 TRANSLATION).

17 MR. EHALOOK: (NO ENGLISH TRANSLATION) and  
18 this is my second term.

19 MR. KUSUGAK: I'm Peter Kusugak in Victoria  
20 Beach. I've been on the Board for two years now.

21 THE CHAIR: And before we continue on with  
22 the introductions, Teresa has a procedural issue to  
23 address. Legal counsel?

24 Procedural Matters by Nunavut Impact Review Board Legal  
25 Counsel

26 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1           Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  
2   Impact Review Board.

3           So, Madam Chair, first I would just like to  
4   address a couple of quick points. The first is that,  
5   unfortunately, a board member Henry Ohokannoak, who was  
6   wanting to be here and wanting to join you for this  
7   public hearing and was also continued -- his term was  
8   continued in order to be able to be a decision-maker  
9   for this -- this assessment, his flights were  
10   cancelled, and so he was unable to join us. He is  
11   stranded currently in Yellowknife and will not be able  
12   to attend. So I just wanted to note Henry passed along  
13   his deep regrets. He really wished to be with you all,  
14   but unfortunately the flights were not cooperating.

15           And then a second quick point is just in respect  
16   of the Board's introductions, I wanted to mention that,  
17   as we all know, Nunavut's population is relatively  
18   small, and as a result it is not unusual for the Board,  
19   when considering a mining proposal, that some of the  
20   Board members may have close friends or family members  
21   or other relatives working for the intervenors or the  
22   proponent of the project.

23           As these circumstances are quite common, the Board  
24   has internal procedures in place to ensure that these  
25   relationships are disclosed and that the objectivity of  
26   the Board's decision-making process is maintained.

1           In this case, as some of you may already know,  
2 Peter Kusugak, who is familiar to people in  
3 Rankin Inlet and has relatives still living in  
4 Rankin Inlet, has a nephew who is employed by Agnico  
5 Eagle Mines Limited. To address this, the Board has  
6 implemented our internal procedures so that Peter can  
7 continue to be related to his nephew but also so that  
8 he can continue to act as a decision-maker for the  
9 file.

10           If anyone has any questions or concerns regarding  
11 these circumstances and the Board's procedures, I  
12 encourage you to seek me out, and I can provide you  
13 with more details about what the Board does to ensure  
14 the integrity of our process.

15           Thank you, Madam Chair. Those are my procedural  
16 matters.

17 THE CHAIR:                           Thank you, Teresa.

18           Today the Panel or the Board is supported by the  
19 following people . When I say your name, I ask that you  
20 wave so that people can see you. Online we have our  
21 interim executive director, Ryan Barry; and here in  
22 Rankin Inlet we have our director of technical  
23 services, Tara Arko; manager of project monitoring,  
24 Kelli Gillard in the back ; Technical Advisor III,  
25 Emily Koide; Technical Advisor II, Leah Klaassen; and  
26 administrative support, Lena Atatahak. Also joining us

1 is our legal counsel, Teresa Meadows, of Meadows Law.

2 For simultaneous interpretation we have  
3 interpreters Josie Tuktoo, NIRB staff member  
4 coordinating the interpretation team, joined by Mary  
5 Rose Angoshadluk and Bernadette Dean in Inuktitut, and  
6 in Dene, Daniel Alphonse -- is that how you say your  
7 last name? Okay -- and Nancy Pacquette-Mercredi.

8 Assisting us with our sound system, video-link  
9 interpretation, and sound recording, we have from Pido,  
10 Ryan Dempster, and it looks like Veronica -- Veronica  
11 Connolly is also supporting.

12 To ensure an accurate record of the public  
13 hearing, we'll be keeping a transcript of these  
14 proceedings. We have Sandra Burns. Where are they?  
15 Okay. It's a different set-up from before. Sorry.  
16 Sandra Burns and Derek Lopez, court reporters from  
17 Dicta Court Reporting, here to prepare the transcript.  
18 To assist our court reporters, I ask that all parties  
19 please state their name before they speak every time.

20 (UNREPORTABLE SOUND)

21 THE CHAIR: Just a reminder to please put  
22 your cell phones on silent. They're very distracting  
23 in trying to hear people.

24 Now that you know the Board and support staff, I  
25 want to give you some details about the purpose,  
26 structure, and agenda for the public hearing.

1           The Board is holding this public hearing to hear  
2 evidence, ask questions, and listen to comments,  
3 concerns, and knowledge shared by intervenors,  
4 community representatives, and members of the public in  
5 order to assess the potential ecosystemic and  
6 socioeconomic effects of Agnico Eagle Mine's Limited  
7 Meliadine extension proposal, which is a modification  
8 of Agnico Eagle's existing Meliadine Gold Mine project.

9           Agnico Eagle's assessment of the potential effects  
10 of the project proposal has been filed with the Board  
11 in the form of an addendum to the final environmental  
12 impact statement and builds on the Board's previous  
13 assessment of the Meliadine Gold Mine project.

14           The addendum and supporting documentation provided  
15 by Agnico Eagle has been reviewed and commented on by  
16 the formal intervenors currently around the table who  
17 will be asking questions and making presentations about  
18 their interventions during the technical part of this  
19 hearing over the next two days.

20           When the technical sessions conclude, the Board  
21 will start the community roundtable part of this  
22 hearing. During the community roundtable, community  
23 representatives here in Rankin Inlet will move to  
24 occupy the seats around the table, and the general  
25 public in attendance will have the opportunity to  
26 express their views, share their knowledge, and ask

1 questions of Agnico Eagle and the intervenors regarding  
2 this change to the Meliadine Gold Mine project.

3 At the close of the community roundtable session  
4 on Tuesday, a single spokesperson chosen by each  
5 community will give short closing remarks summarizing  
6 if their community's concerns have been addressed and  
7 if the community supports the proposal going ahead or  
8 not.

9 I want to emphasize how important it is that  
10 everyone participate fully in this hearing to ensure  
11 that the Board has a full and fair basis for our  
12 decision and recommendations. The Board has structured  
13 this hearing to support this participation to the  
14 greatest extent possible.

15 After the public hearing has concluded and the  
16 public hearing record is closed, the Board will  
17 determine whether or not to -- the proposed amendment  
18 should be allowed to proceed to the permitting stage  
19 based on all the evidence, information, knowledge,  
20 comments, and concerns provided to the Board throughout  
21 the assessment.

22 Within 45 days from the close of the public  
23 hearing record, the Board will provide its final report  
24 and recommendations to the Minister of Northern Affairs  
25 and other responsible government ministers for their  
26 consideration.

1           If the Board decides that the changes proposed by  
2 Agnico Eagle can go ahead, the Board will also make  
3 recommendations in respect of any changes or additions  
4 to the terms and conditions of the existing Meliadine  
5 project certificate that are required to limit  
6 potential impacts.

7           The responsible ministers will then have the  
8 option of accepting, varying, or rejecting the Board's  
9 report and associated recommendations as set out under  
10 the Nunavut Agreement and the Nunavut Planning and  
11 Project Assessment Act.

12           Hard copies of the agenda are available on the  
13 tables at the back of the room. Please pick one up and  
14 follow along. All times quoted in the agenda are in  
15 central time. Unless I advise otherwise, we will start  
16 each day at 9 AM and break at 5 PM for dinner. The  
17 proceedings will start with technical sessions today,  
18 include a site visit this afternoon, and continue  
19 through Friday.

20           We will continue with the community roundtable  
21 starting on Saturday, a day off on Sunday, and resume  
22 the community roundtable sessions on Monday and Tuesday  
23 of next week.

24           Closing remarks from regulators and intervenors  
25 will be discussed on Wednesday, September 20th,  
26 followed by close of proceedings by noon.

1 Evening sessions are scheduled for tomorrow and  
2 Monday, September 18, to provide an opportunity during  
3 both the technical sessions and community roundtable  
4 for members of the public who may work during the day  
5 to attend, hear the proceeding, and ask questions.

6 Evening sessions start at 6:30 PM and finish at  
7 9 PM. The Board may require additional evening  
8 sessions to keep up with the agenda, and we will  
9 provide as much notice as possible. Generally we will  
10 have one 15-minute break in the morning and one in the  
11 afternoon. I will let everyone know when we're coming  
12 up to break time. We generally break for lunch at  
13 12 PM and reconvene at 1:15 PM. Coffee and tea are  
14 provided in the hall during the meetings.

15 Now that we have gone through the structure of the  
16 meetings, I'll provide a short description about the  
17 changes to the Meliadine project being considered by  
18 the Board and the steps that have been completed in the  
19 NIRB's assessment to date.

20 We'll be hearing directly from Agnico Eagle with a  
21 more detailed project description following this  
22 introduction, so I will keep my remarks brief.

23 The Meliadine Gold Mine project is owned by  
24 and since 2015 has been operated by Agnico Eagle Mines  
25 Limited. The project is located approximately  
26 25 kilometres north of Rankin Inlet and encompasses

1 open-pit and underground mines to reach five key gold  
2 deposits connected by an all-season access road as well  
3 as a bypass road to facilities at Itivia Harbour.

4 With its Meliadine extension proposal, Agnico  
5 Eagle is seeking to extend current components of the  
6 project, add new components, and extend the mine life  
7 by eleven years to 2043. Some key activities include  
8 ongoing use of existing infrastructure at the mine; an  
9 all-season access road and road to Itivia Harbour;  
10 extend open-pit access for specific targets to  
11 underground mining access and develop additional  
12 infrastructure and portals to support the additional  
13 access; construct a wind farm, including 11 wind  
14 turbines with associated infrastructure and access  
15 roads; and increase employment and camp infrastructure  
16 to accommodate additional personnel.

17 The current Meliadine extension proposal was  
18 referred to the NIRB for assessment on April 1, 2022.  
19 After the Board received clarification from Agnico  
20 Eagle and input from parties on the proposal in  
21 June 2022, the NIRB determined that the assessment of  
22 the Meliadine extension proposal would proceed as a  
23 formal reconsideration of the terms and conditions of  
24 Project Certificate Number 006 under Section 12.8.2 of  
25 the Nunavut Agreement and Section 112 of the Nunavut  
26 Planning and Project Assessment Act.

1           In August 2022, the NIRB reviewed Agnico Eagle's  
2           assessment of the potential impacts of the proposal  
3           provided in the final impact statement addendum and  
4           determined the addendum conformed to the Board's  
5           guidelines and initiated the technical review process.

6           As part of the technical review process,  
7           intervenors and interested parties provided information  
8           requests and technical review comments on the proposal,  
9           and Agnico Eagle responded by providing additional  
10          information, comments, and responses.

11          The NIRB held community information sessions in  
12          the communities identified by the responsible minister  
13          as potentially affected by the proposal in Arviat,  
14          Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet, Rankin Inlet, and Whale  
15          Cove in early September 2022.

16          The technical meeting community roundtable and  
17          prehearing conference for the file was held in person  
18          here in Rankin Inlet in November 2022, and due to the  
19          number of issues still requiring clarification, an  
20          additional prehearing conference was held on March 16,  
21          2003.

22          As a result of additional direction from Crown  
23          Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  
24          provided to the Board on February 28, 2023, additional  
25          community information sessions were held in communities  
26          in northern Saskatchewan and northern Manitoba in early

1 March 2023.

2           Following the second prehearing conference on  
3 April 14, the Board determined that the assessment  
4 could progress to the public hearing stage, and the  
5 NIRB announced the dates and format of this public  
6 hearing.

7           For anyone interested in looking at any of the  
8 documentation associated with the Board's assessment of  
9 the Meliadine extension proposal, please see or contact  
10 the NIRB staff, and they can provide you with an  
11 opportunity to review electronic copies of anything you  
12 might need. This documentation is also available from  
13 the Board's online public registry, and our staff can  
14 direct you to the relevant part of the website.

15           Now I turn to some remaining housekeeping items.  
16 I'd like to notify all participants that these  
17 proceedings are being attended by media  
18 representatives. If members of the media are attending  
19 in person, we ask that you sign in as you enter the  
20 hall and wear a press badge or similar identification  
21 throughout these proceedings so that it is clear to  
22 parties which media outlet you're representing.

23           Any participants who are approached by the media,  
24 it remains up to you as to whether you wish to speak  
25 with the media. We ask that media interviews be  
26 conducted outside this room and remind all media that

1 the Board prohibits recording of these proceedings in  
2 any format without the Board's express written consent.

3 We also ask the media joining the proceedings  
4 through the audio-visual feeds must provide notice to  
5 Ryan Barry, the Board's interim executive director at  
6 rbarry@nirb.ca, and inquiries for information for media  
7 representatives should also be sent to Ryan.

8 The Board welcomes the media providing information  
9 about these proceedings to those who cannot attend.  
10 However, I remind everyone that the Board staff and the  
11 Board themselves cannot take questions or provide  
12 interviews to the media or make public comments  
13 regarding these meetings while we are underway.

14 In the interest of time, I'm going to ask the key  
15 speakers for each party to introduce your entire team  
16 by listing the names of the people who will be  
17 participating in the proceedings this week. And I'll  
18 start with Agnico Eagle, Manon Turmel.

19 MS. TURMEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Manon  
20 Turmel with Agnico Eagle.

21 So for our team, we have Colleen Prather  
22 permitting technical advisor, water and waste. We have  
23 Jennifer Range, regulatory specialist. We have Edward  
24 Malindzak, permitting specialist, aquatics. We have  
25 Sophie Lacourse, permitting specialist, social and  
26 land. Unfortunately he is not here this morning; his

1 plane was cancelled. David Kritterdlik should join us  
2 hopefully in the coming days. We have Pujjut Kusugak  
3 director, Nunavut affairs. We have Alex Buchan,  
4 director of Nunavut affairs stakeholder engagement. We  
5 have Luc Chouinard, project manager, Meliadine  
6 extension; Matt Gillman, environmental superintendent;  
7 Sara Savoie, environment, general supervisor. We have  
8 Nicholas Allen, project manager, Nunavut  
9 decarbonization. We have Geoff Neville, health and  
10 safety, general supervisor. We have Janice Aggark,  
11 community liaison officer from Chesterfield Inlet, and  
12 we also have attending online Jamie Quesnel, director,  
13 permitting and regulatory affairs. And supporting the  
14 Agnico team we have Christine Kowbel, legal counsel  
15 with Lawson Lundell. We have Brad Armstrong, legal  
16 counsel with Lawson Lundell. We have Daniel Coulton,  
17 consultant with WSP, a senior wildlife biologist; Greg  
18 Sharam, a consultant with ERM, a senior wildlife  
19 biologist; and, finally, Victor Young, consultant with  
20 WSP, acoustic scientist. Thank you, Madam Chair.

21 THE CHAIR: Moving on to Nunavut Tunngavik  
22 Incorporated, Paul Irngaut.

23 MR. NIRLUNGAYUK: Thank you very much.

24 Paul Irngaut is not here right now, but he will be  
25 here on Friday.

26 THE INTERPRETER: We can't hear him. We can't

1 hear him.

2 MR. NIRLUNGAYUK: The people from NTI, Bert Dean  
3 is here also, and Raymond Mercer is also here, and Ezra  
4 is also present. And sitting next to me, Neida  
5 Gonzalez. Also online, Hannah Uniuqsaraq from Iqaluit  
6 and Philip Lavallee [phonetic]; also David Lee,  
7 biologist; and Dominique Nouvet.

8 Thank you, Madam Chair.

9 THE CHAIR: Kivalliq Inuit Association,  
10 Luis Manzo.

11 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 My name is Luis Manzo. Kivalliq Inuit Association  
13 will be represented here by the CEO, Gabriel Karlik,  
14 and we will have staff from KIA in and out of this  
15 room, Brenda Osmond and Craig Beardsall, Maria Serra.  
16 We also have our legal advisor, Johnny Katz, in the  
17 audience; Alan Sexton for geophysics and mining; Anne  
18 Gunn, a biologist; Matthew McDougall, water chemistry;  
19 and Qilak Kusugak for socioeconomics; and I think  
20 that's everyone.

21 Thank you, Madam Chair.

22 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut, Naomie  
23 Pudluk. Is she here? Stephen Atkinson.

24 MR. ATKINSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.

25 The Government of Nunavut representatives were  
26 unable to get here from Iqaluit yesterday. I'm Stephen

1 Atkinson, a consultant for the government of -- for  
2 wildlife biology. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Crown Indigenous Relations and  
4 Northern Affairs Canada, Spencer Dewar.

5 MR. DEWAR: Thank you.

6 My name is Spencer Dewar. I'm the director of  
7 resource management with Crown-Indigenous Relations and  
8 Northern Affairs Canada. With me today is Felexce  
9 Ngwa, the manager of impact assessment; Amal Roy,  
10 senior environmental assessment specialist; Michael  
11 Staniewski, environmental policy analyst; and we have  
12 Tony Brown with Arcadis. Also online we have Joseph  
13 McHattie, who is with the Department of Justice, and  
14 he'll be the Government of Canada's counsel.  
15 Qujannamiik.

16 THE CHAIR: Environment and Climate Change  
17 Canada, Sarah Forte.

18 MS. SHORE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

19 I'm actually Victoria Shore, senior environmental  
20 assessment officer with Environment and Climate Change  
21 Canada. Unfortunately, Sara had some mix-ups with the  
22 airline, so she won't be joining us in person. She's  
23 our water quality analyst, and she will be joining  
24 online. Also online, we will have Stepynie Mallon,  
25 environmental assessment officer, and our environmental  
26 assessment head, Eva Walker. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Fisheries and Oceans Canada,  
2 Jose Audet-Lecouffe.

3 MR. HARPER: Thank you, Madam Chair.

4 Actually, I'm Paul Harper, a biologist with  
5 Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Jose Audet-Lecouffe is  
6 joining us online today, and he will be here Thursday.  
7 He couldn't get a flight in. And also online we have  
8 Alasdair Beattie, our team lead, listening in. Thank  
9 you.

10 THE CHAIR: Health Canada, Julie Anderson.

11 MS. ANDERSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 I am Julie Anderson, impact assessment specialist,  
13 Health Canada. I will be joined in person this week by  
14 Joel Kaushansky, impact assessment specialist, and  
15 Wendy Wilson, senior environmental health advisor, and  
16 online by Ninon Lyrette, environmental health  
17 specialist. Wendy is travelling today but will be here  
18 tomorrow. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Natural Resources Canada,  
20 Peter Unger.

21 MR. UNGER: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm  
22 Peter Unger with the impact assessment division at  
23 Natural Resources Canada. With me I have  
24 Pierre-Olivier Edmond, who is the manager of impact  
25 assessment and indigenous consultation in our  
26 explosives safety and security branch. You can wave.

1 And then online we will have two experts: Jennifer  
2 Cole and Richard -- Richard Goulet. Thank you very  
3 much.

4 THE CHAIR: Transport Canada, Adam  
5 Downing.

6 MR. DOWNING: Thank you, Madam Chair.

7 Adam Downing. I'm the regional senior  
8 environmental supervisor for the prairie northern  
9 region of Transport Canada, and joining me on the 15th  
10 in the community portion will be Roslyn King, a member  
11 of the major resource development projects and  
12 aboriginal consultation team within Transport Canada as  
13 well.

14 THE CHAIR: Anybody here from the  
15 Kangiqliniq Hunters and Transport organization?

16 MR. PILAKAPSI: I'm Roger Pilakapsi for  
17 Kangiqliniq HTO.

18 THE CHAIR: State your name, please.

19 MR. PILAKAPSI: Roger Pilakapsi from Rankin.

20 THE CHAIR: Sayisi First Nations, Geoff  
21 Bussidor.

22 THE INTERPRETER: I can't hear.

23 MR. BUSSIDOR: (NO ENGLISH TRANSLATION) come  
24 here. His name is Kelly Olson, who works for Myers.  
25 Dan Chranowski was supposed to -- he's a biologist. He  
26 was -- and he was -- what he mentioned earlier, the

1 people that were supposed to come here with him, their  
2 plane was still delayed, so they'll be coming sometime  
3 this afternoon.

4 THE CHAIR: Northlands Sayisi Dene First  
5 Nations.

6 MR. DENECHYZHE: Good morning, Madam Chair.

7 My name is Benjamin Denechezhe. I'm the chief  
8 negotiator for Northlands First Nation. Joining me  
9 today is Kelly Olson, a lawyer for the Myers firm, and  
10 Dan Chranowski for -- a wildlife biologist, Matrix  
11 Solution, and, unfortunately, our community rep won't  
12 be able to be here 'til this afternoon or sometime, and  
13 the name is Napoleon Denechezhe and Thomas Shaoullie  
14 and Modest Antsanen.

15 Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 THE CHAIR: I think there's a technical  
17 issue. When one language is coming through, the other  
18 one is not coming through. We can't hear it. Okay.  
19 Yeah. I can hear now. It's working. Athabasca  
20 Denesuline Ne Ne Land Corporation, Katie Rasmussen.

21 MS. RASMUSSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

22 Ron Robillard, the chief negotiator for the  
23 Athabasca Denesuline Ne Ne Land Corporation, was not  
24 able to be here today, but with me beside me I have  
25 Chief Bart Tsannie, Chief Coreen Sayazie from Black  
26 Lake. Chief Kevin Mercredi will be joining us on

1 Friday, and so we have Diane McDonald at the end who is  
2 from Fond Du Lac and a board member of the ADNLC. We  
3 also have community members from Hatchet Lake, Peter  
4 Gazandlare and Mary Denechezhe; from Black Lake, Jimmy  
5 Laban; and from Fond Du Lac, Louie Mercredi and  
6 Napoleon Pacquette. Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Before I turn things over to  
8 Agnico Eagle, just some final housekeeping matters.  
9 For those of you not familiar with the hall here in  
10 Rankin Inlet, the washrooms are located outside this  
11 room in the lobby area. Exits are located through the  
12 main doors to the lobby and on the side of the room at  
13 the front and back corners.

14 And, lastly, to ensure that everyone has a  
15 reasonable opportunity to participate in these  
16 meetings, the Board requests that everyone respect the  
17 following board directions: We are proud and  
18 respectful of our Elders. We are going to give them --  
19 we're always going to ensure that we give them the  
20 first opportunity to speak, and if there is anybody who  
21 wishes to speak, make sure that you have written your  
22 name by the door so -- and then we are going to write  
23 down and jot down people's names, and so you'll be  
24 going in that order as we write down and jot down your  
25 names. Thank you.

26 To meet the time requirements for presentations

1 and questions and -- as a result, the schedule remains  
2 somewhat flexible. Consequently, the Board asks that  
3 all participants bear with us as we adjust to reflect  
4 the needs of the participants and the Board throughout  
5 these meetings.

6 To make the best use of our time, please respect  
7 the timelines set out in the agenda and the time I've  
8 set for breaks and return promptly to the proceedings.  
9 We have a lot to cover during these hearings, and we  
10 cannot wait for late arrivals.

11 For all participants, please do not interrupt.  
12 When a person is speaking, please do not begin speaking  
13 until I say your name, as I'm often waiting for the  
14 interpreters to finish their work before we turn to  
15 another speaker.

16 For community representatives, as set out in the  
17 agenda for the community roundtable, next week we're  
18 starting on Saturday. There will be an orderly  
19 opportunity for you to ask questions during the  
20 community roundtable about the topics included in the  
21 various technical presentations during the first few  
22 days of the hearing.

23 Please keep track of your questions and comments  
24 for our discussions during the community roundtable.

25 For the sake of our interpreters and all the  
26 participants, when it is your turn to speak, please use

1 a microphone, state your name and your community or who  
2 you're representing, then speak clearly and at a  
3 reasonable pace.

4 Also, please do not use abbreviations and acronyms  
5 and be mindful that some terms may require our  
6 interpreters to take time to explain in detail. So  
7 please be aware of the interpreters and pause when it  
8 appears they need extra time to explain what you're  
9 saying.

10 Please turn your cell phones and electronic  
11 devices to "silent". The Board asks all participants  
12 joining the proceedings to be patient with each other  
13 and the Board, as the technology we use may result in  
14 interruptions and limitations that are outside of the  
15 parties' and the Board's control.

16 And, finally, I would like to remind everyone that  
17 comments intended to denigrate or belittle the views or  
18 comments of other participants or are simply intended  
19 to disrupt the proceedings are not appropriate and may  
20 result in the Board sanctioning such commenters.

21 The Board recognizes that parties may have very  
22 different and strong opinions about this assessment,  
23 but we appreciate everyone sharing their views in a way  
24 that is respectful and productive, and we thank all  
25 parties in advance for participating in this hearing in  
26 that spirit. The Board appreciates everyone's

1 contribution to a respectful and productive hearing.

2 And before we go on to deal with any procedural  
3 matters before the first presentation, we'll take a  
4 15-minute break.

5 (ADJOURNMENT)

6 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everyone. I  
7 will now proceed to deal with any motions or objections  
8 filed with the Board in respect of this public hearing.  
9 I will now turn the microphone over to the Board's  
10 legal counsel, Teresa Meadows, to deal with any -- with  
11 each of the motions and preliminary matters.

12 Legal counsel.

13 Procedural Matters by Nunavut Impact Review Board Legal  
14 Counsel

15 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
16 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact  
17 Review Board.

18 Madam Chair, I have no notice of any motions  
19 received in writing by the Board or any motions  
20 received in oral form this morning. So I have no  
21 additional procedural matters for this agenda item.

22 THE CHAIR: We will now proceed with the  
23 start of the technical session and Agenda Item 5.  
24 During this part of the technical sessions,  
25 Agnico Eagle will deliver an overview presentation of  
26 the components and activities associated with the

1 Meliadine extension proposal.

2 We will begin with Agnico Eagle's 45-minute  
3 presentation: during the introduction, project  
4 overview, summary of engagement, and response to final  
5 written submissions.

6 Before I turn the microphone over to Agnico Eagle,  
7 the Board's legal counsel will walk us through the  
8 process for swearing in and affirming Agnico Eagle's  
9 witness who will be presenting and answering questions  
10 on this topic and for entering any documents filed as  
11 exhibits on the public hearing record.

12 Teresa?

13 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

14 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  
15 Impact Review Board.

16 So for all parties who are going to be providing  
17 evidence during these proceedings, I will just give you  
18 a quick overview of how I will be handling  
19 administering the oath to parties noting that the  
20 process for parties who are having to participate  
21 remotely is a slight modification of our normal  
22 process.

23 So for parties that are in the room, before each  
24 presentation, the party that is presenting can provide  
25 me with a list of all the people who will be either  
26 speaking during the presentation or who they would

1 expect to be answering questions about the presentation  
2 afterwards. I will then swear in or affirm that entire  
3 panel, and our normal process is each of the individual  
4 speakers will state and spell their name for the  
5 record.

6 Those who wish to swear the oath on the Bible,  
7 please let me know, and I will hand you the Bible to be  
8 able to do that. Those of you who wish to solemnly  
9 affirm without the Bible, I will administer the oath,  
10 and then I will ask you to state "I do".

11 For those of you who will be participating  
12 remotely, I will not ask you to state and spell your  
13 name in the interest of time. I will rely on your  
14 representatives in the room making sure that I have  
15 their name on a list, and I will just confirm that that  
16 spelling is correct, and we will provide it to the  
17 court reporters for the record.

18 Because I can't see you in -- in the --  
19 necessarily when you're being -- taking the oath, if  
20 you are participating remotely because we do have some  
21 people participating just by audio line, I will be  
22 administering the oath by affirmation only because I  
23 can't see you putting your hand on a holy object or the  
24 Bible.

25 For everyone present, as a sign of respect, Elders  
26 and community representatives are not typically sworn

1 in or affirmed in order to share their knowledge, their  
2 comments, and their perspective with the Board during  
3 these proceedings, and so we will not be doing  
4 administration of an oath before community  
5 representatives are speaking.

6 As we go, I will be reminding people of the sort  
7 of rules of the road as we go and any modifications  
8 that we may have to make in order for people who are  
9 attending remotely to be able to participate fully.

10 With respect to exhibits, I would just like to  
11 confirm with legal counsel for Agnico Eagle or Manon  
12 the presentation materials that you are presenting.

13 I have a hard copy of this presentation in English  
14 and Inuktitut, but are there any other exhibits that  
15 you wish to rely on during this presentation?

16 MS. TURMEL: Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle.

17 No. This is complete. Thank you.

18 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you Madam Chair.

19 Thank you, Ms. Turmel.

20 If I can have you identify the members of the  
21 panel who will be making the presentation, we can  
22 proceed with administering the oath and affirmation.  
23 And I will be marking these hard copy presentation  
24 materials as the first exhibit in this public hearing.

25 EXHIBIT 1 - Hard Copy PowerPoint

26 Presentation, "Meliadine Extension Overview"

1 (English/Inuktitut)

2 MANON TURMEL, JENNIFER RANGE, SOPHIE LACOURSE, COLLEEN  
3 PRATHER, Affirmed

4 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

5 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact  
6 Review Board.

7 Madam Chair, those are all my procedural matters.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

9 Agnico Eagle, you may proceed.

10 Presentation by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Meliadine  
11 Extension - Overview)

12 MS. TURMEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

13 Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle.

14 Good morning, everyone. We are here to provide an  
15 overview of our Meliadine extension application. We  
16 are grateful to everyone who is here in person with us  
17 today, and we respect that many of you have travelled  
18 long distances and are away from family in order to  
19 participate in this hearing. This time is important  
20 for everyone.

21 The Meliadine Mine was approved by the Nunavut  
22 Impact Review Board in 2015 based on our final  
23 environmental impact statement. We constructed some  
24 components of the mine between 2016 and 2019 and went  
25 into operations in 2019. We have not yet built every  
26 component the Board approved in 2015, but we are very

1 pleased to be in operations at Meliadine Mine today.  
2 We respect the hearing schedule that the Nunavut Impact  
3 Review Board has set. Focusing the appropriate  
4 evidence, associated questions, and comments on the  
5 scope and topics that are directly related to the  
6 Meliadine extension application will help do that and  
7 is procedurally correct.

8 In this presentation, we will go over what's  
9 included in the scope so it's clear for the Board,  
10 intervenors, and community members. Given the limited  
11 time available, we suggest this hearing should not  
12 focus on existing mine operations and monitoring. As  
13 an example, some comments shared in the Nunavut Impact  
14 Review Board Meliadine Mine process had no particular  
15 link to the Meliadine extension application that were  
16 also shared in the annual report process where it is  
17 focused on the existing operational activities and  
18 monitoring.

19 Agnico Eagle respects that ongoing mine monitoring  
20 is a very important topic for all of us. We fully  
21 support the other processes such as the annual report  
22 and also the terrestrial advisory group that are in  
23 place separate from this hearing and that provide the  
24 opportunity to share comments and ask questions on  
25 ongoing operations and monitoring.

26 The annual report process is an important

1 component. We engage regularly with the hunters and  
2 trappers organization about ongoing operations, and our  
3 terrestrial advisory group also meets many times per  
4 year to focus on topics such as caribou monitoring.

5 And the Meliadine Mine operational staff are here  
6 at the community hall at the back with us and are more  
7 than happy to answer any questions anyone has in the  
8 room that they may have about ongoing mine monitoring  
9 during hearing breaks. Please don't hesitate to -- to  
10 reach out.

11 Our presentations during this hearing summarize  
12 the results of our studies of this application, and  
13 they show that the Meliadine extension will have  
14 continued socioeconomic benefits and will not have  
15 significant environmental effects and also is below the  
16 predicted effects in the 2014 final environmental  
17 impact statement.

18 We are asking the Nunavut Impact Review Board to  
19 approve the Meliadine extension application which will  
20 support benefits to Rankin Inlet, the Kivalliq region,  
21 Nunavut, and to Canada. Next slide, please.

22 The focus of this presentation will be to first  
23 review at a high level relevant components of the  
24 2014 assessment to familiarize with what was already  
25 assessed and approved. These previously assessed  
26 components have not all been built to date but could be

1 in the future. This will feed into an overview of what  
2 is Meliadine extension followed by an overview of the  
3 environmental assessment. Next slide, please.

4 The 2014 assessment included five deposits to be  
5 mined, including Tiriganiaq, Pump, F Zone, Wesmeg, and  
6 Discovery. And including a road to access the  
7 Discovery deposit. These deposits are shown in yellow  
8 on this map which is from the 2014 assessment. We are  
9 approved to mine these deposits under our project  
10 certificate.

11 The approved approach in the project certificate  
12 is described as a multi-phased approach, meaning not  
13 all of the deposits would be mined at once; however,  
14 the impacts associated with all of the deposits and  
15 associated infrastructure were already assessed and  
16 approved in 2015.

17 In addition to the multi-phased deposit, access  
18 roads, fuel, quarrying, dewatering, laydown area, and  
19 fuel farm area in Rankin Inlet, amongst others, were  
20 assessed and approved in 2015. In summary, the  
21 Meliadine Mine has gone through the following as part  
22 of the project certificate and water licence processes.

23 In 2015, Project Certificate Number 006 was issued  
24 for the construction and operation of the Meliadine  
25 Mine and all-weather access road and five deposits in a  
26 multi-phased approach.

1           Agnico Eagle did not apply for all of the approved  
2 components as part of the first water licence  
3 application which helped support a more streamlined  
4 water licencing process at that time. It was always  
5 planned to include the rest of those approved project  
6 components in a future amendment to the water licence.

7           The Tiriganiaq deposit, including both underground  
8 and open-pit mining, was the only one included with our  
9 water licence issued in 2016. Since the project  
10 certificate approval in 2015, two amendments were  
11 completed in 2018 and 2022 for the discharge of treated  
12 saline effluent to Itivia Harbour conveyed by truck and  
13 water line respectively.

14           We have also amended the water licence since it  
15 was issued in 2016. The amendment approval in 2021  
16 included Collection Pond 1, water management, a  
17 Meliadine Lake discharge criteria, updated waste  
18 management strategy, increased annual freshwater use,  
19 and construction of site access roads to the different  
20 deposits.

21           The main changes associated with Meliadine  
22 extension compared to what was approved are the  
23 following two components: The wind farm and in-pit  
24 disposal, an alternative for the future. We may still  
25 go with our original current approved tailings  
26 management strategy, but we would like to assess this

1 option to determine if we can proceed to the licencing  
2 phase if this option is selected. These areas are  
3 discussed further in this presentation.

4 Approval of the Meliadine extension application  
5 will mean that the operations phase and benefits of the  
6 mine to Inuit will be extended an additional 11 years  
7 until 2043.

8 With this application, we have been able to use  
9 the same footprint or area while increasing the amount  
10 of gold extracted from the ground, primarily with the  
11 addition of additional underground mines, and sow  
12 benefits generated to the communities.

13 Meliadine extension includes underground mining at  
14 Pump, F Zone, and Discovery.

15 The Tiriganiaq-Wolf mining area is a continuation  
16 of the Tiriganiaq deposit. The deposit is the same;  
17 however, as part of Meliadine extension, we are  
18 applying to access the deposit from a different area  
19 and so require infrastructure to support this new  
20 portal.

21 In the year 2031, the total employment is  
22 estimated to be at its peak when there will be multiple  
23 deposits mined at the same time corresponding to  
24 approximately 905 positions, which is an addition of  
25 205 compared to the original project.

26 No changes were considered for a number of

1 components, including water management and closure  
2 strategies, the all-weather access road, Rankin Inlet  
3 infrastructure, and marine shipping.

4 In our application, we included an option to build  
5 an airstrip at the Meliadine site; however, this item  
6 was removed from the list in December 2022 and is thus  
7 no longer part of the Meliadine extension proposal.

8 Meliadine extension is largely within the approved  
9 mine footprint. The grade on this map represents the  
10 revised footprint associated with Meliadine extension,  
11 including the pits, the waste rock facility, and the  
12 tailing storage facilities and how they fit in with the  
13 approved mine footprint, which is the pink outlined.  
14 So you can see that the grey is smaller than the pink,  
15 and so we have really optimized our site based on  
16 lessons learned operating the site since 2019.

17 Areas reflected in green on this map show where  
18 the footprint of the extension extends outside of the  
19 approved footprint, and that's primarily related to the  
20 wind turbines to the northwest and the Tiriganiaq-Wolf  
21 mining area. And so the local study area was slightly  
22 extended for some of these components.

23 Upon issuance of permits and approvals which are  
24 anticipated in 2024, the initial construction phase for  
25 the extension will be sequenced at the different  
26 deposits as you can see on this slide. So not

1 everything going on at the same time.

2 As previously mentioned, the operational phase  
3 will be extending for 11 years to 2043 followed by  
4 seven years of closure while the pits are being  
5 reflooded, and the duration of post-closure will be ten  
6 years.

7 The change associated with this application that  
8 was not previously assessed is the addition of a wind  
9 farm consisting of up to 11 wind turbines. Through  
10 project certificate term in Condition 9, Agnico Eagle  
11 is requested to evaluate ways to reduce greenhouse  
12 gases.

13 An important part of our plan to lower carbon  
14 emissions is to transition away from using diesel  
15 sources to renewable energy. We acknowledge that there  
16 are other mechanisms like carbon tax and offsets that  
17 are meant to help address climate change. This  
18 infrastructure is an alternative to those approaches.  
19 We want to take an active approach and invest in  
20 infrastructure that are part of a climate change  
21 solution.

22 The knowledge that is gained from installing the  
23 wind turbines could be potentially useful to all  
24 Nunavummiut in its efforts to move away from diesel  
25 fuel to renewable energy sources.

26 We can learn together with the community based on

1 the monitoring results from the first installations and  
2 ensure that Inuit Qaujima jatugangit and science are  
3 part of this strategy to address climate change.

4 We also want to emphasize that we see the wind  
5 turbines as an opportunity to partner with the  
6 community potentially as a owner and operator in the  
7 future.

8 Alternative scenarios to power generation have  
9 been evaluated, including nuclear, solar power, hydro  
10 power, power grid connections, but are not considered  
11 feasible options at this time.

12 There has been over 6,000 turbines installed in  
13 Canada since 1993. There are currently four operating  
14 turbines at the Diavik Mine in the Northwest  
15 Territories and two turbines operating at the Raglan  
16 Mine in Nunavik, and they're looking at installing  
17 more. Back River in the Kitikmeot Region is also  
18 proposing 13 turbines as part of their current proposal  
19 in front of the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

20 Agnico Eagle is committed to operate in a  
21 sustainable way. Our objective is a 30 percent  
22 reduction in emissions by 2030 and net zero by 2050.  
23 That is consistent with Canada's climate plan and  
24 policies.

25 Agnico Eagle is proposing in a first phase to  
26 install up to three to five turbines. Final

1 engineering, procurement, shipment of equipment,  
2 construction and commissioning could take, all  
3 included, up to four years.

4 The selection of the wind turbine locations,  
5 presented in black on the map to the right side, was  
6 the result of years of field investigations and  
7 studies. We used wind resource maps, so basically  
8 models looking at where does the wind come from, where  
9 does it go, where is it maximized. We looked at  
10 geotechnical constraints, archeological resources,  
11 cabin locations, and other land use areas, caribou  
12 migration corridors, raptor nests, vegetation, and also  
13 completed prefeasibility and feasibility studies.

14 Through engagement activities and Inuit  
15 Qaujima jatugangit shared, we also heard that community  
16 members prefer that we keep the area of land  
17 disturbance for our activities to -- to the minimum.

18 A number of other alternative locations -- some  
19 were provided by community members, local  
20 organizations, and intervenors -- were also looked at.  
21 So these areas -- these other alternative areas are --  
22 some are identified in red on the -- the map to the  
23 right and also the yellow polygon, the Subblu area, and  
24 the blue polygon. So closer to the coast but still  
25 close to our all-weather access road.

26 We have also looked at positioning the turbines

1 inside the footprint of the mine. Our mine site is  
2 currently very compact and even more so with this  
3 optimization to reduce impact on the land. As such,  
4 there's very limited room between infrastructures at  
5 site. And also wind is not optimal inside the  
6 footprint as when the wind hits the site, it's being, I  
7 would say, deflected and changed as opposed to an  
8 upwind position, which is what we are proposing right  
9 now. Next one.

10 So on this slide, you can see the Subblu area, the  
11 blue polygon. That was proposed by a number of  
12 intervenors. As you can see, the area is located near  
13 the airport, and so we have to consider the restricted  
14 buffer zones.

15 You can see on the map there's a 4-kilometre  
16 radius around the airport. The airport is  
17 the greenish-blue polygon with an airport pictogram.  
18 And we've also shown in red as well, there's a  
19 15-kilometre length polygon from the end of the  
20 airstrip which is the approach-and-takeoff area. Those  
21 are restricted zones as defined by the Transport Canada  
22 airport zoning regulations for the Rankin Inlet  
23 Airport.

24 And we've had a meeting with Transport Canada  
25 earlier this year to determine the feasibility of  
26 installing a wind farm near the airport and confirming

1 the restrictions that may be applied. Although it is  
2 feasible to install the wind turbines in the Subblu  
3 area, in the blue polygon, outside the restricted  
4 zones, outside the red circles or polygons, a  
5 suggestion or comment by Transport Canada was that  
6 it -- it's more prudent to install the wind farm  
7 further away from -- from the airstrip. So balancing  
8 the two options, Meliadine or -- or Subblu, it was more  
9 prudent around Meliadine Mine.

10 Additionally, to the airport buffer zone, we've  
11 added a 500-metre clearance from other infrastructures  
12 and cabins as it is a norm in the industry which is --  
13 limits also where you can put the turbines.

14 Following additional discussions with the  
15 Kangiqliniq Hunters and Trappers Organization and  
16 intervenors during the June workshop -- June caribou  
17 workshop regarding constraints at the Subblu area, the  
18 blue area in the slide just before, this one was  
19 proposed. So would you please flip to the previous  
20 slide so that people can -- can have it visually.  
21 Perfect.

22 So -- yeah. The blue area there. So similar to  
23 the first alternative proposed, this area is located --  
24 located far away from our mine site which adds  
25 significant cost to the already-high costs of building  
26 wind turbines in the north. There's also a number of

1 cabins in close proximity, and we have heard that local  
2 organizations and intervenors would prefer that the  
3 turbines be installed in town or close to the coast to  
4 be more protective of caribou; however, only in 2023,  
5 over 150,000 caribou were seen migrating through the  
6 blue area. Please flip to 13. Thank you.

7 At this time the preferred option for wind turbine  
8 location is close to our mine site as set out in our  
9 application. We have provided evidence to the Board  
10 that the siting and caribou protection measures that  
11 will be in place will be protective of caribou. The  
12 industry standard is for turbines to be located close  
13 to the existing power plant. At Raglan, Diavik, Hope  
14 Bay, Back River, the turbines in operation or proposed  
15 are all located in close vicinity to the power plant.  
16 One option that has been proposed by some participants  
17 is to install wind turbines next to Rankin Inlet, which  
18 is not an option that Agnico Eagle can advance at this  
19 time.

20 Increasing distance to the power plant can have  
21 prohibitive costs, and to date, no evidence has been  
22 provided that alternative locations would be more  
23 protective for caribou than the sites that Agnico Eagle  
24 has proposed.

25 The wind turbine model selected will have features  
26 including blade de-icing systems and cold climate

1 capabilities. We have received a number of questions  
2 during our engagement activities about the wind farm,  
3 and I would like to highlight a few facts based on  
4 these.

5 The tip of each of the wind turbine blades, so the  
6 top part, would be at about 144 metre high. This is  
7 about nine times the height of the new arena in Rankin,  
8 and we'll pass by during our tour so you can assess.  
9 The bottom of the -- the blade would be about 30 metre  
10 high, approximately two times the height of the new  
11 arena.

12 We have also got a lot of questions about the  
13 speed of rotation. There is only one speed. Turbines  
14 will always rotate at the same speed no matter how  
15 strong the wind blows.

16 Wind turbines are safe, and they can be shut down  
17 very quickly in a matter of minutes should weather or  
18 caribou warrant it. And the proposal include the  
19 installation of batteries between the turbines and the  
20 power plant. A battery basically looks like a sea can,  
21 if you don't know what it looks like.

22 So to further understand the effect that the wind  
23 farm could have on wildlife, we prepared earlier this  
24 year a visual simulation. These simulations were  
25 completed by an engineering firm using detailed  
26 measurements and calculations.

1           So the next set of slides will look like this one.  
2           So on the left side, you can see the map of where the  
3           picture was taken. So this one is Point of View 5, and  
4           in red you can also see where the turbines would be,  
5           and you can see the -- the footprint of the existing  
6           mine. We also have these simulations on the -- on the  
7           wall.

8           And note that these pictures were taken on a clear  
9           day. We had a lot of challenges taking pictures good  
10          enough for those simulations. So this one was taken  
11          4 kilometres from the mine site. Without the turbines,  
12          you can see on the left side the power plant and mill  
13          of the existing mine. Next one.

14          This is the visual simulation with the turbines  
15          still at 4 kilometre, and it's at this point that we  
16          are proposing to shut down the turbines when there are  
17          more than 50 caribou. When caribou would get closer,  
18          they would encounter a stopped turbine. Next one,  
19          please.

20          This one was taken approximately 6 kilometres from  
21          the turbines without the turbines and with the  
22          turbines. This one at 8.3 kilometres without the  
23          turbines and with the turbines. Again, if you can't  
24          see really well on the screen, we have them on posters.  
25          We also took one at over 12 kilometres without the  
26          turbines and with the turbines.

1           And the last one we completed was -- we took a  
2 picture from Rankin Inlet. There's a little blue  
3 circle on the image to the left, so this is where we  
4 took the picture. And as you can notice in the black  
5 circle, we can't -- we can't see the mine, but we  
6 zoomed in to show that really the mine was there, and  
7 we can see kind of the smoke stack from the plant which  
8 the turbine would reduce a bit 'cause we wouldn't need  
9 to use diesel as much. So I'll now pass the  
10 presentation to Jennifer Range.

11 MS. RANGE:                   Thank you, Madam Chair.  
12 Jennifer Range with Agnico Eagle.

13           As part of long-term planning to optimize the site  
14 footprint, Agnico Eagle is assessing the potential for  
15 in-pit slurry tailings deposition as an alternative to  
16 the dry stack method currently employed. We are also  
17 looking at in-pit deposition of waste rock in exhausted  
18 pits to reduce the surface area impacts. We have  
19 experience with in-pit deposition at the Meadowbank  
20 Mine which was approved as a method in 2018 and is  
21 included in our Nunavut Impact Review Board monitoring  
22 reports since that time.

23           The alternative pits presented in the Meliadine  
24 extension assessment are shown in green on these two  
25 images. The potential for in-pit tailings deposition  
26 included six pits, which are presented on the image on

1 the left. The image on the right presents the 12 pits  
2 selected for the potential of in-pit storage of waste  
3 rock.

4 As part of Meliadine extension, an additional  
5 12 sites were identified for potential sources for  
6 material excavation. Additional fuel storage is  
7 proposed at the Pump, F Zone, and Discovery deposits as  
8 well as the Tiriganiaq-Wolf mining area. These four  
9 locations will add 350,000 litres of fuel.

10 Storage at each of these sites will reduce the  
11 fuel truck travel and transfer between the main site  
12 storage and the respective deposit. This will be more  
13 efficient for operations and will increase capacity  
14 during caribou migration and weather conditions.

15 A new landfill at the Discovery deposit is  
16 proposed within the waste rock storage facility to  
17 limit the transport of material between Discovery and  
18 the main mine site. In addition, two new land farms  
19 are proposed as part of Meliadine extension, one at the  
20 Wesmeg deposit and the other at the Discovery deposit.  
21 They were selected to minimize the footprint of the  
22 site and reduce the transport distance of material from  
23 potential spill locations.

24 I will now pass the presentation to Sophie.

25 THE CHAIR: Before you continue with the  
26 presentation, it's just about 11:30. We're going to

1 stop with Agnico Eagle's overview presentation for now,  
2 and we'll switch to the safety presentation for the  
3 site visit. And who will give the presentation?

4 MS. TURMEL: Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle.

5 So for this presentation it will be Jennifer Range  
6 and Geoff Neville.

7 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

8 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  
9 Impact Review Board.

10 So if I can have the witness state and spell his  
11 name for the record, and then we will affirm you.

12 MR. NEVILLE: Geoff Neville.

13 GEOFF NEVILLE, Affirmed

14 EXHIBIT 2 - Hard Copy PowerPoint  
15 Presentation, "Site Tour Presentation"  
16 (English/Inuktitut)

17 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut  
19 Impact Review Board.

20 Those are all my procedural matters.

21 THE CHAIR: You may proceed.

22 Presentation by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Meliadine  
23 Extension - Site Tour)

24 MS. RANGE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

25 Jennifer Range with Agnico Eagle.

26 This presentation is just a quick overview to

1 highlight what we will see on our site tour this  
2 afternoon, along with some health and safety shares and  
3 some logistics just to communicate to those  
4 participating.

5         So we -- we just heard what the Meliadine  
6 extension is, so I won't go over it again, but this  
7 slide just summarizes the components of Meliadine  
8 extension. Yeah. And, again, this -- this map is the  
9 footprint of the approved Meliadine Mine, the Meliadine  
10 extension components, and areas that we will point out  
11 along the visit this afternoon.

12         Our focus of the tour today is to highlight  
13 Meliadine extension features. At site, we will not  
14 stop to see existing facilities that are already  
15 approved and operating such as the mill, the treatment  
16 plant, the tailing storage facility, nor will we be  
17 stopping along the all-weather access road.

18         An Agnico Eagle representative will be speaking on  
19 each of the buses to provide more details during the  
20 tour. We have identified a few points of interest in  
21 this presentation related to the Meliadine -- related  
22 to Meliadine extension that will be mentioned in the  
23 tour.

24         The first will be Point of Interest Number 1,  
25 which is the location of the approved Discovery road to  
26 the Discovery deposit. This is -- the Discovery

1 deposit is shown in green for the Meliadine extension  
2 footprint.

3 Further along, we will point out the area of the  
4 F Zone deposit, which is identified as Point of  
5 Interest 2 on the map. This includes open pit and  
6 underground mining, a waste rock storage facility,  
7 among other supporting infrastructure. This is also  
8 applicable to the Pump zone, which is Point of  
9 Interest 3 on the map.

10 As we drive through the mine site, we will point  
11 out areas that are operational and already approved.  
12 This includes waste rock storage facilities, the  
13 Tiriganiaq deposit, Collection Pond 1, and the tailing  
14 storage facility. These locations are already approved  
15 and operating areas for the Meliadine Mine; however, as  
16 they are areas we often make reference to in our --  
17 during our discussions, we want to flag them for  
18 everyone's knowledge.

19 Once we arrive at this location, Point of  
20 Interest 9, we will get off the bus. This will be the  
21 best opportunity to see the general area around the  
22 wind turbine locations, Numbers 1, 2, and 3.

23 As mentioned previously, Turbines 1 to 5 are  
24 proposed as part of the first phase of construction. I  
25 will now turn the presentation over to Geoff for a  
26 health and safety briefing.

1 MR. NEVILLE: Hello, everybody. Geoff  
2 Neville with Agnico Eagle. I'm the health and safety  
3 general supervisor on-site. I am from Newfoundland, so  
4 I'll do my best to slow down when I speak.

5 Some clothing requirements. We will require  
6 closed-toe shoes, boots. I wouldn't recommend Crocs.

7 Today outside it is 4 degrees. It's going to be  
8 gusting at 50 kilometres, so dress appropriately. Have  
9 a jacket. You might want a hat or toque, but it is not  
10 that warm out today.

11 We will be providing everybody with a safety vest.  
12 If you have your own that you want to bring, if it is  
13 red, orange, or yellow, feel free to bring it, but we  
14 will provide vests for everybody. We are going to an  
15 active mine site. This tour, it should be enjoyable.  
16 In my opinion, it's low-risk, but a lot of times with  
17 low-risk activities, we can become complacent and get  
18 hurt. So always be aware of your surroundings. Watch  
19 out where you walk. Look out for yourselves and look  
20 out for your fellow tour members.

21 Please remain within the group. Don't wander off.  
22 Especially inside the camp it's actually very easy to  
23 get lost, so stay within the group. Don't go off by  
24 yourself wandering.

25 We are going to go on some rough terrain. It  
26 shouldn't be too bad. But be careful where you walk.

1 Watch your placement of your feet.

2 If you do notice something related to health and  
3 safety that doesn't look right or you're not sure,  
4 please let the Agnico rep know, and we'll make sure  
5 that it is addressed. Meliadine is a dry camp. Please  
6 no drugs or alcohol with you. Don't put us in an  
7 awkward situation, please.

8 Don't worry. We will have smoke breaks, but  
9 smoking is only inside the designated areas and in our  
10 smoke shacks, and this also does apply to vapes or  
11 e-cigarettes. And when you use the smoke shacks,  
12 please make sure to put the butts in the appropriate  
13 ashtrays.

14 At Meliadine, health and safety is always a  
15 priority, but we take the environmental just as  
16 serious. So while you're on-site, wildlife always has  
17 the right-of-way. Feeding or harassing the wildlife is  
18 prohibited. Be mindful of any waste that we generate.  
19 Make sure everything we go, goes in the garbage or  
20 comes back with us. And wildlife should not be  
21 approached under any circumstances. Thank you.

22 MS. RANGE: Madam Chair, Jennifer Range  
23 with Agnico Eagle.

24 As outlined in the NIRB's agenda, please arrive  
25 back at the hall for 12:45 so we can load buses and  
26 organize for departure. The buses will leave promptly

1 at 1:00 to allow ourselves enough time to get to site  
2 and return for the evening. To avoid conflicting  
3 translations, we will have one bus with an interpreter  
4 for Inuktitut and another bus for Dene.

5 We have organized the tour so that one bus will  
6 first break at camp for a washroom break and stop at  
7 the gym for some refreshments while the other bus  
8 continues to the wind farm location. The buses will  
9 switch so that the second bus will have an opportunity  
10 to see the wind farm location and the others have a  
11 health break. Once the respective bus has stopped to  
12 see the wind farm and had a break, the buses will  
13 return to the hall.

14 Emily with Nunavut Impact Review Board will be in  
15 the hall prior to departure with the participant lists  
16 for each bus. We've tried to spread the -- spread the  
17 participants out as best as possible. So please see  
18 Emily before boarding the buses.

19 And to those of you who are on the site tour,  
20 we -- we look forward to seeing you this afternoon.  
21 Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Are there any questions from  
23 around the table? Any questions from the back of the  
24 room? Any questions from the side of the room on that  
25 side? I think everyone understands what to do when we  
26 come.

1           That concludes Day 1 of the technical discussions.  
2           Thank you all for your contributions to a productive  
3           day. We'll meet back here at 12:45 to start the site  
4           visit activities.

5           I just want to remind everyone that we will not be  
6           waiting for latecomers, so please be here and ready to  
7           start at 12:45. The NIRB will provide snacks that can  
8           be collected from here before boarding the bus, and  
9           we'll resume the hearing tomorrow morning at 9 AM  
10          central time to continue with the technical session of  
11          the public hearing. Have a good lunch break.

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13          PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 9:00 AM, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

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1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPT:

2

3 We, Sandra Burns and Derek Lopez, certify that the  
4 foregoing pages are a complete and accurate transcript  
5 of the proceedings taken down by us in shorthand and  
6 transcribed from our shorthand notes to the best of our  
7 skill and ability.

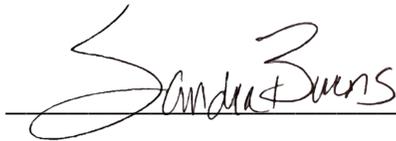
8 Dated at the City of Edmonton, Province of  
9 Alberta, this 9th day of October 2023.

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Sandra Burns, CSR(A), RPR, CRR

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Official Court Reporter

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Derek Lopez, CSR(A), RPR

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Official Court Reporter

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