

NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

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

PUBLIC HEARING

VOLUME 7

Rankin Inlet, Nunavut

September 19, 2023

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

3

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		Petroleum Res., ED&T
2	D. Lapierre	Manager, Environmental
3		Assessment and Regulation,
4		ED&T
5		
6	CROWN-INDIGENOUS RELATIONS NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA	
7	(REGISTERED SPEAKERS)	
8	S. Dewar	Director, Resource Management
9	F. Ngwa	Manager, Impact Assessment
10	A. Roy	Senior Environmental
11		Assessment Specialist
12	J. Walsh	Senior Environmental
13		Assessment Analyst
14	M. Staniewski	Environment Policy Analyst
15	T. Brown	Technical Expert - Arcadis Canada
16		
17	ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA (REGISTERED	
18	SPEAKERS)	
19	S. Forte	Technical Specialist, Water
20		Quality
21	V. Shore	Senior Environmental Assessment
22		Officer
23	S. Mallon	A/Senior Environmental
24		Assessment Officer
25	E. Walker	A/Head Environmental
26		Assessment

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
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23

24 HAMLET OF CHESTERFIELD INLET (REGISTERED SPEAKERS)

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

1	L. Mimialik	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

15

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1 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 9:09 AM)

2 Opening Remarks

3 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everyone. If
4 you can please take your seats, and we'll start.

5 My name is Kaviq Kaluraq, and I am the chairperson
6 of the Nunavut Impact Review board hearing. I would
7 like to welcome you back to Day 7 of the NIRB
8 assessment of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Meliadine
9 extension proposal, which is a modification of the
10 existing Meliadine Gold Mine project. Thank you to the
11 community of Rankin Inlet for hosting us during the
12 public hearing.

13 A quick reminder, please turn off your cell phones
14 or put them on "silent" before we begin.

15 We are starting this morning with an opening
16 prayer given by Benjamin Denechezhe.

17 Opening Prayer

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Benjamin, for
19 giving the morning prayer.

20 Nunavut Impact Review Board is holding this public
21 hearing to hear evidence, ask questions, and listen to
22 comments and concerns of registered intervenors,
23 community representatives, and members of the public in
24 order to assess the potential ecosystemic and social
25 economic effects of the changes to the existing
26 Meliadine Gold Mine project proposed by Agnico Eagle

1 under the Meliadine extension proposal.

2 This morning we will be picking up where we left
3 off yesterday from Agenda Item 1 and 2 with questioning
4 from designated community representatives and the
5 public to the proponents and intervenors.

6 For those of you in the hall, we ask you to sign
7 in at the table as you enter the hall for each of the
8 session today, morning, afternoon, and evening. This
9 will help the Board keep an accurate record of
10 attendance.

11 Although the Board has designed this public
12 hearing to take place in person, the Board has also
13 provided -- provided an audio-visual link for this
14 hearing so that parties providing support to their
15 representatives in the room can view the proceedings
16 remotely. We'll do everything we can to ensure that
17 the remote link remains stable; however, if the online
18 link is disrupted, the Board will continue with an
19 in-person proceedings.

20 Simultaneous interpretation of the proceedings is
21 being provided throughout the meetings from
22 interpreters here in Rankin Inlet. In the Zoom feed,
23 you can choose the language feed you want to hear, but
24 when you go to speak, you may have to turn off the
25 interpretation feed to avoid feedback.

26 For the people here in Rankin Inlet, receivers are

1 available from the sign-in table, and the receivers are
2 set to Channel 1 -- Channel 2, English; Channel 3 in
3 Inuktitut; Channel 4 is in Dene. Please have patience
4 as we shift between speakers and for the sake of our
5 interpreters, sound tech, and court reporters, please
6 wait until I call your name before you speak.

7 When your name is called, please click on the
8 "raise your hand" button at the bottom of the screen.
9 That will help the techs identify you more quickly so
10 that they can unmute your line and turn on your camera.

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

16 The Board reminds everyone participating in this
17 hearing that no one is allowed to record or rebroadcast
18 the images, video, or audio of these proceedings in any
19 form without the express consent of the Nunavut Impact
20 Review Board. Failing to comply -- failing to follow
21 these directions may result in sanctions by the Board,
22 including suspending access to the live feed or being
23 asked to leave the hall.

24 The NIRB is generating a transcript from these
25 proceedings, which will be available following the
26 hearing on the NIRB's public registry.

1 If your organization has had new representatives
2 joining the hearing today, please advise the Board's
3 legal counsel, Teresa Meadows, so we can make sure to
4 update our list.

5 As you may have noticed, these proceedings are
6 open to the media and are being attended by media
7 representatives. To members of the media attending the
8 meetings in person, we ask that you check in at the
9 table and wear a press badge or similar identification
10 throughout these proceedings so that it is clear to
11 parties which media outlet you're representing.

12 Media participating online should provide notice
13 to Ryan Barry, the Board's interim executive director,
14 at rbarry@nirb.ca, and inquiries for information for
15 media representatives should also be sent to Ryan.

16 The Board welcomes the media providing information
17 about these meetings to those who cannot attend;
18 however, the Board members and our staff cannot take
19 questions or provide interviews to the media or make
20 public comments regarding these meetings while we're
21 underway.

22 Before we return to our agenda, I have a few quick
23 housekeeping matters. The washrooms are located
24 outside this room in the lobby area. Exits are located
25 through the main doors to the lobby and on the side of
26 the room at the front and back corners.

1 As you will see from the agenda, today's session
2 is scheduled from 9 AM to 5 PM central time, and we
3 will be conducting an evening session starting at 6:30
4 tonight. There will be a mid-morning break, a lunch
5 break around noon central time, a mid-afternoon break,
6 a supper break, and mid-evening break. The evening
7 session is required to complete the closing remarks
8 from communities and to address procedural matters and
9 deferred questions.

10 Tomorrow we will be closing the public hearing
11 with a morning session consisting of closing remarks
12 from the intervenors, the proponent, and the Board.

13 Just a quick reminder, when you're leaving the
14 hall for breaks or at the end of the day, please turn
15 the interpretation receivers off and return them to the
16 table as you enter the hall.

17 The Board appreciates everyone continuing to
18 comply with the Board's directions for the public
19 hearing. I'm not going to restate them but remind
20 everyone to be aware of our interpreters and court
21 reporters when you're speaking so that we can ensure
22 everyone is heard and understood.

23 Now we'll return to the community roundtable
24 session of the public hearing. Questions to the
25 proponent or intervenors about the Meliadine extension
26 proposal from designated community representatives who

1 are sitting here at the table.

2 I want to remind the community representatives
3 that later this afternoon we will start closing the
4 community roundtable session by having a single
5 spokesperson chosen by each community providing short
6 closing remarks summarizing if their community's
7 concerns about the Meliadine extension proposal have
8 been addressed, if the community supports the proposal
9 going ahead or not.

10 If you have not already done so, please take some
11 time over the lunch break to choose your spokesperson
12 and talk with them about your thoughts about the
13 Meliadine extension proposal for your closing remarks.

14 In addition to the questions and comments about
15 the Meliadine extension proposal from the community
16 representatives here at the table, we will also
17 continue to provide -- to invite questions from the
18 public in Rankin Inlet. For members of the public who
19 want to ask questions to the proponent or intervenors
20 about the proposal, please provide your name to the
21 NIRB staff at the table as you enter the room, and
22 they'll let me know you would like to speak.

23 We will do our best to hear from everyone who
24 wants to speak, but please be patient with us as we
25 work through our speaking order.

26 Now we'll return to questions and comments from

1 community representatives, and before we go to the next
2 person on the list, there was a follow-up response from
3 Agnico Eagle to the question or comment that was made
4 yesterday evening from a community member.

5 Agnico Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak.

6 Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Responds to Deferred
7 Questions by Community Members

8 MS. LACOURSE: Agnico Eagle, Sophie Lacourse.

9 Yesterday we received a question from Ms. Zawadski
10 asking why the pictures on the wall were not showing
11 the narrow, so we would like to present a picture this
12 morning that was sent to the NIRB, if the Board agrees.

13 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

14 Procedural matter by Nunavut Impact Review Board Legal
15 Counsel

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

19 As long as the person who took the picture is
20 going to be able to speak to the picture and advise us
21 of the timing and description in the picture, yes,
22 please proceed.

23 MS. LACOURSE: Sophie Lacourse, Agnico Eagle.

24 Yes. We will have Matt Gillman explain the
25 picture that would be presented. Thank you.

26 THE CHAIR: Matt Gillman.

1 MR. GILLMAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good
2 morning, everyone. Matt Gillman, environment
3 superintendent at Agnico Eagle at the Meliadine Mine.

4 So this photo was taken with my cell phone, so I
5 apologize on the quality, especially for those who are
6 looking at it on a projector.

7 The reason I took this photo was not for
8 monitoring purposes; it's because I was woken up in the
9 middle of night to be informed that there was caribou
10 approaching the site, and it was a beautiful evening,
11 and I wanted to capture the memory.

12 What was happening at this time on June 20th,
13 2022, at approximately 9 PM -- I went to bed early --
14 is the start of the migration through the Meliadine
15 area in that year. The first shutdown was June 19th.
16 This was on the 20th, and there was several groups of
17 caribou on the west side of the Meliadine narrows,
18 which is what we're looking at in this photo. This
19 photo was taken from the top of the esker that runs
20 along the east side of the Meliadine site looking
21 towards the west, from east to west, looking across the
22 narrows.

23 And it's very difficult to see on the projector,
24 but there are groups of caribou on the west side of the
25 narrows, and on the east side of the narrows, you can
26 see in the foreground along the shoreline grazing on

1 lichen were some caribou as well. Again, I apologize
2 that I don't have a series of photos. This was taken
3 not for monitoring but rather for capturing the memory,
4 but I thought it was worth sharing. I knew the photo
5 existed, and it took me some time to dig it up in my
6 own cell phone albums, but I just thought it was worth
7 sharing this morning to help paint the picture of what
8 we see on-site at Meliadine.

9 Thank you, Madam Chair.

10 THE CHAIR: Continuing where we left off
11 with the community representatives. I have two names
12 here, but I'm not sure which one is your name. Are you
13 Tom? Your name is Tom? Tom Shaoullie.

14 Questions by Northlands First Nation, Lac Brochet
15 (Roundtable)

16 MR. SHAOULLIE: Thank you, Madam Chair. The
17 name is Tom Shaoullie, band councillor for Northlands
18 First Nation. I'm representing the people of Lac
19 Brochet.

20 As you may all heard that our community too relies
21 on caribou, and, therefore, the proposed site for the
22 wind turbines is a big concern to me because once you
23 disturb a wildlife, how do you mitigate that? Once
24 it's disturbed, it's disturbed. It's not going to come
25 back to its natural state, especially the water quality
26 you all talk about.

1 The Elders turned away from the water and still
2 were told that it's not contaminated, but the Elders
3 know, and there's no way to mitigate that. They turned
4 their back already, so that's a big concern.

5 And about the material that's been stored, the
6 rock pile, there's a runoff. It ends up in the lake,
7 and there's no telling what's in that waste pile. And
8 I hear that it's not properly stored. It's not fenced
9 in because I hear from locals that caribou do migrate
10 through that area. There's no telling what's in the
11 dust.

12 No matter what the sanctas [phonetic] say, at the
13 end of the day, they'll be gone. There will be locals
14 that's left here to deal with what's being brought
15 forth right now. So that's a concern.

16 Even the animals that forage through there, the
17 post-calving, what if their sickness that's from the
18 rock piles. So that's a big concern, you know, once
19 the caribou is disturbed. There's proof there by the
20 collared caribou ignoring the area. Yes, there will be
21 some caribou that still go through there, but the main
22 herds, it's been disturbed.

23 If the turbines go up, us in the southern region,
24 you know, we might not see the caribou. It's the --
25 the migration route changes, so I'm curious of the
26 collared caribou where it migrates to. Are they going

1 to keep an eye on it year by year from -- since the
2 development started? So I'm curious 'cause we all hear
3 the caribou is declining, and that's a concern.

4 The community depends on caribou. When you hear
5 there's caribou in the region in the tree lines,
6 everybody is happy because they're going to have
7 caribou again. And more than half the population of
8 Lac Brochet are unemployed, and they do depend on
9 caribou. So that's a big concern. I too hunt for my
10 family. I raise six children mostly on wild food,
11 country food, so, therefore, I am concerned as
12 everybody else is in this room.

13 So -- so there's -- I see there's exploration
14 still going on. If they find something else, the
15 synergy is going to keep growing in the calving ground
16 areas. So there's no telling what's -- what our future
17 holds in store for our young generation.

18 Yeah. So right now in Lac Brochet, we don't see
19 caribou, like I said, back in November. You've got to
20 go eight hours, get a ride.

21 But climate change is a factor also. I remember
22 back in the '80s I was growing up. In November it used
23 to be minus 40, freeze-up. Everybody is out hunting,
24 going trapping in November, but nowadays in December,
25 you can't even go out on the lake because of the
26 freeze-up. It's not -- it doesn't freeze over till,

1 say, mid-December nowadays, so there's a big factor
2 there. So we've got to collaborate, work together.

3 The mining industries, they're doing something.
4 They're shutting down, yes. They're following some
5 protocols, but there should be more we see the
6 Government of Nunavut do, do some more research on how
7 the caribou behaves, and keep an eye on those tailing
8 stockpile, the runoffs.

9 There's big industries I see down south. All the
10 foraging plants are all dead, trees all gone, and that
11 usually catch my eyes. I've been to the east coast, to
12 the west driving. I see a lot of industries going up
13 in our country. Now the eye is on the north, so keep
14 that in mind. Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: James Laban.

16 Questions by Black Lake First Nation (Roundtable)

17 MR. LABAN: Merci, Chair.

18 What we are talking about right now is recording
19 what activities are happening at the mine. As we
20 are -- we come from Saskatchewan and what we think
21 about mostly, it's mostly about the caribou for our
22 people.

23 The people that are setting up the turbines,
24 that's a big concern to us because we don't know the
25 full -- the full information regarding that. It's
26 really close to the calf and calving grounds, and it's

1 only 30 kilometres, and for that reason I am on the
2 caribou management board for the three communities:
3 Wollaston, Black Lake, and Fond Du Lac.

4 There's a lot of Denesuline people that rely on
5 the caribou, and back in the day before the white man
6 came, the Denesuline, the Inuit, they really relied --
7 they really relied on the caribou as their source of
8 food. We love the animal, and if there is no caribou,
9 nobody is happy.

10 Including the water, the land is our resource.
11 That's very important. We have the same interest as
12 well, and, therefore, when I think about it, about the
13 Agnico Eagle Mine, there are -- I want to ask five
14 questions. I want to -- one to the GN.

15 As the people in Black Lake that live in
16 Saskatchewan, there are five mine -- that we work with
17 five mining companies. We used to sit with the
18 meetings with them, but it didn't come -- it wasn't a
19 good outcome. In 1990 there were three mining
20 companies that -- that had built a group with them, and
21 that was called "Athabasca Working Group". And the
22 Athabasca working -- the Athabasca working weren't the
23 one that were in charge. There was six communities
24 from the Athabasca basin, and there were three mining
25 companies that were involved who we had a meeting with
26 because they -- there are a lot of activities, and we

1 weren't happy with it.

2 And the one that we talk about, it was one
3 regarding the monitoring of -- and the water safety,
4 the protection of the water, and how the caribou
5 migrates. And with that, we still work with them.

6 And the group there are including Elders, the one
7 with experience with the mining company, and for that
8 reason it became a bit better.

9 One question I wanted to ask about to the people
10 that are working with the Agnico Eagle mining regarding
11 the safe water monitoring. The reason why I'm saying
12 this, during the springtime the migration -- we talk
13 about the migrating routes of the caribou and the geese
14 that are flying back up north, and in the falltime,
15 around this time, they come back south to us.

16 And just recently we just went for a tour on the
17 mine site, and I seen it. And also a couple days ago I
18 was in the park area, and I look at the land. It was a
19 beautiful land. And I thought about it and how people
20 lived before the mining was put in place. The people
21 were fishing, and that's one of the stories they have
22 heard. It was a beautiful land and beautiful time, and
23 I even had tears in my eyes looking at the land because
24 the land is so beautiful.

25 And, in regards to that, the first thing I want to
26 say is regarding the safe water monitoring. The Agnico

1 Eagle Mine, they still -- the downstream of the water
2 flow, they had to monitor more on that. As I'm sitting
3 here listening to the Inuit Elders regarding water and
4 the tea they used to drink, yes, they are right. And
5 this company that are -- the Eagle Mine that are trying
6 to make a deal with us, they have to listen to the
7 people, including Elders.

8 And the water is the most important source, and
9 the water that is going downstream, and they take --
10 they take sampling from that, and if they could do
11 around 80-miles radius, take sampling of the water.
12 It's not just that. There's sediment ponds as well,
13 the sediments under the water where there are fishes,
14 and the fishes are really good, and that's our source
15 of food as well. And for that -- they should have
16 sampling for that too and also extend the monitoring
17 project, and it will be good for us and also including
18 the people around this area.

19 The air sampling as well and the air quality
20 management, and them themselves have to -- they have to
21 take the sampling of the air. And as I have seen --
22 and it has to go to the extent to look -- to check --
23 to have the air monitoring as well. And I'll go around
24 as to cabins as well. They can look in the far
25 distance. They have to help us, and we have to help
26 them for the protection of the future.

1 And the mining company that are digging for gold,
2 we have to help them, and we have to -- and they have
3 to help us too. And once we leave, it is us that are
4 here and will have to -- like how we have to do our
5 best to protect for the future. That's what I wanted
6 to ask for, the caribou protection and the management,
7 the Agnico Eagle is too close to the -- to the calving
8 ground. That is -- and the air sampling that they have
9 right now, and if they have that in the calving ground
10 and around the 80-mile radius, that would be good. And
11 it is our -- it is for us too as Denesuline people and
12 the Inuit people. And if this is going to make the
13 caribou sick, it will not be good. It will not be
14 comfortable. That's what I think about mostly.

15 And how -- what you're doing, like, in -- like,
16 what you do here is going to impact us people in
17 Saskatchewan. We have to protect the caribou, and we
18 have to have it safe for them.

19 The project -- we're not talking against the
20 project. It's how to improve and how safe it will be
21 for the people. And we have to -- we have to defend
22 ourselves and also for our children in what I see maybe
23 a hundred years from now, and if you look -- if we can
24 imagine, there -- we will already be gone, but our
25 kids, their kids and their kids and their kids would be
26 there, would be -- will rely -- will -- hopefully -- I

1 still hope that they still rely on the -- on the
2 caribou as we do ourselves today.

3 I am thankful for the NIRB to invite us. For the
4 Saskatchewan -- the Saskatchewan delegation and us, as
5 Saskatchewan delegation, there is a lot of information
6 that we know about the mining companies. We had -- we
7 had 40 years experience that the mining companies
8 started working with us in Saskatchewan, and every year
9 that we find out things with them.

10 And back in 40 years -- in the past 40 years, it
11 was not -- not the same as -- as it is now. There's a
12 lot of people that know the technology, and they have
13 lost some experiences, but they're still regaining the
14 knowledge that the people had known back then.

15 I am -- I am very happy when one of the advisory
16 group had mentioned us as people -- that people are
17 being invited to this meeting here, so it's the one
18 thing that we had to do. It is a good thing that we
19 will help you, and if we work together regarding the
20 mining company -- and it will -- it will go good if
21 everybody works together, and that is what I want very
22 much.

23 It is us people in Saskatchewan, where we're from,
24 and how -- and what is happening right now, we know
25 about it.

26 Yes, one of my colleague had talked regarding the

1 power line and, yes, he is right. It was in the
2 mid-80s, us, as community members, use diesel for our
3 source of power, and then -- and then we were told that
4 there would be a power line reaching to us, and then
5 for that reason the power bill would go way down, but
6 that didn't happen.

7 And that power line that we have right now, it is
8 very loud at night. And if it's across -- if it
9 crossed the river -- like, if you -- there is a line
10 under, and there's a balloon, and under there if you
11 sit at night, you can hear a noise coming from it.

12 As some people had mentioned yesterday, 1980s was
13 the last time we seen caribou in our area, and in the
14 '80s that was when I started working at the mine, and I
15 remember there was an airport. There was a lot of
16 caribou in that area, and that was the last time we
17 have seen caribou there.

18 And today where we will go for our hunt -- on our
19 hunting trips, it's a far distance, very far, and
20 things are very expensive. Food are expensive. That
21 I -- that we put eleven gallons of gas in there, and on
22 top of that we use eight jerricans filled as we go on
23 our trip because things are very expensive. The
24 caribou are -- the caribou have been mostly in the
25 north the past ten years now.

26 One thing I want to question is to the GN. I want

1 to ask for the three communities from Fond du Lac,
2 Wollaston, and Black Lake, during the falltime where
3 the -- where we expect caribou to migrate to us, we
4 use -- we use the airplanes to look for caribou around
5 the areas. It's expensive.

6 It wasn't supposed to be that way, but the caribou
7 that have collars on them, Mitch Campbell, I ask him
8 many times and -- if he could send us the information
9 regarding the caribou and watching where the caribou
10 are, and it is up to the GN that has to agree first
11 before he proceeds, and that is not good. So for that
12 reason, the collar -- regarding the collar information,
13 if that information could be released to us -- that is
14 what I'm asking for -- so during the seasons of the
15 year, we would know where the caribou are.

16 And the cost of flight is expensive, and if you
17 could help us in regards to that, and that is why I'm
18 mentioning what I have said. And for that I would
19 still listen to you of the closing remark. If there is
20 things we still have to say, we will put our words in
21 it too. And with that, thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: First we'll go to the
23 Government of Nunavut and then Agnico Eagle.

24 Government of Nunavut, Daniel Haney.

25 MR. HANEY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

26 Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut.

1 Thank you for your questions and concerns about
2 caribou in your area. Yes. The Government of Nunavut
3 does monitor caribou through the collar data, and you
4 echoed the concern about not having access to that
5 information. We can certainly share that information
6 with you through a data and sample sharing agreement,
7 and the reason that we have an agreement to share this
8 data is because there is a risk, when it is shared,
9 that it could be used for harvesting, and we do know
10 that harvesting does have an impact on caribou
11 populations.

12 So under that agreement we can absolutely share
13 the data with you, and we are concerned with the
14 caribou as well. We hear your concerns. Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak.

16 MS. LACOURSE: Sophie Lacourse, Agnico Eagle.

17 So I believe you had a question, if I understood
18 correctly, on where the water monitoring station were?

19 THE CHAIR: Jimmy Laban?

20 MR. LABAN: Merci, Madam Chair. Jimmy
21 Laban, Black Lake First Nation.

22 The water sampling I'm talking regards, it is the
23 ones that are going downstream, and that sampling that
24 you are doing right now, I am asking -- I am asking you
25 to extend the 80-mile radius around the area. And the
26 sampling that you're taking on the sediment ponds under

1 the lake, it is the fish that we rely on as well. And
2 if you have more samplings on that, that's what I'm
3 hoping for and what -- what I'm talking about and rely
4 on.

5 Now, we see the geese flying, flying in the spring
6 and flying back in the fall, and we don't know where
7 they are, and there is a lot of Dene people in
8 Saskatchewan that rely on -- on the geese as well, and
9 that is how -- that is my view. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

11 MS. LACOURSE: Sophie Lacourse, Agnico Eagle.

12 I believe a better -- a good visual that we should
13 use for that question would be Slide 29 of the
14 community roundtable presentation. If it would be
15 possible to put this up. Thank you.

16 Thank you.

17 So those are the sampling locations. Samples are
18 collected close to the mine, within 250 metres of where
19 the water is released -- so on the map this is the
20 zoomed-in area that you see. And at locations near the
21 outlet of Peter Lake, those are shown on the map, the
22 outlet of Meliadine River and a secluded base in the
23 northern part that you can see on the map as well of
24 the lake.

25 The water quality results are summarized in an
26 annual report, which is publicly available, and the

1 results to date show that the water quality is safe for
2 both human and aquatic life. So I hope this answered
3 your question. Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Jimmy Laban.

5 MR. LABAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm
6 Jimmy Laban, Black Lake Denesuline First Nations.

7 I seen the slide right now today. Where are
8 discharge -- can you -- wherever -- point it out
9 where -- where you're discharging the water in
10 Meliadine Lake?

11 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Sophie Lacourse.

12 MS. LACOURSE: Sophie Lacourse, Agnico Eagle.

13 Yes. I'll point on the screen using the laser
14 here.

15 THE CHAIR: Jimmy Laban.

16 MR. LABAN: Madam Chair, thank you. Jimmy
17 Laban, Black Lake Dene First Nations.

18 What we're -- it's very important -- it is very
19 important for the Dene people in Saskatchewan right
20 now, what we talk about. Even Inuit people as well
21 right now around -- because it's very important because
22 it's -- the future generation rely on it.

23 The way you guys -- we have to work together. We
24 already stated that we'd like to work together. You
25 also have to listen to our opinions too as well.
26 That's the only way that we work together and we work

1 in a good way.

2 It doesn't look too far where the discharge -- if
3 you look at it, where the discharge -- I'd like to
4 extend that as well, an 80-mile radius. Extend your
5 radius to 80 miles to take samples in that area.
6 Extend there.

7 Also, sediment ponds as well. All surrounding
8 lakes are all connected because of fish we rely on.
9 You need to listen to us as well. Where are all these
10 rivers run off too are going up -- or where is all
11 these runners -- the rivers running from a direction?
12 Where is the big -- the direction -- that downflow from
13 this discharge? Which direction it'd flow.

14 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Sophie Lacourse.
15 Pujjut Kusugak.

16 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.
17 Pujjut Kusugak.

18 Thanks for your question. I fully agree that
19 Agnico Eagle but as well as Inuit and your people, need
20 to work together to stay informed, and I think these
21 types of settings and process are extremely important
22 so that we hear from you and you hear from us.

23 The process that we do have -- in Nunavut fully
24 includes Inuit, as you can see with our board and other
25 boards that we do have including the Nunavut Water
26 Board, wildlife management boards that we do have, and

1 this is all thanks to the Nunavut Land Claims
2 Agreement.

3 In regards to your question on the flow of water
4 from the discharge area, from this map, it goes
5 northwest and then comes back around, flows out to the
6 Meliadine River, which goes into the Hudson Bay, and we
7 have these different water sample sites so that we're
8 able to get a good -- I guess a wide range of different
9 areas, if they're flowing, if they're shallow. Like,
10 we try to look for as many different types of areas so
11 that we get a very good picture of the different water
12 samples and working with other organizations to make
13 sure that -- that analysis is done by a third party.

14 And, again, the results have come back saying the
15 water is not contaminated, and it's safe. I hope that
16 answers your question. Matna.

17 Madam Chair, is it okay if --

18 THE CHAIR: Matt Gillman.

19 MR. KUSUGAK: -- Matt Gillman answers.

20 MR. GILLMAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Matt
21 Gillman, Agnico Eagle.

22 And thank you for your comments and your
23 questions. I would like to speak a bit more about
24 them.

25 Specifically, we agree the sediment is important
26 to the fish. It's one big ecosystem picture. So as

1 part of our effects -- aquatic effects monitoring
2 program, what's called Benthic organisms or the bugs or
3 larvae that live in the sediment, those are sampled as
4 well every year to ensure that we -- sorry -- every
5 three years on a three-year cycle in compliance with
6 Environment Canada regulations to ensure that there's
7 no adverse impacts not only to fish but also what fish
8 rely on. And that's done throughout Meliadine Lake.

9 And I wanted to touch on the listening piece and
10 hearing the concerns and adapting specifically around
11 Meliadine Lake discharge. It has been an ongoing topic
12 of discussion for the last, at least, two to three
13 years, and we've been working in collaboration with the
14 Kivalliq Inuit Association, the other intervenors, and
15 the Nunavut Impact Review Board to address those
16 concerns from the community. And so as part of the
17 waterline, the 30-kilometre waterline that we're
18 installing now, the commitments that we've made and
19 that were input into our Project Certificate 006,
20 Amendment Number 2, was to use that waterline to
21 minimize or eliminate discharge of mining-related water
22 to Meliadine Lake and instead direct it to the ocean.

23 That commitment and decision was not made based on
24 western science. Western science showed that the
25 discharge would not have adverse impacts to Meliadine
26 Lake, but the community had concerns and because of

1 those concerns, we adapted the way we will operate, and
2 the Nunavut Impact Review Board modified our licence --
3 our project certificate accordingly.

4 That's all I wanted to add, but thank you, again,
5 for your comments.

6 Thank you, Madam Chair.

7 THE CHAIR: Jimmy Laban.

8 MR. LABAN: Madam Chair, thank you. Jimmy
9 Laban, Black Lake Denesuline First Nations.

10 Thank you for explaining, and I hear you -- I hear
11 you very well.

12 And also dust sample that you're taking right now
13 and monitoring the -- actually it's very important to
14 us too, dust sample and seeing the slides. And
15 Saskatchewan residents, we rely on the caribou very,
16 very much. Where the calving ground right now and also
17 the caribou migrate to our -- to our people, and all
18 the dust sampling right now, if you would extend the
19 dust sampling station in the various far area. We have
20 to protect the caribou, us Dene and Inuit people,
21 because we rely on the caribou.

22 And the mining company right now, we have to
23 respect one another, and we have to listen to each
24 other and work together. And we work together in a
25 good way, and this way we can accomplish a lot of
26 things. If we jump in real fast and we move ahead

1 fast, we cannot accomplish anything. Maybe this way we
2 run into major difficulties. This is why we have to
3 work really slow, work with one another.

4 Dust sampling is also a -- the caribou travel, go
5 to the calving ground, and then they calf, and then
6 they come back to our people in Saskatchewan. And the
7 caribou accompany, and we -- and when we -- to work --
8 because we feed off the caribou. It's our main food
9 source and clothes. If we look to a hundred years, our
10 generation, they also have to enjoy the caribou.
11 That's what I'm concerned. This is one of my visions
12 are if you're collecting dust in the calving ground
13 area, maybe expand into 80-mile radius. This way we
14 have a good -- have a better understanding. And that's
15 my -- that's why I'm concerned. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak.

17 MR. KUSUGAK: Sophie is going to explain a
18 bit on dust control and dust suppressing, a bit of the
19 monitoring.

20 And just to add, within the community we very much
21 understand not just for the caribou regarding dust
22 control but also berries. Areas such as Kilometre 15
23 on the all-weather access road has been identified as a
24 major area within our community for berry picking, and
25 even outside, away from the all-weather access road in
26 the area of the territorial park. So there's many

1 areas that have been identified as important
2 berry-picking areas. I just wanted to add that on, so
3 making sure that we're doing our part to make sure that
4 dust is controlled. So I'm going to pass it on to
5 Sophie.

6 MS. LACOURSE: Sophie Lacourse, Agnico Eagle.

7 So one thing we're doing along the road to reduce
8 dust generation is that we apply dust suppressant. We
9 also ask user [sic] to limit their speed, again, to
10 reduce the emission of dust.

11 In terms of monitoring -- and if we could go to
12 Slide 26, please -- thank you -- we have dust
13 monitoring stations that you will see -- yeah, there
14 you go on the slide -- and dust samples are collected
15 twice during the summer season over a 30-day average
16 period for each dust fall monitoring station. Those
17 samples are sent to a lab, and then we get the results.

18 Since construction of the mine, what we have seen
19 in terms of dust is in line with what was predicted.
20 Matna.

21 THE CHAIR: Jimmy Laban.

22 MR. LABAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm
23 Jimmy Laban, Black Lake Dene First Nations.

24 Where I'm looking at a dust collector, I have a
25 good understanding. We have a similar sampling in
26 Saskatchewan 'cause I work with the mining industry in

1 Saskatchewan right now. And the reason I'm saying this
2 is because I'm thinking about the caribou. Around the
3 dust-collecting station, it should be right on the
4 calving ground -- stations, because the calving ground
5 is 30 kilometres from the site. It's not far. Around
6 there, if you look at all these calving ground,
7 post-calving ground, if you can put maybe north four
8 stations, north, east, and west, and 30 days if we
9 check it, 30 days sample and test, and just the reason
10 why I'm saying is because we rely on the caribou from
11 here back to our traditional territory as a Dene.
12 Marsi. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Before we continue with
14 questions and comments from community representatives,
15 we're going to take a 15-minute break.

16 (ADJOURNMENT)

17 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everyone.
18 Continuing where we left off before the break.

19 Agnico Eagle, Sophie Lacourse. David Kritterdlik.

20 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you. David Kritterdlik,
21 Agnico Eagle.

22 THE INTERPRETER: I can't hear him. I can't
23 hear him.

24 THE CHAIR: (INUKTITUT SPOKEN - NO ENGLISH
25 TRANSLATION)

26 MR. KRITTERDLIK: We've created a committee

1 numerous times and -- here in Rankin and Baker Lake.
2 We get the Inuit to come together and meet with us, and
3 we talk about how Agnico Eagle Mines run and operate
4 things. We also talk about things that may be badly
5 impacting our surrounding areas, and we talked about
6 the water this morning. It's part of our food chain.
7 We -- when we have questions, we often try and get
8 proper answers. And in Rankin Inlet, there's -- at
9 Meliadine, there's a river that we use as drinking
10 water, and they often say that it is different now.

11 And we understand that the water at Agnico
12 Eagle -- we had compiled some water from river -- from
13 the river. Even in the wintertime, we get ice water
14 from Meliadine and -- and use those as our examples to
15 see how the water is really. And for that reason,
16 when -- we had the tea testing. We involve the
17 community oftentimes.

18 And a few days ago, somebody was saying that the
19 water at Meliadine is different now. The water, when
20 it's flowing -- the river, when it's flowing, that
21 could impact the colour of the -- the water. Also, in
22 Baker -- we just came from Baker not too long ago. We
23 used this road -- we used the road at Meadowbank to --
24 we took the bus to see where people pick berries and
25 how it's impacting in terms of dust control. So they
26 got us to have a little tour towards Meadowbank by the

1 bus. And I can say that the employees at Meadowbank
2 are controlling the dust by -- so the employees put
3 dust suppressants on the roads in order to control the
4 dust so that the berries don't get impacted so much.

5 Also, I can say Kivalliq Inuit Association is also
6 doing their own research in terms of water, and they
7 often hear from the community to get suggestions not
8 only for the water but for other -- other things too.

9 And we travel around communities to consult with
10 people in the communities, especially from Elders.
11 We've talked about the wind turbines as well and get
12 their perspective on wind turbines. And we're getting
13 to understand how they run and what happens when you
14 have them installed, and we go to the communities to
15 let the communities understand these things. And we
16 include calving grounds, the monitoring of the
17 environment around the mine. That's what we do. We
18 travel to communities to gain more knowledge and
19 understanding as to the impacts that things could have
20 when you're trying to develop a mine -- or when you're
21 running a mine. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Jimmy Laban.

23 MR. LABAN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

24 Jimmy Laban, Black Lake First Nation.

25 (NO ENGLISH FEED) at NIRB to invite us to --

26 THE CHAIR: Sorry. The interpreter can't

1 hear. I think they need to switch the feed. Try
2 again.

3 MR. LABAN: Okay. Jimmy Laban, Black Lake
4 First Nation, Denesuline.

5 Thank you, NIRB, for -- for inviting us to this
6 hearing. I'd like to thank also an Elder who opened,
7 Benji, opening prayer, and also translators too as
8 well. I'd like to thank them too as well. They're
9 doing very well. A good job. For right now, for me,
10 that GN, what I asked for, GN respond to us, I'm really
11 grateful. I thank them from my heart. And also Eagle
12 Mine. Yeah. Sitting here at the table, also I'd like
13 to thank them too for giving us an opportunity, to
14 listen to us. For now -- I'm not going to go any
15 further right now.

16 If somewhere down terrestrial advisory board, if
17 we're part of it, it would be even better to work
18 together with that.

19 The water, the brought-up concern. The reason is
20 that the bird migration -- they go up in the far
21 territories in the barren land, migrate bird, and we
22 harvest those bird too as well coming back to the
23 south. That's the reason why I'm concerned about the
24 water 'cause the bird use the water. That's why I'd
25 like to -- that's why I brought that up. And also
26 caribou. We rely on the caribou very much. I don't

1 want the caribou to disappear. I -- really concerns
2 me.

3 And with that, I'm thankful for -- given an
4 opportunity to raise concerns and question with that.
5 Thank you very much.

6 THE CHAIR: David Bigeye.

7 MR. BIGEYE: Good morning, Madam Chair.

8 David Bigeye, Athabasca Denesuline Land Ne Ne
9 Corporation. I want to talk a little bit about myself
10 regarding mining industry.

11 I worked with the mine for a number of years, and
12 I was a liaison worker too. My reason why I want to
13 talk about the mine is based on what David said. I was
14 a mill operator for a number of years. Took training.
15 And I'm also equipment operator. And I worked with
16 them as a liaison worker too to recruit the community
17 members.

18 When David stated that -- on a common -- on his
19 presentation, he said, We were told to say this. That
20 kind of struck me. I remember when I was working for
21 the mining company, and when we do a presentation to
22 the community members, everything, all the document
23 that was put together was based on their beliefs, even
24 the false information. We were forced to say things.
25 That kind of struck me there. I want to say something
26 in my language. (NO ENGLISH FEED) 'cause today sitting

1 here I'm bound with my tongue.

2 Thank you. My relations -- I'm here, and what --
3 I'm here today. I'm here today, I see all the -- the
4 community members, the way people live here in this
5 country. I witnessed that today. I'm very grateful,
6 and I'm happy that you live and rely on the land. And
7 people come here -- I see people coming here beading,
8 sewing, and stuff like that, selling to us, and I'm
9 really happy to see that.

10 Gen -- young, youth, and Elders, I talk to them
11 and ask them questions to have a better understanding
12 with -- so that -- we went on a tour on the land at the
13 mine site. I seen some of them things that I'm not --
14 I really kind of doubt in my mind, the way that it was
15 presented to us on -- on the piece of paper.

16 The camera -- they said, What kind of camera do
17 you have out in the field? That's what I think. Is it
18 the best camera? Does it have a sensor -- a monitor --
19 a sensor? How far does the camera -- is triggered?
20 And not only that. Also I don't see any lining on a
21 waste rock -- waste -- waste rock. I don't see no
22 lining there. Again.

23 Where are they going to install turbine location?
24 Even though it's not my land. But the way I see the
25 structure of the land, I can see it. It's a long
26 esker. That migration has a -- a caribou route by the

1 looks of it. Along the esker there, that's where
2 breeding and also wolves and everything that -- also
3 nestling and breeding and also white fox.

4 And also the narrows where -- the crossing of the
5 caribou where they go into the water and where they
6 come out of the water on other side, that -- that spot
7 has to be respected. When I say "caribou", and I think
8 about my little baby child, the smallest. They cannot
9 look after themselves because the mother has to look
10 after them. If I look at the land, it's in my heart.
11 Just like my child, I have to respect that.

12 When we were on the bus, I look 'cause -- I'm --
13 I'm -- Nicholas from the mine, worker. And where they
14 took -- where the -- I took the ore from the -- with
15 his friends. He said -- That's my baby, he said. And
16 then I kind of felt down, so I said something. I spoke
17 to him. And -- the caribou and the land, that's my
18 baby, I told him. That's what I think, and that's how
19 I feel.

20 We're born on the land, on Mother Earth. From
21 there we learn to walk, to step -- one step -- we step
22 on Mother Earth. From there on, our life, we
23 breastfeed on our mothers.

24 (NO ENGLISH FEED) that's why I said that. My
25 understanding of everything that's happening in the
26 mining industry, it will change once the mining is done

1 and complete. But the impact of the Inuit and
2 First Nation indigenous people will remain. Long
3 before we existed, we follow the caribou along the
4 tundra. And our ancestors did fur trades right to
5 Churchill. They walk. They follow -- dog team. They
6 went on dog team. The most dog team would have been
7 five and less. And there was a relationship built with
8 Inuit. It doesn't matter how many industry we bring
9 in. Once it's done, it's done. The remaining existing
10 of the landscape is not beautiful scenery. 'Cause I
11 seen that. Uranium City was a boom town. Gold mine.
12 Today when you go there, it's just a ghost town.

13 Once upon a time, there was about 4 or 5,000
14 population. Now there's maybe 60. And the scenery of
15 the mine is still there. We had to fight and
16 negotiate. "Fighting" -- when I say "fighting",
17 positively how we can mandate and propose things to
18 make it better for the people surrounding.

19 The most impact people are us living here,
20 remaining. In order for us to complete and do things,
21 we need to understand each other. I remember this old
22 Elder saying, If a manager -- if you're not happy with
23 what you're told, don't agree with what's told to you
24 on your land if you're not happy with it, a way you
25 want it. If you're satisfied with what's happening,
26 then, yes, agree to it. If not, then don't.

1 Those words were spoken by (NO ENGLISH FEED)
2 Louie Chicken [phonetic], which was my godfather. I
3 always treasure those -- that word. It's true. Even a
4 short code. There's a lot of meaning to it. The
5 reason to that code is because we remain where we are.
6 It doesn't matter what kind of education we take. Our
7 skin will remain the way it is.

8 I -- I too went to residential school. Just to
9 speak my language, they used to put soap in my mouth.
10 All right. Now I'm here, sitting here, I'm still
11 speaking my language.

12 We need to develop unity and understand each
13 other, how we can accomplish to better ourselves. Not
14 to agree and better with the mining companies. We need
15 to do better negotiation -- this impact management
16 agreement that you're bound with, we dealt with that.
17 I know how the agreement works. I understand it.

18 I'm so thankful that we are invited here by the
19 NIRB. And all these presentations that I see, to me,
20 it's false information. I'm a carpenter too. I can do
21 elevation and levelling with my eye from a distant.
22 And on this presentation where they put windmill at the
23 mill there, we all know there's no windmill there. And
24 when you go to Slide 8, I think -- can you put it on
25 the screen, please. Page 10.

26 I want to question -- ask a question regarding the

1 height of the mill there. How tall is it? Show me the
2 one with the windmill. What's the height of the mill?

3 THE CHAIR: Can you turn your mic off?

4 Agnico Eagle, Nicholas Allen.

5 MR. ALLEN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

6 Nicholas Allen, Agnico Eagle.

7 So the mill is 35 metres high, the stacks of the
8 power plant are 40 metres high, and for the wind
9 turbine, the top of the tip of the blade is 144 metres.
10 Thank you.

11 MR. BIGEYE: Can you convert that to feet?
12 35 metres, how many feet is that?

13 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Nicholas Allen.

14 MR. ALLEN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

15 Nicholas Allen, Agnico Eagle.

16 So the mill, 35 metres, is approximately 100 feet.

17 THE CHAIR: David Bigeye.

18 MR. BIGEYE: David Bigeye, Athabasca

19 Denesuline Ne Ne Land Corporation.

20 My reason why I wanted to ask a question regarding
21 this slide -- because we all know the turbine doesn't
22 exist. If you do -- or estimate, the height of the
23 mill is 100 and -- 100 feet high. And if you line it
24 up with the existing picture there, that's about
25 200 feet, I would say. And you said 152; that's
26 500 feet height of a turbine.

1 So that picture is not real. It's blinding us.
2 This picture would have been another extension of the
3 same height where it's showing plus another half of
4 that. And that's tall, 500 feet. So using this as
5 evidence to do a presentation to convince us that it
6 looks like that, I don't believe it. I don't support
7 it.

8 My reason to that is a big project, a proposed
9 project like this, it should have been a -- a
10 PowerPoint presentation done on the -- the actual
11 design of how it's going to look with the transmission
12 line on the models and a transmission building where
13 they're going to locate the batteries.

14 And like my brother-in-law Jimmy stated, when
15 you're under the transmission line way back home where
16 it's crossing, you can hear the loud noise. And this
17 transmission line is going to run on the surface of the
18 ground all the way around, probably all the way around
19 Meliadine Lake. And the static sound is going to sound
20 really loud. It's going to distract the caribou.

21 We need to come up with a solution, to work
22 together. It's a good opportunity for the local. A
23 business opportunity. As earlier in the presentation,
24 they stated that they need a partner, and this is the
25 opportunity where Nunavut can own this to benefit the
26 community. But the location is distracting, and the

1 impact on the caribou. I'm not saying it's a bad idea
2 to have the mining company. Sooner or later, we have
3 to work with them. And also they need our support, and
4 we need their support for economic, job training,
5 employment opportunity, and train our people. But they
6 need to listen to us too. They need to understand that
7 we're going to exist after the mine is long gone.

8 And also one more question regarding the water
9 sampling. As they were stating -- Sophia was stating,
10 it's -- it's safe for human. You know, it reflects
11 back to one -- one time we were doing a tour in the
12 mine, and my late dad was in a group, and I was with
13 him. We were touring the mine just like what we did.
14 We went through the mill, everything, everywhere. But
15 on this trip, we didn't do that. But when it came to
16 the water sampling and the discharge area, the mining
17 superintendent was doing a presentation and said, This
18 water is safe, and it doesn't affect the wildlife or
19 the fishing industry. And that's on Wollaston Lake.

20 And then my Dad had a cup -- a mug with coffee in
21 it, and we were right at the discharge area. And he
22 spilled the coffee and went down the hill. It's
23 steep -- not that steep, but went down, and the
24 superintendent said, Hey, Elder Jimmy, don't go down
25 there. But my Dad kept walking to the discharge area
26 where the river flows and dumped his coffee and put a

1 cup in the water, dipped the water out, put the lid
2 back on, and walked up. And in Dene, this is what he
3 said, this water -- ever since I was a kid, was a
4 child, all the Dene people, I fish and everything on
5 this lake. And I survive on this lake. This water
6 right now, bad water. You say it's good water. The
7 animal can live. And also we lived on fish. We rely
8 on fish to survive. You said this is good water. If
9 it's true, this water, drink this water in front of me
10 if you say it's good. And if you drink this water,
11 then I will believe you this is good water. Then it's
12 good water. This is what he said. And that
13 superintendent, he turned red. And he said, Let's get
14 back in the vehicle, and we left. He didn't drink the
15 water.

16 (NO ENGLISH FEED) was doing the presentation. But
17 we don't live here, us, but our caribou. We're caribou
18 people. Once, in old days, our ancestors lived with
19 us. They came to us from caribou droppings, live with
20 us, and then went back to the caribou. That's why we
21 say we're nomadic and caribou people. That's the
22 reason why we're here.

23 But we do feel what you feel. Whatever impact you
24 go through, it's going to affect us, even though we're
25 long ways. Like I said earlier in our presentation,
26 we're connected. And I respect each and every one of

1 you. But we need to come to a -- an agreement and work
2 together and understand each other. It just troubles
3 me when it goes back to that, especially that picture
4 on the presentation. The markers that we put down
5 there, the caribou cannot cross through that. Thank
6 you.

7 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak.

8 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.
9 Pujjut Kusugak.

10 I'm going to let Matt Gillman respond, if that is
11 okay.

12 THE CHAIR: Matt Gillman.

13 MR. GILLMAN: Thank you, Madam Chair.
14 Matt Gillman, Agnico Eagle, the environment
15 superintendent at the Meliadine Mine.

16 Thank you for your questions and comments. I'll
17 talk about water management at Meliadine. It is -- it
18 is my main area of expertise. And then I'll pass
19 the -- the microphone back to Pujjut to finish the --
20 the -- the response.

21 To expand a bit on what Sophie was saying around
22 water management and water monitoring at Meliadine,
23 it's done through the aquatic effects monitoring
24 program which was established at the start of the mine
25 in collaboration with the Government and community
26 stakeholders to define what levels of water quality

1 were safe for the environment, human, and aquatic
2 health. And that's what we call our aquatic effects
3 monitoring program benchmarks, those limits that are
4 safe for the environment, human, and aquatic health.

5 To ensure that the mine could react in the event
6 that we begin to approach those limits, there were
7 action triggers established which are 75 percent of the
8 benchmark. Since operations began, we remain below the
9 benchmarks, indicating that it is safe for aquatic and
10 human health. We talked about that already, so I won't
11 elaborate anymore.

12 But what I wanted to add to the discussion is the
13 drinking of the water. Meliadine Mine collects its
14 drinking water from approximately 2 kilometres north or
15 downstream of the diffuser where the effluent is
16 released to the lake. Every day, anywhere from 600 to
17 800 people drink that water collected within Meliadine
18 Lake, a short distance from where the effluent is
19 released. This water is sampled every week. And, of
20 course, we listen to our workers if there is any
21 concerns.

22 Generally the feedback we get is concern that the
23 water is, in fact, too low in minerals because the
24 water is so pure. We don't receive concerns with
25 relation to the effluent being released, and the
26 monitoring results don't show any concern with respect

1 to human health of drinking this water, and to date
2 there's been no cases of anybody getting sick from
3 drinking this water.

4 With that, I'll pass the microphone back to
5 Pujjut Kusugak. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Pujjut Kusugak.

7 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

8 Pujjut Kusugak, Agnico Eagle. I will be speaking in
9 Inuktitut.

10 Regarding the water, the mining -- the Meliadine
11 Mine -- when the mine was going to open, we have a
12 regulation regarding the water, if there -- anything
13 happens about the water and how often it should be
14 tested. If we don't follow those regulations about the
15 water and the requirements, we can be shut down. And
16 if there is any threat to the water conditions, we
17 would close down. If anybody got sick from drinking
18 the water, the -- all the public and all the Inuit
19 would be informed through the Kivalliq Inuit
20 Association, our Government. The -- Agnico Eagle Mine
21 would inform people, everyone.

22 I want you to know I have family and relatives at
23 Meliadine Lake. They have cabins. They go fishing
24 there. They collect their water there. And I see
25 them, my fellow people from Rankin, they continue to
26 fish at Meliadine. They continue to hunt caribou

1 around there, and they get their water from there.
2 That's what I know, and they have never gotten sick
3 regarding the water at Meliadine. And the samples that
4 we collect, and we get informed that Meliadine Lake is
5 better than the bottled water that we -- we get from
6 the -- bottled water we get from the stores is not as
7 pure as the water from Meliadine. That is all for now.
8 Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: David Bigeye.

10 MR. BIGEYE: David Bigeye, Athabasca
11 Denesuline Ne Ne Corporation.

12 Thank you for the response on the fresh water.
13 That's the main purpose why we have concern along with
14 the local people. Thank you for that. Masì.

15 THE CHAIR: Nicholas Allen.

16 MR. ALLEN: Thank you, Madam Chair.
17 Nicholas Allen, Agnico Eagle.

18 I just want to quickly get back on the visual
19 simulations. I appreciate your concern, and it is very
20 important for us to also understand the visual impact
21 on caribou. So for this reason these simulations were
22 done by an expert that has decades of experience. He
23 has done this for many other projects, and we even
24 compared his simulations to the real life that happened
25 after his simulations. So we have trust that these
26 are -- are exact.

1 One thing I just want to clarify is in this
2 picture we see the main tower very well, and this is
3 300 feet high. I was talking about the tip of the
4 blade.

5 But, again, just going back to -- we really want
6 to be transparent in the visual impact, and this is why
7 we chose this expert to do these simulations. Thank
8 you.

9 THE CHAIR: Louie Mercredi.

10 I'm just recognizing we're coming to the lunch
11 hour, and there's still people from the public that
12 want to ask questions. I just want to remind everyone
13 to focus on questions 'cause there are going to be --
14 there is going to be a time for closing remarks at the
15 close of the community roundtable just so -- you know,
16 we want to make sure -- we want to give an opportunity
17 to people who have also signed up. So if we can focus
18 on the proposal and questions and comments on the
19 proposal.

20 Louie Mercredi.

21 Questions by Community Representatives for Fond du Lac
22 (Roundtable)

23 MR. MERCREDI: Thank you, Madam Chair. For
24 the record, Louie Mercredi, Fond du Lac First Nation.

25 We have discussed a lot of concerns and issues in
26 the past week here. Every issue and concern reflects

1 to our way of life as who we are as Dene people and
2 Inuit, that we rely on the natural resources that has
3 been provided to us to sustain our lives from the
4 creator for man should not destroy this from us.

5 The industry needs to start by building trust with
6 the people that rely on these sources, which is
7 surrounding communities, Inuit, the southern
8 First Nation people as well, that has sustained on
9 caribou since time immemorial.

10 When I speak, I don't speak for myself. I speak
11 for the people, the future generations. I speak about
12 the experience of that that I've seen, the devastating
13 impacts created by industry. The industry will
14 never -- remember this word -- will never commit that
15 there is danger to the environment and our natural
16 resources. Their mandate is given to them from their
17 upper management, mine owners. Their vision is to
18 extract gold from your land, Inuit-owned land. With
19 the presentation that they have provided with the
20 submission of an extension and the potential of the
21 wind turbines, they are using 2014 analysis, studies.
22 Since 2014 'til -- 'til today, lots have changed.
23 The -- the world has changed. Climate change.
24 Economic changes. As we all know, we've seen these
25 changes. And the next change we're going to see is
26 our -- changes in our way of life.

1 This mine and Meliadine. I've worked in mines for
2 a number of years. I've dealt with the ore right from
3 the time they take it out of the ground, mining it,
4 through -- put it through the mill. There are, like,
5 ten different stages in uranium extraction and up to
6 about a dozen different chemicals that are used which
7 are harmful to humans and environment.

8 This is one mine in -- in your region here.
9 Where -- where I come from in Athabasca Basin, back in
10 the '60s, '50s. We are still in remediation projects
11 right now. The destruction that was left behind from
12 one mine, that ran for 6 years. We're going on
13 20 years of remediation now. We're still not done.

14 The environmental monitoring of the dust
15 collection kind of throws a red flag at me. When
16 they're using gravity to collect the dust and possibly
17 land into these jars that they provide, masonry jars, I
18 personally think that is not accurate. Wind direction
19 is going to make a difference of what sample goes
20 where. What's wrong with modern technology of sampling
21 these dust controls? The jar, masonry jar collection,
22 is stone-age technology.

23 One other thing. During our tour to the mine, the
24 tour guide on the bus, she had mentioned the flags on
25 the road with the delineators that are used for winter
26 road -- road guidance. She told the people on that bus

1 these delineators -- these flags come off the poles
2 during migration.

3 Those flags are only as big as this sheet of
4 paper. And it's distracting the caribou from migrating
5 through the all-season road. If this one flag can stop
6 the caribou from migrating, just imagine what those
7 500-foot towers will do creating noise, turbulence,
8 vibration which the caribou has never experienced
9 before.

10 If the regulators -- the federal regulators do
11 approve the proposed applications for the extension of
12 Meliadine Mine and the wind projects and if there's
13 impacts among the local communities and us in the
14 south, if it affects our way of life, that will be
15 cultural genocide. Our way of life will be destroyed.

16 Yesterday I asked a question in regards to the
17 water discharge pH. My question was never answered. I
18 also want to ask the environmentalists that are here
19 representing the company: What total suspended solids
20 remain in the effluent here? We -- we call it
21 "effluent" in the mining industry, which is
22 contaminated water that's been treated that's released
23 back to the environment. Here they use the word
24 "saline". It sounds so harmful. What are the NTUs,
25 national turbidity units, for a gold mine?

26 One other huge concern is the -- the tailings

1 being dewatered using a centrifuge system, I would
2 think. I would like to get an answer on that as well
3 from the industry. Once the centrifuge system -- goes
4 through the centrifuge system, the solids go one way,
5 and the liquids go one way. But the solids will always
6 remain, other metals, which is arsenic, radium, zinc,
7 copper, whatever's in the ore, still going to remain on
8 the waste tailings which has been piled up on a hill.
9 It looks like about a 60-degree slope -- for
10 contamination to wash out.

11 And the mine holding ponds, did not see one liner
12 in any of the reservoirs. It's right next to a pit
13 which has been blasted open. The fractures that the
14 blast had created, it's just 50 to 100 feet across the
15 road. There's going to be seepage of these danger --
16 harmful toxin. Waste flows through the underground,
17 and then the underground mine is pumped back to the
18 surface.

19 And also we all know this mine isn't going to be
20 here forever. Last time we were here in June, we were
21 at the -- down by the sea-can area. There was a shift
22 change. The number of people that we seen there,
23 95 percent of them are outsiders, non-First Nation or
24 aboriginal people. The hiring process that this
25 company has, you must have Grade 12 or better. I
26 myself only went as high as Grade 10.

1 But we ran a complicated mill which is uranium
2 extraction. We gain experience on a daily basis. But
3 people -- when we got transferred from one mine to
4 another for a brand-new -- a high-tech mill, which is
5 McClellan Lake, they had all these metallurgists,
6 engineers, people with degrees. We don't have no
7 degrees. We've learned at these places. But we have
8 proven the company wrong, how and what we're capable of
9 doing. We started up that mill with no hesitations.
10 Economic spin-offs is great for the community, and in
11 the new generation, maybe have a -- revisit that. I
12 see around the community here young families with
13 children. We as First Nation people and Inuit. Our
14 education was only -- Grade 12 education was only
15 introduced to us in the '90s.

16 Sure, education's the future. But the majority of
17 the people at my age does not have proper education.
18 But they have experience. Give the local people a
19 chance to put food on their table for their families by
20 giving them jobs without their education. They will
21 prove to you that they can do the same job as high
22 school graduates. With that -- I'll leave it at that.

23 Thank you, Madam Chair.

24 THE CHAIR: First we'll go to Agnico
25 Eagle. I think Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern
26 Affairs Canada monitor -- project monitoring, Kivalliq

1 Inuit Association, Environment and Climate Change
2 Canada.

3 Agnico Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak.

4 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

5 Pujjut Kusugak, Agnico Eagle -- to Agnico Eagle, I
6 mean.

7 (NO ENGLISH FEED) trust is absolutely important,
8 and it's something that we're constantly working on.
9 And you can see here that we're still having to do
10 that. And it has a lot to do with the history of
11 Rankin as well with the history we have of having a
12 nickel mine back in the early '50s where it was not
13 very regulated.

14 And I mentioned before that's why we have areas
15 where we can't have shellfish, set nets, right, in
16 front of town, and we were notified of this around
17 2010, '11, which is still in play. So it's pretty much
18 a restricted area where we're told, Do not have mussels
19 or set nets in that area, which is also an area where
20 our sewage is released.

21 Now, that's why the building trust part is -- is
22 constant work where we're doing as much community
23 engagement as possible but also where these types of
24 meetings are so important for us where we're getting
25 comments and questions, and it helps us identify gaps
26 we have, and it helps us hear the questions and

1 concerns community members have, and then the other
2 part being -- where we're being helped with possible
3 solutions and ideas and suggestions, which is extremely
4 important for us, and it allows us to be able to
5 identify people that we need to talk to who have these
6 suggestions for us.

7 And I just want to answer the question on the
8 hiring practice and the education levels. We have many
9 people from the region that do not have a Grade 12, and
10 I can personally tell of people who do not even
11 probably have a Grade 9 education but are working for
12 Agnico Eagle, and they have been provided jobs which
13 otherwise they may not have anywhere else in town. And
14 because they're working for Agnico, they have been
15 provided training, and now they have a means to sustain
16 themselves, which we are really proud of.

17 Some of these people are family members. Others
18 are my past students when I was a teacher. And I'm
19 sure there's many people in this room right now that
20 know of people that are working which otherwise
21 probably wouldn't be working, and it's through Agnico.

22 I'm going to pass it on to Sophie to answer some
23 of the questions that were brought up and also have
24 Matt Gillman who has some additional information to be
25 able to answer some of the questions. Thank you.

26 THE CHAIR: Sophie Lacourse.

1 MS. LACOURSE: Sophie Lacourse, Agnico Eagle.

2 So to get back on your question on the -- the
3 dust, the dust are not the only thing we're -- we're
4 doing to monitor. We also monitor vegetation along the
5 road and at several station around the mine site which
6 are located within 1 to 2 kilometre around the mine
7 site. An example of one station could be where we
8 stopped during the site visit tour to view the -- the
9 wind farm, the proposed wind farm location. There's
10 one station 500 metres northeast of that location, so
11 that would be an example. And the results from the
12 vegetation sampling showed that it's similar to
13 baseline conditions.

14 And I'll now pass the mic to Matt Gillman for the
15 rest of the answer. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Matt Gillman.

17 MR. GILLMAN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 Matt Gillman, Agnico Eagle. Meliadine Mine environment
19 superintendent.

20 I'll provide the requested data regarding effluent
21 water quality, and we'll talk a little bit about the
22 tailings management and the general water management
23 ponds and such that have been discussed.

24 For the water quality data, I'll talk about the
25 2022 results that are available in the 2022 annual
26 report. But if anybody is interested in looking

1 through the results from the life of the mine in the
2 past, so since discharge began in 2018 all the way to
3 today, those results are also available in the 2022
4 annual report, Appendix 20.

5 I'll start with pH. Bear with me. I would like
6 to provide all of the data and not summarize it.
7 Sampling on July 4th, 2022. PH from the lab, 7.41;
8 very close to neutral pH. July 11th, 7.75; July 18th,
9 7.67; July 25th, 7.17; August 1st, 7.62; August 29th,
10 7.77; September 5th, 7.71; September 12th, 7.77;
11 September 19th, 7.6; and September 24th, 7.65; which is
12 very similar to previous years in that the pH of the
13 waters being discharged from the Meliadine site are
14 very close to neutral pH. To put it in perspective,
15 the regulations allow the pH, ranging from 6, which is
16 slightly acidic, to 9.5 which is on the basic or
17 alkaline side with the Meliadine waters being very
18 close to neutral in the middle.

19 Total suspended solids, for the benefit of those
20 who aren't familiar with water quality, means the --
21 the amount of -- within the water, the amount of
22 particles that remain in solid form. This could be
23 anything from solid, so sand, silt, which are composed
24 of various elements, but it's really the solid
25 component of water.

26 Our water licence and the other regulations allow

1 for an average of 15 milligrams per litre, which means
2 that in every litre of water, there's 15 milligrams of
3 that solid component and up to a maximum of 30 at one
4 time, which is called a "maximum grab concentration",
5 15 and 30 being the limits.

6 I won't read the dates again, but I will read the
7 results in the same order as I provided the dates for
8 that same year. 4 milligrams per litre, 3 milligrams
9 per litre, 3 milligrams per litre, 3, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4.
10 Showing, again, that Meliadine is well below what is
11 authorized and considered safe for fish and fish
12 habitat.

13 Moving onto the tailings. For clarification,
14 there's a filter press system that is used to dewater
15 the tailings. Essentially it is long sheet-like
16 filters that press out the water from the tailings.
17 That water is then recirculated back to the process
18 plant as a means to reduce water usage and allow us to
19 store our tailings in the solid form.

20 We have rigorous monitoring in place for runoff of
21 that water and dust, as we've discussed today. Both of
22 those programs ensure that the runoff and dust remain
23 safe and within predictions. All of that monitoring is
24 done within the Nunavut Water Board regulations and the
25 associated federal and territorial regulations,
26 included in the annual report, and reviewed by all

1 intervenors and interested parties.

2 It's been mentioned a few times that the ponds are
3 not lined. Four of the six ponds on-site are
4 constructed within the bedrock of the permafrost. And
5 I mentioned permafrost because what that does is
6 creates a layer of frozen ground around that bedrock
7 excavation that doesn't allow water seepage. We have
8 thermistors or instruments for monitoring ground
9 temperature in place to ensure that the ground remains
10 frozen and that seepage is not possible. We also have
11 berms installed around the ponds to keep the ground
12 frozen. The remaining two ponds are installed with
13 dams or dikes. Those are frozen core, keyed into the
14 permafrost, and lined with a -- a geomembrane which is
15 a liner that water can't pass through.

16 All six ponds don't allow seepage because of those
17 uses of permafrost liners and bedrock. And it is very
18 important to note that anytime a pond is constructed or
19 proposed, the design report is submitted to the Nunavut
20 Water Board so that the design can be reviewed for
21 potential environmental impacts or concerns not only by
22 the Nunavut Water Board but also by all of their
23 associated regulators or parties of interest. Thank
24 you.

25 THE CHAIR: Kivalliq Inuit Association,
26 Luis Manzo.

1 MR. MANZO: Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit
2 Association.

3 I will list different monitoring programs we have
4 in place, and I will pass it to Dr. McDougall to give
5 you the results.

6 We do collect traditional knowledge, and water
7 quality program called "One Voice". All the elements
8 is being assessed, and interviews at the same time is
9 being -- collect -- through interview, we -- we collect
10 information from the Elders, and we do have also --
11 with the federal government for the specific measures
12 on the regulations -- under the regulations, and we do
13 that together. This is the second monitoring program.
14 Aside of that, to verify the information in water, we
15 do also have fish tissue program and a sediment program
16 to verify the data.

17 So now I will pass it to Dr. McDougall as to the
18 results of the last three years of the program.

19 MR. MCDUGALL: Matt McDougall for the
20 Kivalliq Inuit Association.

21 Yes. So as Luis was mentioning, the KIA, Kivalliq
22 Inuit Association, operates a number of independent
23 research monitoring programs to answer the questions
24 for the communities of the Kivalliq: Is the water safe
25 to drink, and are the fish safe to eat? And so I'd
26 just like to stress that over the past four years I've

1 been running this program starting in Rankin Inlet and
2 Baker Lake and more recently moving to Chesterfield
3 Inlet and Whale Cove, and that in all of these samples,
4 not one of them, including them in Meliadine Lake, have
5 exceeded any Health Canada guidelines for the safety of
6 human consumption. So in general the water is safe to
7 drink, including in Meliadine Lake.

8 As far as changes in chemistry to the lake, our
9 results generally agree with what Agnico Eagle is
10 presenting. We see some differences in the southeast
11 basin adjacent to the mine; however, the larger
12 northern -- northwestern part of the lake is generally
13 unaffected. We do take out Elders as well to do
14 sampling, and while several Elders have expressed that
15 the water quality around the mine and on Meliadine
16 River is not as good as the rest of the water, no
17 Elders have complained about the water in the northeast
18 part of Meliadine Lake.

19 As well, last year we collected lake trout from
20 Peter Lake and from Meliadine -- Meliadine Lake, and
21 there was no indication that any contaminant levels
22 were elevated in Meliadine Lake due to mining
23 activities. Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Crown-Indigenous Relations and
25 Northern Affairs Canada, Spencer Dewar.

26 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Madam Chair. I'm

1 just going to -- Spencer Dewar, Crown-Indigenous
2 Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. I'm just going
3 to sit down. I've written a few notes so I can stay on
4 track.

5 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
6 Canada's role as an intervenor is to provide the best
7 technical expertise that it can to the Nunavut Impact
8 Review Board based on the proposals that are provided
9 by Agnico Eagle.

10 Some areas of our mandate which are -- are a
11 priority are ground and surface water quality and
12 quantity, permafrost, waste and tailings management,
13 and closure and reclamation planning.

14 If the projects are to proceed and the Nunavut
15 Impact Review Board makes a positive recommendation
16 that is accepted by the responsible ministers and
17 approved, we will participate in annual monitoring, and
18 this would be Agnico Eagle providing an annual report
19 which we would review and ensure the data's accuracy
20 for the protection of the environment.

21 And when it comes to water, which is of obvious
22 importance to all involved, there's a process that
23 follows this with the Nunavut Water Board. The role
24 is to licence water use and the deposition of waste
25 into water. And, similarly, if a water licence is
26 issued for this project, we will review the water use

1 annual report that's produced by Agnico Eagle.

2 In addition, Crown-Indigenous Relations and
3 Northern Affairs Canada inspects both the Nunavut
4 Impact Review Board project certificate and the Nunavut
5 water licence to ensure compliance.

6 And, in addition, outside of either of the
7 licences, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern
8 Affairs Canada has a memorandum of understanding with
9 the Kivalliq Inuit Association which undertakes water
10 quality monitoring in the broader watershed across the
11 Kivalliq, but we do have sites -- monitoring sampling
12 sites on Meliadine Lake, and we do that annually in the
13 spring and in the fall. That's it. Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: After the lunch break, we'll
15 go to Environment and Climate Change Canada. We'll
16 reconvene at 1:15.

17 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 1:15 PM)

18 (PROCEEDINGS RECOMMENCED AT 1:16 PM)

19 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everyone. If
20 you can please take your seats, and we'll continue.

21 Just so everybody understands how the rest of the
22 session is going to go, we're going to continue with
23 questions from community representatives. The Board
24 will also have questions, and there are members of the
25 public from Rankin Inlet who have questions, so please
26 keep your questions and comments to the point.

1 Response from Environment and Climate Change
2 Canada to the questions that were asked this morning,
3 Victoria Shore.

4 MS. SHORE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
5 Victoria Shore, Environment and Climate Change Canada.

6 So there's a couple of different ways that
7 Environment and Climate Change Canada monitors the
8 Meliadine project. Every year we review the Meliadine
9 project's annual monitoring reports submitted to the
10 Nunavut Impact Review Board and the Nunavut Water
11 Board, and we provide comments on the monitoring
12 programs and results within our mandate.

13 Environment and Climate Change Canada also
14 administers the metal and diamond mining effluent
15 regulations, which require effluent testing,
16 monitoring, and reporting. And so our mining and
17 processing division reviews reports submitted under
18 those regulations to verify compliance.

19 Environment and Climate Change Canada's
20 enforcement branch also conducts on-site inspections to
21 verify compliance under the various legislations which
22 are under Environment and Climate Change Canada's
23 mandate.

24 The results of these inspections and any
25 noncompliances are noted in the department's comments
26 on the annual monitoring reports that are submitted to

1 the Nunavut Impact Review Board, which end up being
2 publicly available on their registry. For example,
3 most recently we provided these comments for the 2022
4 annual monitoring report, and no compliance issues were
5 noted for the year.

6 Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Martin Pacquette.

8 Questions by Fond Du Lac First Nation (Roundtable)

9 MR. PACQUETTE: My name is Martin Pacquette,
10 Fond du Lac First Nation. I'm really happy to meet
11 you, all of yous here. We came here together for --
12 last about -- almost ten days, and I seen a lot of good
13 people here, and we don't -- we all have a different
14 language, but we really know each other well, and all
15 that chairperson, all the board members, all the other
16 people from government, and I will say thank you. I'll
17 do it with my own language.

18 Thank you, my relations. Here -- we came here --
19 we are thankful for coming here and know a lot of
20 information within the last -- from the last past week
21 is really good.

22 What we don't know about, we know about now, and
23 on our land and around this area, it's a different --
24 it's a different area. The conversation about the
25 caribou is very important. It's not the first time we
26 talk about this. It's talked about from a long time

1 and how it migrates and how you hunt it.

2 And us, as trappers, we travel onto the wilderness
3 for a very big vast area, and we know the land and how
4 the animals migrate, how you hunt it, and we all
5 memorize it and know.

6 I've been a trapper from a long time. I've lived
7 in the wilderness on -- in the wilderness and on
8 tundra. And when we came here, we have went on a tour.
9 I seen a fox, and I cried a bit. I had tears. (DENE
10 SPOKEN - NO ENGLISH TRANSLATION). I haven't -- and
11 that is the animal that I harvest for on the tundra
12 area. You have memories on how -- how -- on the
13 caribou, and there's a lot of caribou that are
14 declining for us, and the caribou that's coming up from
15 the north, the Bathurst caribou, they stopped coming to
16 our area. The last time was in -- 1990 was the last
17 time that was coming from this area.

18 And the Beverly are like that too. They used to
19 come towards us. The last time that was in the 1980s.
20 That was the last time we seen them in our area.

21 And now the caribou that we use now is -- the
22 caribou that you use now, it comes to us once a year,
23 and with that, that is our food for our kids, for our
24 grandkids, and for the survival, and -- until this day.
25 We have to be -- we have to watch out for them. We're
26 being careful. The caribou is a big topic. It's a

1 really big topic.

2 Back in the day, my late grandfather told me when
3 I was a kid, when I used to travel with him during the
4 fall, whenever we would go into our lodges, there --
5 there were trails where -- where they -- where he said,
6 My grand -- my son, don't make your trail where the
7 caribou -- where the caribou trail is, don't go to your
8 trail there because you can lose your -- because you
9 can lose your culture, and you can lose the memory.

10 So whenever the trail is -- like, I listened to it
11 now. I never did that. Whenever the -- when the last
12 time the caribou herd was around, it was in the 1960s
13 when it was on our lake. That was in the 1970s, and
14 that was the Beverly Herd that came. There was a
15 lot -- there was lots of them that arrive in the fall.
16 When the caribou are on -- and land -- back in the May
17 they come back. There used to be big bulls. Their
18 horns were big, and that was past. Now you talk in
19 regards to the man in a way it is good, and in another
20 way it will damage a lot of our things. A lot of
21 things will stop for us.

22 Like, for example, the power line, it's all been
23 spoken about for the people that experience it, and on
24 our land and around the mines, they're in our area.
25 There is a lot of mines that are abandoned now, and
26 just recently they're starting to clean up where the

1 mines were, how that environmental -- environmental at
2 the time. Now the mines are done, and people just left
3 there.

4 The Gunnar Mine back in the '50s, and that was
5 a -- that was a gold mine. That mine was a big mine
6 that is abandoned now, and from that that damage our
7 water. Our water -- that water is coming towards us
8 now, and in the '70s, and '80s, there were commercial
9 fishing on our lake, and when -- and where the fish
10 plant was in the mining area, there was a lot of people
11 who were lucky, and that was around 20 years ago.

12 And not just recently that CanAlaska -- CanAlaska
13 were looking for uranium mine, and I work with them.
14 That was in '98, and when we came onto shore there and
15 looked at it, their radiation was an extreme level, and
16 then I told them a story that -- at that time, and he
17 said, Has anybody gotten sick from his people? And I
18 said, No. Then you were lucky people. How the mud
19 that you work on, nobody was supposed to come onto
20 land -- on this land here because it's so high in
21 radiation.

22 There's a big -- or Lake Athabasca, 250 miles
23 long, and the mine that they are talking about now
24 that -- where the -- in the Wollaston area, there are
25 mines there too, and that water goes to our water too.
26 Fort Chip -- and around Fort Chip area as well, the tar

1 sands, the oil. And how many -- how long there was a
2 mine there? So all the junk from the mines there went
3 into our lake, and there are two rivers that are
4 connected to that lake too. That is Peace River and
5 White Water.

6 THE CHAIR: The interpreter is unable to
7 keep up. If you can slow down.

8 MR. PACQUETTE: Okay. What I'm talking about,
9 that the water that comes to us, the water has been
10 damaged, is contaminated, and the river and the
11 Peace -- the river from the -- the Peace River, there
12 is 30 or 40 years ago that comes to our lake. You
13 could see -- you could see from a far distance that
14 that water leaks into our lake, and just recently --
15 and now the water is just black, and it looks like
16 coffee because of that river that has been
17 contaminated, and that was a while ago back in the day
18 that we had fresh water from there.

19 And even though in 20 feet you could see -- you
20 could see -- whatever was on the bottom of the lake,
21 you could just see clearly. Now you cannot see
22 anything. You cannot see the bottom.

23 The rocks that used to be there, you cannot see
24 them anymore, and that was how big of a damage that has
25 caused. The Gunnar Mine that I am talking about where
26 the -- where the rock was removed from the bottom of

1 the lake, and when the mine was closed and they blasted
2 out the bottom, that's where they made the water come
3 back. And until this far that -- the frogs that they
4 had removed, and that has damaged our land.

5 The caribou is out of esker, and that makes it
6 difficult for us. And that's caused by forest fire in
7 Saskatchewan area, Northwest Territories. And the
8 let-it-burn policy that they came up with, of course,
9 until this day that gives us hardship.

10 Caribou -- if the caribou has declined so many in
11 numbers from us, we live on a rocky land, and the land
12 that doesn't grow right away. It doesn't grow back
13 right away. So if 50 years ago that the land has
14 burned, that is the esker starting to grow back again,
15 but then, again, it burnt again.

16 And what we think is that that let-it-burn policy
17 they came up with, the white people, the Government, it
18 is -- it is them, that we blame them that they came up
19 with this let-it-burn policy. They let the land burn.
20 They look for further exploration, and that is how we
21 know -- we know how they are now.

22 Back in the day, out of one day if you make -- if
23 you work 18 hours, we made around \$3. Even the fire
24 was big, we still help each other to fight the fire.
25 We used to light it out -- burn it out, but now it's
26 not like that.

1 The animals that are around, they all -- they have
2 good food there. The caribou, even the esker now -- it
3 is called "esker". We don't have that in our area now,
4 and that is the caribou food. That's what the Elders
5 used to say.

6 And also another thing, the collar they are
7 talking about, that is also -- it is -- is it a
8 positive thing? You can see how the Government put it
9 on; it is good for the Government. They sit looking at
10 a computer where the caribou migrates to, but the
11 caribou, if it's on the caribou for too long, it is not
12 good for the caribou. I have seen with my eyes the
13 caribou that has collar there. They look pitiful. I
14 have seen them. They are unhealthy, and I have shot a
15 few of them because I know they are suffering.

16 You could see that the collar is causing the hide
17 from coming off, and you can see the red skin from it.
18 And it's -- they also have that on the wolves too, and
19 I have killed some wolves that has collar that -- and
20 they are the same. The wolf are not fast and they're
21 skinny, and it's for shedding. It does not look good.

22 How long -- how long -- how long the collar is on
23 and how far it travels in the wilderness, it is
24 uncomfortable, and I think that is how it is like that
25 for them. And we don't know when -- when they're
26 picking up the collars off the animal.

1 And the caribou, that how they migrate, I have
2 experience from that. During the falltime whenever the
3 lake freezes, I go up to the Northwest Territories. I
4 phone the Government. I ask about the collars, and
5 I -- they fax the information to me, where the caribou
6 are migrating to and where it's coming from, so I go --
7 I head out to that direction to set my traps. And when
8 I came back there, the caribou was not migrating far,
9 so I start harvesting for it.

10 I came upon them where they are, and there was
11 only four caribou. One had a collar. It wasn't much
12 caribou -- it was only four -- and I thought right away
13 the caribou was not healthy, so I killed -- I killed
14 one with a collar, and I killed the other three. That
15 is how -- that is how I know the caribou -- the caribou
16 is sick. It is skinny, and the skin is soft. The
17 collar is raw. The neck area where the collar is is
18 raw, and the skin is not good. So the caribou, it was
19 not healthy. That is why I killed them.

20 I picked up the collar and took it home, and
21 then -- and then I phoned the conservation in the
22 Territories where they had sent me papers from, so I
23 had phoned them back, and I told them -- he told me
24 where the caribou are. That's where I went hunting,
25 and now how long has time is it -- and how long has the
26 time passed, the collar is in the shed in my house.

1 And he said, I will look at it again, and then I'll
2 phone you back, he said, and then he did.

3 And the caribou -- the caribou that I'm talking
4 about, it's not far from fauna, like he told me, and I
5 told them the -- sure, the collar -- the collar is
6 not -- the caribou is not far from home because the
7 collar is at my house. And, for that reason, the
8 caribou are in -- not in healthy condition.

9 And I thank you that I came here and visit the
10 relatives here and for inviting us to this community,
11 and from now on -- and whatever that you can do or we
12 can do, we have to work together and continue that.
13 We'll have a strong voice together.

14 As to -- in some reasons -- for some reason some
15 things are difficult for us in our community, and it's
16 not just that, the outfitters as well. It's the same
17 for them. It is same -- it is same -- goes for the
18 same for them. The Northwest Territories have their
19 outfitters in the Territories. We do not benefit from
20 them. They take our water where the lakes have good
21 fishes, and you could see there's a boat on each lake
22 in the Territories area, and that is -- as far as I
23 know, that's Rennie Lake, Damont Lake, their outpost
24 like that just around the shores on those big lakes.
25 There's a lot of boats there. And on our -- and our
26 land, they don't give jobs to our people in our -- from

1 our communities. And, for that reason, there are lots
2 of things that are -- that are hard on us.

3 And for those that know regarding the mines, the
4 one they're talking -- and they are the people that
5 work at the mines for a long period of time, how the
6 work -- how they work the mine.

7 And the mines that -- there's a lot of people that
8 benefit from the mines that were there then. Now there
9 are a lot of mines -- there are a lot of mines that are
10 closing down, and there's a lot of people have been
11 laid off from our community.

12 And as for that -- when the time comes when they
13 are done, they will leave us. Our land -- after they
14 damage our land and after they would clean up their --
15 their messes, but what -- but the contamination will
16 still be there, so that is why the people that have
17 experience -- had experienced that, they are talking
18 about it now. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Peter Gazandlare.

20 Questions by Hatchet Lake First Nation (Roundtable)

21 MR. GAZANDLARE: Good afternoon. Thank you,
22 Chair. Thank you to the Elder for the opening prayer
23 this morning.

24 I would like to thank the NIRB board and also to
25 the community of Rankin for welcoming us as well as a
26 lot of the Inuit people that are here welcoming us.

1 And this is a big issue when we talk about caribou.
2 You know, like, there is a need for more protective
3 measures that we need to take. It's not -- we can't
4 really wait till what's going to happen. We can't wait
5 until it's too late. We need to start now. We need to
6 act now. See what we can do to protect the future of
7 the herd.

8 I've been here since Monday. I've been listening
9 to everybody around the table. Everybody have the
10 similar thoughts on caribou and also water, the
11 importance of this, how important it is for us and our
12 future generations to come.

13 And it's not in my -- it's not in me to actually
14 say no to the extension and all that. I know the Inuit
15 are actually benefitting from this, which is good for
16 them, but the only problem I have is the location of
17 the wind farm.

18 I was here back in June. We went to Raglan Mine.
19 I seen what I seen. I heard what I heard. For me,
20 it's just too close to the calving grounds. There is a
21 lot of spots out on the coastlines that we can actually
22 look at. It's just that when I look at it, it's too
23 close to the inland where the calving grounds are
24 happening. I was here during that time when they had
25 lots of young little calves following their moms, very
26 vulnerable because they didn't have their footings

1 under them. Now, it was something to see, for me
2 anyway, but to see something like that and then when
3 you look at the proposal of 11 and a bigger scale of
4 what we saw, it's troubling for me.

5 I have to think about my people's future, and as
6 well as a lot of people around this table, I'm sure
7 they have families to go back home to. We need to
8 think about that.

9 When we look at this, back in the day we had herds
10 to actually go through. Now we're down to one, is what
11 I understand. We need to take measures, protection
12 measures, in order to make sure that -- the survival of
13 the Qamanirjuaq herd.

14 With that, thank you, Madam Chair.

15 THE CHAIR: Elizabeth Denechezhe.

16 MS. DENECHÉZHE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

17 Elizabeth Denechezhe from Hatchet Lake band.

18 First of all, I want to say condolence to the
19 family that lost their family members, and thanks to
20 the Elders who had that opening prayer, especially
21 Elders that are here supporting us and listening to us.
22 I know they are tired, but they're still here. That's
23 just to show you how committed we are.

24 And I also want to thank Nunavut Review Impact
25 Board -- to invite us -- and their staff. And also
26 thank you to Rankin Inlet that hosts us and all to the

1 presenters, intervenors, translators. Also to Agnico
2 to invite us to the Meliadine Gold Mine tour.

3 I also want to thank the technical staff that
4 asked a lot of questions and clarity to a lot of
5 questions and answers on behalf of us.

6 I speak fluent Dene as well. I am a land user,
7 and my children, my grandchildren, and my great
8 grandchildren, we still live off the land. I love the
9 water, the land, and the wildlife. I also respect the
10 land and the people and the caribou. I too was raised
11 on the land. I have quite a bit of knowledge as well.
12 I worked at the mine site as a site Elder for four
13 years. I am just going to make some comments on what I
14 have heard in the last seven days that I was here. I
15 listened very carefully because I was taught to listen
16 and walk my talk.

17 To me, with the extension of proposal that were
18 proposed to us with the wind farm as where it is, it
19 does trouble me, and there still needs to be more
20 study, in my knowledge. Until we see it, we wouldn't
21 know it because we're more of a visible -- visual
22 people. We have to see it for ourself to believe it.

23 As well, I also listened to a lot of presentation.
24 A lot of western knowledge, scientific research,
25 engineering, all the scientific that needs to be heard
26 has been heard in the last week.

1 What about our traditional knowledge, wisdom, and
2 experience? Many of you that are in here might not
3 have the education, but we have a lot of traditional
4 knowledge and experience and the wisdom that we carry
5 with us and the experience and the work that you've
6 done all the years that you have lived your life on the
7 land. To me, that is also very important to
8 acknowledge our experience and traditional knowledge as
9 much as they rely on the scientific research.

10 I listened to Canadian Government doing their
11 presentation. They support Agnico saying that they met
12 all the requirements with no noncompliance. Agnico
13 used a lot of assumption and assume word that hasn't
14 been questioned.

15 Canada support everything that had been presented
16 by the industry. The only -- the Government of
17 Nunavut, Stephen Atkinson, did a presentation on the
18 caribou animation, which proved that the caribou has
19 been shift due to the collar that they have, which
20 means that it's also impact, but it is very -- too
21 premature for us to determine right now.

22 I also look at both sides myself because I look at
23 it as traditional and the modern way of life because I
24 also represent my community for the benefits from the
25 industry. I look forward for the collaboration, how
26 people can work together.

1 I'm not -- I'm sorry if I pronounce your name
2 right [sic]. Pujjut and David had put in a lot of
3 work -- because I was once there -- with the Meliadine
4 Gold Mine, what they have here. I hope in the future
5 that you have a better life in your community and for
6 Inuit people, and I hope they give you a job that is
7 not a labour work because industry intend to do that a
8 lot. We need to advance. They also need to put into
9 the community investment, how it can better your life.

10 Also, we all face the social issue, and we face
11 every day, and they can support some programs. I hope
12 they support your program, support your culture, your
13 language, your traditional knowledge, because that's
14 what they're looking for, and that's what they depend
15 on, giving you more career opportunities. Our people
16 needs to be advanced, and I hope that is also their
17 target.

18 Also pursue the education for our children, our
19 great grandchildren to have a better life. That's why
20 I come into two parts. Today, the cost of living
21 overwhelms ourself. We live in poverty while we make
22 other people richer. That has to stop. We too have to
23 advance. Our children need a better life, a modern way
24 of life and traditional way of life. I hang on to both
25 to understand where our people can succeed.

26 And especially they were talking about the country

1 food. We can't just live off store-bought stuff. It
2 is too expensive.

3 Where you're living here, I went up on a tour. I
4 had tears in my eye because you have a very beautiful
5 tundra where it hasn't -- it's been disturbed, but they
6 told us that there will be a little footprint for them.

7 I'm not saying -- I'm not here to say don't
8 support it or support it. There's a -- pros and cons
9 to both of them, but I want the better life for our
10 people, to have a better future for our children.

11 We all know there are children -- some of our
12 children are not going to go back to the way of
13 traditional life. They want to succeed in life and
14 have a good life, a healthy lifestyle, not to choose
15 alcohol and drugs. We today, as a grandmother,
16 grandparents, we suffer with alcohol and drugs in our
17 community. Industry also needs to address those in our
18 community too.

19 I seen the arena here, the beautiful arena that
20 says Agnico Eagle, but where is your Inuit name on that
21 arena? You have to acknowledge the things that they do
22 for you in your community. It's teamwork, not just
23 them. So I look at it from different perspective.

24 I acknowledge Pujjut and David, and I know they
25 speak well for your community and the needs of the
26 community and for the young people.

1 In the future, all of us that are sitting here are
2 talking about the young generation. Where is our young
3 people today in this hall? We need to bring them. We
4 need to encourage them. We need to educate them. They
5 need us more than they need -- they need us more than
6 we need them because we have to guide them. We are the
7 teachers.

8 In the future, we should involve the young people.
9 Come and listen to what we have to say, because if they
10 don't hear us, there's so many knowledge, wisdom,
11 experience that our ancestor had take them to another
12 spirit world that they need to pass it on to us. We
13 need to educate our family.

14 And also that is one of my recommendation is to
15 have the representation on your terrestrial group, to
16 have Athabasca representative, for us to contribute and
17 work together. Again, I can only speak about
18 collaboration.

19 One of the things that I want to say -- because I
20 speak my mind -- this is a very special gathering.
21 Agnico should sponsor a community supper. We've been
22 here for almost ten days. Invite the young people to
23 do the supper one night because food makes people
24 happy. You all know that. Food makes people happy.
25 If we have caribou meat, we're happy. Any food -- any
26 country food makes people happy.

1 I am very honoured to be here, but, again, it is
2 not my choice to tell you what to do or what not to do.
3 But in the near future, please involve the young
4 people. We're advocating for them, but tomorrow
5 they're our future. They need to speak for us. They
6 need to take care of us as much as we did.

7 Today our young people forgets about how to take
8 care of their families. We also need to teach our kids
9 because we speak for them. None of us in here are
10 talking about the industry. We're talking about the
11 future of our children, how it's going to impact them
12 in the near future or have a better life. There's two
13 points to everything. There is pros and cons. We all
14 make mistake, and we all learn.

15 I live only 45 kilometres away from the care and
16 maintenance mine, and I've been involved with a lot of
17 industry myself. I speak for our people to have --
18 today I speak for a better way of life for the Dene
19 people, Inuit people, all the aboriginal people for us
20 to succeed, to have a better life. Nothing is going to
21 change the way we think. We're a very stubborn people
22 as indigenous people. You all know that. We all know
23 what we have in our heart.

24 As a mother, as a grandmother, I do care for
25 caribou. I love the land, but I also look at what's in
26 for our future as much as David and Pujjut do for their

1 community. I know they speak well. I don't think they
2 have in mind to contaminate our water or all the things
3 that we had discussed. There is -- there is going to
4 be an accident one of these days. We experienced that.
5 We have a lot of accident, noncompliance in our -- in
6 our mine, but we worked it out that it doesn't impact
7 our people. We live with it for over 40 years, now
8 almost 50 years that mining is happening in our
9 community, but today we look at it as -- at Hatchet
10 Lake we look at it economic-wise.

11 Again, I am very honoured to be here, that I was
12 invited. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to
13 inviting us on your land, and there's a lot of Elders
14 here and -- a lot here, and there's not much Elders in
15 our community. There's only about four. So respect
16 your Elders, and however the advice they give us -- so
17 best of all, we take it. I'm thankful to be here.
18 Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Eva Elytook.

20 THE INTERPRETER: I can't hear.

21 MS. ELYTOOK: (NO ENGLISH FEED) the Agnico
22 Eagle wants to build a wind farm. Have you ever spoken
23 to other companies or -- about other mining companies
24 that have used wind farms, and has it benefited to
25 their mine site? And is it -- is it -- has it advanced
26 mining? So I'm going to -- I have another question, so

1 I'd like an answer first from Agnico Eagle.

2 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak.

3 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

4 And thank you for asking that question. I'm
5 going -- we're going to just -- we'll be right back
6 with an answer, so we're going to confer.

7 THE CHAIR: Eva Elytook.

8 Questions by Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers
9 Association (Roundtable)

10 MS. ELYTOOK: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm
11 Eva Elytook from Baker lake representing the hunters
12 and trappers association.

13 If your project proposal is approved to run a
14 windmill or a wind farm, I would like -- I myself
15 wouldn't mind having that kind of technology or type of
16 energy, alternative energy, because using fuel is very
17 expensive to heat up our cabins, and the cost of fuel
18 is going up.

19 I don't know whether or not this new type of
20 innovation or advancement is going to help, and we
21 don't know if it's going to be of benefit to the
22 communities or to individuals, and maybe the -- maybe
23 the company, once they -- if they are approved for the
24 project, to see whether or not it's of benefit to the
25 mining company, if this new type of innovation is
26 advancing or beneficial to your company.

1 Winter is coming, and for those of us that live in
2 public housing, we're going to be going to -- going to
3 be on hardships again, hard times because the cost of
4 fuel is so high.

5 For those that are in public housing, it's -- I'm
6 pleased that they don't have to pay for their fuel, but
7 for homeownership -- people with homeownership, I feel
8 for them because the cost of fuel is so high. Will you
9 let the communities know whether or not the wind farm
10 is of benefit to your company?

11 Thank you, Elizabeth, David, and Pujjut for --
12 we're very proud of them for working for Agnico Eagle
13 because we have to be -- they're our people. So be
14 welcoming like them. Once we're in heaven, it's -- God
15 is the ultimate judge that's going to take us in or
16 maybe not, so we have to always welcome our visitors
17 from out of our territory because welcoming people
18 is -- is what we do, and we don't want negative
19 comments. It's of no use.

20 Thank you, Madam Chair.

21 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak.

22 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

23 Pujjut Kusugak, for Agnico Eagle.

24 The wind farm we're looking at it as a company.
25 It's not going to -- it's going to -- there's going to
26 be a contractor that's going to be erecting the wind

1 farm, so it's going to benefit one of the private
2 companies, because in the Kitikmeot region at Hope Bay,
3 we have already -- we are also going to have a wind
4 farm at -- so we're going to be purchasing the wind
5 farm, so that's what we're thinking.

6 So we don't know which company is going to win the
7 contract, but if our project proposal is approved,
8 that's what we're planning to do. And we still have to
9 find out where we're going to erect the wind farms, so
10 we're just waiting for an approval.

11 So I'm going to get my co-workers here to answer
12 some of your questions. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Sophie Lacourse.

14 MS. LACOURSE: Sophie Lacourse, Agnico Eagle.

15 So to get back to your question on if we've spoken
16 with other mining companies to see if it was
17 beneficial, so in discussion with the Raglan Mine site,
18 the only reason why they have installed the turbines is
19 really for climate change. It is not really economical
20 for them to have the turbines, so it's really to lower
21 their emissions.

22 You asked a question on fuel. So for Raglan, they
23 have two turbines, and that approximately saved them
24 2 million litres of fuel per year.

25 Now, if we're going to take an example based on
26 what would be installed at Meliadine, so if we talk

1 about three wind turbines, that would reduce 23 percent
2 of the power plant diesel consumption, which equals to
3 10 million litres of fuel per year.

4 If we were going to do the same exercise with five
5 wind turbines, that would mean 37 percent of reduction
6 of the power plant for a total of 15 million litres per
7 year. Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Can you explain, like,
9 10 million litres and 15 million litres in terms of
10 the -- like, the tank farms, local tank farms, how big
11 that is? That might be a better reference. Like, the
12 big white fuel -- yeah. Agnico Eagle.

13 MS. LACOURSE: Sophie Lacourse, Agnico Eagle.

14 So while we're trying to get that answer, maybe
15 just to have a bit more context in regards to
16 Rankin Inlet. One wind turbine, the same model that
17 we're proposing to install at Meliadine, could power
18 the entire town during the wintertime, but we'll get
19 the answer. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Pujjut Kusugak.

21 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

22 Pujjut Kusugak, Agnico Eagle.

23 I was told at Itivia, the farm, the fuel farm, the
24 big tank farms over there is 13 million -- equals
25 13 million litres, and the larger ones hold 20 million
26 litres. So 15 million would be in the middle.

1 In Baker Lake, I don't really know what the size
2 of those tank farms -- how big they are or how much
3 they hold, so we don't know -- I don't know for sure.
4 But the ones here at Itivia, there's -- the tank farm,
5 one of them holds 13 million litres, and the other one
6 holds 20 million litres.

7 THE CHAIR: Eva Elytook.

8 MS. ELYTOOK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

9 And thank you, Agnico Eagle, for clarifying that
10 for me and answering my questions. I think it would
11 save a lot of money for the Government of Nunavut to
12 use less fuel as well. There's going -- there's going
13 to be a decision made in regards to whether or not this
14 approval is going to be -- is going to go ahead or --
15 but I'm in favour of seeing the windmill or wind farm
16 being built.

17 Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 THE CHAIR: Questions from the Board
19 before we go to community members in the back. Guy
20 Alikut.

21 Questions by Nunavut Impact Review Board Panel
22 (Roundtable)

23 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you, Madam Chair. Guy
24 Alikut, NIRB board member.

25 First of all, thank you to our visitors from the
26 provinces. Thank you very much for giving us different

1 ideas, and your stories and your comments were of use
2 for myself.

3 We had told -- I think I was speaking to Harry. I
4 think I heard Harry Aggark saying that the caribou
5 aren't going into -- the Qamanirjuaq caribou herd
6 aren't going into their community of Chesterfield
7 Inlet. I thought this was new information, but it was
8 firsthand -- it was the firsthand comment that he made,
9 so I want to get some more clarity from Harry.

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Harry Aggark.

12 MR. AGGARK: Thank you, Madam Chair. Harry
13 Aggark, hunters and trappers organization from
14 Chesterfield Inlet.

15 Guy's question, I will try to answer it as best as
16 I can. Yes. Back -- we hadn't really seen a large
17 herd come in our community in the springtime and during
18 the summer. So for two years we have seen the herds
19 come in by the thousands, and they're coming in towards
20 our higher buildings or larger buildings.

21 So once they start to go back, they don't all --
22 all come at once. Some of them don't come through our
23 community at all. When they migrate, they migrated to
24 our community this year and last year.

25 Thank you, Madam Chair.

26 THE CHAIR: NIRB board, Guy Alikut.

1 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you, Madam Chair. Guy
2 Alikut, Nunavut Impact Review Board board member.

3 Thank you for your answer. Now I understand.

4 Madam Chair, I have a question -- I had a
5 question, but I already got an answer, so it's more
6 clear now about -- I understand better now as to how
7 many litres of fuel would be saved by using the wind
8 farm.

9 So I want to get a little bit more clarity, if I
10 can, from Agnico Eagle as to exactly -- about how
11 many -- how much would be saved. How much fuel would
12 be saved? Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

14 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.
15 Pujjut Kusugak, Agnico Eagle.

16 Thank you, Guy, for that question, and I'm going
17 to add a little bit more information so you can get
18 some clarity. Each year the -- there's a community
19 fuel resupply, and then the resupply -- our ships come
20 in and haul fuel to the community of Rankin, and then
21 they're transported up to our mine site.

22 So it would save our transport trucks -- once or
23 twice the trips would be -- would be less each day
24 because they haul fuel each and every day up to our
25 mine site. So they are -- they would use less fuel --
26 they would use less transport for fuel trucks to go

1 back and forth to haul the fuel, about three times
2 less. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: NIRB board, Guy Alikut.

4 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you, Madam Chair.

5 Yes. Thank you for that clarification. Thank
6 you. That's all the questions that I have.

7 THE CHAIR: NIRB board, Catherine Emrick.

8 MS. EMRICK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

9 Catherine Emrick, Nunavut Impact Review Board board
10 member.

11 I have a question, sort of a two-part question, I
12 guess, for Agnico Eagle. Recognizing the questions and
13 concerns that have been presented by the parties during
14 these proceedings, can the proponent describe the
15 relationship of the wind farm to the feasibility of the
16 other proposed components of the mine extension?
17 Specifically, is the proposed extension considered
18 feasible without the construction of the wind farm?

19 And the second part to my question: If the wind
20 farm was to be constructed and either did not operate
21 as efficiently as predicted or was required to be shut
22 down more frequently than predicted owing to required
23 wildlife mitigation, how might this affect the
24 feasibility of the other proposed works and activities
25 associated with this proposal? Thank you.

26 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak.

1 Manon Turmel.

2 MS. TURMEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Manon
3 Turmel, Agnico Eagle.

4 Thank you for your question. The extension
5 activities are not linked to the wind farm activities,
6 and so the extension activities can continue with the
7 generators that we have on-site right now using diesel.
8 So they're kind of separate applications or activities.
9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: NIRB board, Catherine Emrick.

11 MS. EMRICK: Thank you, Madam Chair, and
12 thank you for that response.

13 So that was very clear to the first part of my
14 question. On the second part of my question, really,
15 it is around the ability for Agnico Eagle to manage
16 shutdowns related to wildlife mitigation and would
17 sufficient backup be in place should the wind farm have
18 to be shut down more than Agnico Eagle would have
19 planned or expected?

20 Thank you, Madam Chair.

21 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Manon Turmel.

22 MS. TURMEL: Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle.

23 Yes. We currently have enough generators to power
24 the mine without the turbines. We have added
25 additional fuel tanks as part of our application at the
26 different deposits. If the turbines are in place, we

1 might not need them all, but we are -- we are secured.

2 We're good to continue operating, yeah. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: NIRB board, Catherine Emrick.

4 MS. EMRICK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

5 Catherine Emrick, Nunavut Impact Review Board board
6 member.

7 Thank you very much for those responses. That's
8 all I have.

9 THE CHAIR: I just have some questions,
10 and if you're unable to provide a detailed response,
11 you know, just say so.

12 Questions by Nunavut Impact Review Board Chair
13 (Roundtable)

14 THE CHAIR: For Environment Canada and
15 Natural Resources Canada, we've heard concerns around
16 the water quality in Meliadine Lake and the difference
17 on the north end and south end. Based on the knowledge
18 of your department, are you aware if there are any
19 permafrost studies or nutrient-loading studies done in
20 the area to understand if there might be other
21 potential sources, or is it well understood that it's
22 from the discharge into Meliadine Lake that's currently
23 going on?

24 Environment and Climate Change Canada, Victoria
25 Shore.

26 MS. SHORE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 Victoria Shore, Environment and Climate Change Canada.

2 Our water quality analyst is on the line and may
3 be able to answer that question. She wasn't earlier
4 affirmed. I don't know if that would be necessary.

5 THE CHAIR: What's her name?

6 MS. SHORE: Sarah Forte.

7 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

8 Procedural Matters by Nunavut Impact Review Board Legal
9 Counsel (Roundtable)

10 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

11 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
12 Review Board.

13 So if I can have Ms. Forte state and spell her
14 name for the record, please. Ms. Forte, we can't hear
15 you on the -- can you please unmute your line.

16 MS. FORTE: Hello? Can you hear me now?

17 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you. Yes, we can hear
18 you now.

19 If you can please state and spell your name for
20 the record.

21 MS. FORTE: My name is Sarah, S-A-R-A-H,
22 Forte, F-O-R-T-E.

23 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you. Teresa Meadows,
24 legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

25 SARAH FORTE, Affirmed

26 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you. Teresa Meadows,

1 legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

2 Thank you, Madam Chair. Those are my procedural
3 matters.

4 THE CHAIR: Sarah Forte, you may proceed.

5 MS. FORTE: Thank you.

6 So to answer the question that I understood, which
7 is if we are aware of studies in the immediate area
8 around Meliadine Lake of permafrost degradation
9 contributing to nutrient enrichment in the lake, the
10 answer is, no, I'm not aware of any such studies.
11 There have been studies done in other areas of the
12 arctic, but not immediately around Meliadine.
13 Hopefully that answers the question. If not, I can
14 provide more information.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you for that response.
16 I think -- does Natural Resource Canada have an
17 alternative response? Peter Unger.

18 MR. UNGER: Peter Unger, Natural Resources
19 Canada.

20 We get our knowledge from our scientists at the
21 Geological Survey of Canada. They have scientists
22 knowledgeable in groundwater and permafrost. For
23 groundwater, they look exclusively at groundwater
24 movement and groundwater flows, so they don't look at
25 the quality at all, so that would be a "no" for
26 groundwater.

1 For permafrost I am reasonably certain that we do
2 not have studies around Meliadine Lake, but I have sent
3 a message to our permafrost scientists to confirm. So
4 I can confirm that certainly a little bit later, but
5 I'm fairly confident that we do not know of permafrost
6 studies around Meliadine Lake beyond those supplied by
7 the proponent. Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: I was going to ask David
9 Owingayak and Percy Kabloona a question, but I think
10 David Owingayak is out of the room. Okay. I'll wait
11 until he comes back.

12 For the Government of Nunavut, we've heard
13 that from different communities -- from Baker Lake that
14 the caribou haven't reached the south side of the shore
15 from the Qamanirjuaq herd, and they're seeing them near
16 Chesterfield Inlet and that they haven't gone as far
17 south around the Dene communities.

18 The -- well, everyone probably remembers in 2021
19 there was a late snowfall, almost no snow, and some of
20 the lakes didn't freeze over completely that normally
21 would freeze over. Has there been any study to
22 understand if the change in snow cover or lake
23 freeze-up is causing caribou to travel more on the
24 tundra and use -- travel less on the ice to cut across
25 lakes or slowing down their migration or that might
26 otherwise change their route?

1 Government of Nunavut, Daniel Haney.

2 MR. HANEY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

3 Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut.

4 To my knowledge, there aren't any such studies,
5 but in order to get a fulsome answer, I would like to
6 defer, and I will confer with our biologist on that.
7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Similar to my question to the
9 Government of Nunavut, from what I answer -- first
10 Kabloona had said that he travelled throughout the
11 winter, and David Owingayak, who is a hunter -- is a
12 skilled hunter, so he had said that he had travelled.
13 I want to understand. From your knowledge about
14 caribou, we had heard that the Qamanirjuaq caribou herd
15 have not come in closer to Baker Lake but are migrating
16 closer to -- to Chesterfield Inlet. The caribou herd
17 have been seen more on the shores -- or shoreline. In
18 2021 we recall that there was not much snow cover, and
19 it took a long time for the lakes to freeze over
20 completely.

21 The caribou, the ones that are -- the ones that
22 are going south to the tree line are not arriving to
23 the provinces, so the -- when there is not -- like,
24 when the lakes don't freeze quite to the bottom, I
25 wonder if it slows down the migration of the caribou,
26 and when there's not enough snow cover as well, I

1 wonder if it slows the migration of the caribou.

2 I wonder if -- do you have any knowledge as to why
3 that may be occurring? Is it maybe because of climate
4 change, or from what you know from your knowledge, I
5 wonder if you have any comments towards that.

6 David Owingayak.

7 MR. OWINGAYAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

8 Yes, it's true. That's the -- we knew a long time
9 ago that Baker Lake in the years past, from our east
10 and from the coast in the falltime, they would connect
11 together and the number would increase, and that is how
12 we would catch some meat in the summer. It was optimal
13 to do -- catch long before there was mining around
14 Baker Lake. And if I make a mistake -- but -- but we
15 hardly get any snow around Baker Lake area.

16 In the last few years, the lakes and -- used to
17 have enough snow to go fishing, to go out ice fishing.
18 There would be plenty of snow, but recently -- and in
19 our recent memory and during the winter when we would
20 go hunting, I remember when we headed north to hunt, I
21 started noticing the lakes don't get enough snow on top
22 of them, and it has been like that for a while. Even
23 to this day we are unable to build snow houses. We
24 were able to build snow houses then, but the caribou in
25 the spring of -- like, we never -- the spring/summer
26 migration never reached our area.

1 In 1949 when we arrived in Baker Lake when I was a
2 child, Baker Lake, the community we live in now, the
3 river Thelon, they would be -- the Beverly/Qamanirjuaq
4 herd was -- they dwell there, and it was like -- they
5 were so plentiful that it looked like the earth was
6 moving because of so many caribou.

7 But the community of Rankin Inlet, the river that
8 flows from Yellowknife area to Baker Lake, we used to
9 observe caribou crossing. They would -- they would be
10 so many caribou that they would -- we never see that
11 now. We never see that now, and that is the way it is
12 now. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you for clarifying.

14 Percy Kabloona.

15 MR. KABLOONA: Thank you, Madam Chair, for
16 your questions.

17 This year, if I -- as long as I have a snowmobile,
18 I go to Baker Lake in the winter. I will go to Baker
19 Lake. But between Whale Cove and Baker Lake, we never
20 see the tracks of caribou anymore. December and
21 January and in May, we never see tracks of caribou
22 anymore.

23 In May, they would come around from Arviat that
24 they started returning in June, and we haven't seen
25 caribou since then, and -- and the ones that are left
26 behind, and maybe you saw they were -- they were

1 walking east. They're the ones walking back and forth
2 to the east.

3 In January 2022, I went -- I went to Beverly Lake.
4 The trail I used had no tracks. There was so much wind
5 and not enough snow. We didn't have much snow last
6 year. That's all -- those are things I have observed.
7 Thank you, Madam Chair.

8 THE CHAIR: Does the Kangiqliniq Hunters
9 and Trappers Organization have anything to add?

10 MR. KALUDJAK thank you, Madam Chair. Noel
11 Kaludjak, Kangiqliniq Hunters and Trappers
12 Organization.

13 Oh, I was speaking my language. The two stories
14 we heard from the roundtable, I really enjoyed
15 listening to them. I understand them. What they are
16 thinking and what they know is just like us. There are
17 some differences, but in the same way there is
18 commonality regarding animals, the waters, what's in
19 the waters, and the land and about their people, and
20 how we want to protect our peoples and the land, and we
21 want everything to be well. We are all like that.

22 I want to say one more thing to the Agnico Eagle
23 Mine, and I will say it at closing remarks. The
24 pictures on this wall, on the wall that were
25 photographed in the winter, what will it look like in
26 the winter when we see them in action while they're

1 moving? I'm a photographer for a long time now, and I
2 know how to do -- take good photographs. When we take
3 pictures, and even if we're trying to photograph
4 something from close up or far, what we see with our
5 own eyes -- well, shows up in a photograph or what the
6 camera sees is very different. What two eyes can see
7 is different from a photograph, what the camera sees.

8 I am not -- those photographs you have are not
9 good examples, but to see with our own eyes, caribou
10 don't have cameras.

11 When we're standing on the land, it will be
12 different. What the photographs you choose, you have
13 up there, I don't want them to be used as examples. We
14 go hunting. We go hunting with quads on wheels. In
15 the winter we travel by snowmobile and sled to go
16 hunting. You know, Peter Lake and Diane Lake, they are
17 on the west side of us. We go hunting in that
18 direction. The -- we can see the mill of Meliadine
19 Mine. The mill is -- we can see it from far away, and
20 the lights at the mine are way brighter than the lights
21 we have in Rankin, and it's no wonder the caribou can
22 see them. Even close to Whale Cove you can see the
23 Meliadine Mine.

24 And when there is smoke and either they're -- you
25 can see the smoke when you're blasting or burning
26 something. We can see it. It becomes very visible.

1 The hunters take pictures as we can see that mill
2 from a great distance. We don't have any caribou in
3 the winter now that would hang around here. We
4 don't -- they are far away now in the winter and in the
5 summer. We have to go very far to harvest caribou.

6 Thank you, Madam Chair.

7 THE CHAIR: Questions, comments from the
8 public. John Ell.

9 Questions by John Ell (Roundtable)

10 MR. ELL: Thank you, Madam Chair. My
11 name is John Ell. I am from Rankin Inlet. I have only
12 two questions. First -- my first question is about
13 these -- these pictures on the wall. In English it
14 is -- it is about wind turbine technology. Today --
15 earlier we -- it became obvious that they are not
16 elected yet -- or erected or constructed yet, and that
17 is a good thing. They are waiting -- are waiting for
18 someone -- they are waiting for a private company to
19 construction them and operate them.

20 I want to ask these -- are they -- they are not
21 the only ones to consider. Yes, we are talking about
22 wind turbines. There are other methods, new methods,
23 newer -- wind turbines that are newer. In English -- I
24 would ask in English what -- there are other potential
25 sources. They are not as high and they're not as huge,
26 but they operate -- they can still be used to generate

1 power.

2 I wanted to ask I wonder if you have looked at
3 other potential power resources and -- before these --
4 before your proposal or before these turbines are
5 constructed.

6 That is the question I wanted to ask, Madam Chair.

7 The second question is -- the other question I
8 want to ask is to Agnico Eagle and to KIA. If KIA is
9 here, I want to ask them if this -- and some of the --
10 if you look at the map, if you can see the map, when I
11 look at the map, it is -- some of it is Inuit-owned
12 land. They are using Inuit-owned land. What -- so,
13 therefore, KIA and Agnico Eagle, I want to ask them
14 from now until the closure of the mine -- you expect to
15 close the mine in 2043, 2043. I am using -- use
16 myself. In 2043 I would be 90 years old. The question
17 I want to KIA and Agnico Eagle: Have you thought
18 about -- or do you have plans? What are the
19 remediation plans? What is KIA and Agnico Eagle --
20 what are you -- have you planned for this? Is there a
21 plan going forward about remediation?

22 Those are the questions I wanted to ask. Thank
23 you, Madam Chair.

24 THE CHAIR: First we'll go to Agnico
25 Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak. Nicholas Allen.

26 MR. ALLEN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 Nicholas Allen, Agnico Eagle.

2 I can speak to the choice of technology. We
3 studied everything possible. As mentioned before, our
4 main objective is reducing greenhouse gases. We want
5 to have a direct impact on reducing climate change, so
6 we looked at many technologies. Wind resource is very
7 good in Nunavut. Solar is not as good. We also looked
8 at hydropower, nuclear, zero thermal. We really looked
9 at everything.

10 The criteria that we used for choosing this
11 technology was having as little impact as possible and
12 being as close to the existing infrastructure as
13 possible. This is where wind was the chosen
14 technology. It's been proven in the arctic. It's
15 reliable and takes much less footprint than, for
16 example, a solar plant.

17 And I seem to remember you also talked about
18 smaller wind turbines. Again, the reason we chose this
19 model is it's a newer model, and it requires much less
20 footprint again, so much less land. So if we had
21 smaller ones, it would take much more land, which is
22 the reason why we chose this model. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Pujjut Kusugak.

24 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

25 Pujjut Kusugak, Agnico Eagle.

26 I'm going to speak in English, but thank you for

1 asking about the mine closing, and there is \$70 million
2 in environmental security that has been posted by
3 Agnico Eagle, and this is as a contingency to clean up
4 Meliadine Mine, and this is in the event the company
5 cannot accomplish this, but 50 percent is being held by
6 the federal government, and 50 percent is being held by
7 the Kivalliq Inuit Association.

8 For our closure and reclamation plans, it would be
9 ten years of closure work, six years of closure
10 monitoring, and then twenty years of post-closure
11 monitoring. I hope that's understandable. Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Kivalliq Inuit Association,
13 Luis Manzo.

14 Mr. Manzo: Thank you, Madam Chairman.
15 Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association.

16 The reclamation plan has been actually filed under
17 the Nunavut Impact Review Board licence. It is a
18 security, a deposit posted by the proponent in case the
19 proponent is walking away from site or any other matter
20 that may need to be used security for.

21 On top of that, we have a security management
22 agreement with the federal government in order to not
23 duplicating security, and we work in coordination with
24 the federal government to be diligent in monitoring and
25 tried to use a precautionary principle in that
26 agreement to better use security. We're hoping we

1 never get to that stage.

2 And if the extension has been approved in the
3 water licence component of this project, the security
4 will be reassessed, most likely will be increased, and
5 also the reclamation plan need to be reassessed and
6 update to reflect that. Thank you, Madam Chairman. I
7 hope that answered the question.

8 THE CHAIR: Does that answer your
9 question, John Ell?

10 MR. ELL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

11 These organizations, KIA, I asked them about the
12 Inuit on land and how Agnico Eagle is on it and from
13 now on to the end if the land is going to be monitored
14 properly to make sure it's clean and that they're not
15 leaving a mess on the land. That's what was my
16 question. Thank you, Madam Chair.

17 THE CHAIR: Kivalliq Inuit Association,
18 Luis Manzo.

19 MR. MANZO: Thank you for the question.
20 Thank you, Madam Chairman. Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit
21 Association.

22 We stated in other questions that we do have
23 monitoring programs in place to verify this type of --
24 the lake and the site itself, and we also have an extra
25 monitoring with the Government of Canada. We also have
26 other monitoring like sediment, fish tissue,

1 (INDISCERNIBLE) the work quality, and we will continue
2 monitoring to make sure the site is safe
3 (INDISCERNIBLE). This is one of the -- of the more
4 important issues for KIA, make sure the site comply
5 with regulations and with the term and conditions in
6 our leases.

7 Thank you, Madam Chairman. I hope I've answered
8 the question.

9 THE CHAIR: John Ell.

10 MR. ELL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

11 Yes, that's okay. Thank you for that answer.
12 Thank you to Agnico Eagle and Madam Chair for giving
13 this opportunity to voice my concern. Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: We'll take a 15-minute break.

15 (ADJOURNMENT)

16 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everyone. If
17 you can please take your seats, and we'll continue.

18 There are five more community members that would
19 like to ask questions or make comments before we get to
20 the closing remarks of community representatives.

21 There's Brian Zawadski, Bernadette Dean,
22 Maggie Putalik, John Ussak, and Annie Tattuinee. And
23 when they're done, we'll move on to closing statements
24 of community representatives.

25 Questions by Brian Zawadski (Roundtable)

26 THE CHAIR: Brian Zawadski.

1 MR. ZAWADSKI: Thank you, Madam Chair.

2 (NO ENGLISH FEED) because I'm holding some papers
3 that are here on the side.

4 Thank you to Benjamin for the prayer this morning
5 and some of the comments I heard from some of the --
6 Lac Brochet and Tadoule. Good to hear a lot of
7 experience there.

8 In the interest of time -- and I have a lot of
9 things here that I'd like to say -- instead of stopping
10 and asking for answers to questions, because that just
11 delays things, I'll go through what I have to say, and
12 whoever the questions are directed to, they can note
13 them down, and they can put their heads together later
14 and provide a response.

15 And I would ask that if -- if it's possible, if
16 it's within the realm of how the Nunavut Impact Review
17 Board works that comprehensive, detailed,
18 backed-with-evidence answers be provided in written
19 form to NIRB, which I can and others can see on the
20 impact review board's website. (INUKTITUT SPOKEN).

21 I want to state that I am opposed to the expansion
22 proposal for a number of reasons. So I did some
23 writing the other day, and I don't think I've written
24 so much since I got out of high school, but my hand
25 still hurts.

26 But I wanted to, first of all, go back to a couple

1 of things that were asked last night, asked about
2 methodologies and research that Agnico Eagle uses, and
3 permitting for those purposes. There was -- Agnico
4 Eagle responded that they have the permits in place,
5 and they have consulted with the hunters and trappers
6 organizations or the communities wherever they're doing
7 their research.

8 That being the case, the way I understand it, the
9 Nunavut Research Institute is the place to apply for
10 research permits for scientific, environmental, social
11 health, research. So I would ask Agnico Eagle if they
12 could present as evidence going back five years, longer
13 if they wish, copies of permits with approvals and
14 abstracts of the research. And if they want to, they
15 could -- they could post all that research.

16 If they have not formally applied for research
17 permits, then they should table copies of approved
18 minutes where they have asked the organization
19 specifically to conduct this research and have the
20 minutes show that they approved that research to be
21 done. It's too easy to say, I have permits. But
22 where's the proof?

23 English is a -- English is a very strange
24 language. The only language I speak. And often I
25 don't understand it. So this morning -- and I forget
26 his name -- there's been a lot of discussion about the

1 crossing at the narrows. So an image was provided this
2 morning showing -- showing caribou crossing the narrows
3 in 2022 -- two -- twenty, or whatever it was. So
4 that's correct. Absolutely. Some caribou crossed, and
5 that's proof. But what's missing is context.

6 And I was probably in around that area around that
7 time, and we go and we take pictures, and we take
8 videos, and I figure we have one picture for probably
9 one quarter of the population of the Qamanirjuaq
10 caribou herd. If we have less than 50,000 images, I'd
11 be surprised. And these go back a number of years. So
12 we see an image presented this morning, a dozen caribou
13 coming across the narrows. What's missing and
14 difficult to see in the background is there was
15 probably 10,000 caribou there that decided not to cross
16 the -- the narrows.

17 So it is a true statement caribou crossed. But
18 the funny thing is in English "caribou" could mean one
19 caribou, two caribou, ten caribou, a hundred caribou, a
20 thousand, ten thousand. In Inuktitut, it would be
21 "tuktu" for one and "tuktuut" for many, many, many. So
22 the point is that Agnico Eagle's statement is correct.
23 At least one caribou crossed. The caribou crossed.
24 Historically people have said, and it's been
25 demonstrated that it was used more often.

26 So before Agnico Eagle took over this, Western

1 Mining Corporation of Australia, WMC, did a lot of
2 research in the area. And I have here a map that was
3 produced for an event in the community called "jamming
4 on the bay", and this is the only source I have, but
5 it's -- it's called a traditional knowledge study base
6 map showing the Rankin Inlet area provided by 'W' --
7 WMC International Limited, Group Projects Wesmeg. It
8 shows caribou migration, spring migration going from
9 east to west going through essentially what's the
10 Discovery site. I met a biologist who was working as a
11 contractor to WMC in the late 90's. They were doing
12 environmental research.

13 Obviously, traditional knowledge studies have been
14 done. There must have been other studies. Has Agnico
15 Eagle incorporated any of that prior research in their
16 submission as it presented, discussed, reviewed at
17 their Elders advisory committees? Is it available to
18 the Elders advisory committee? Because some of the
19 people -- I suggest many, most of the people
20 involved --

21 THE CHAIR: If you can ...

22 MR. ZAWADSKI: Oh, sorry.

23 So I suggest that many or most of the people
24 involved in that study are no longer with us. So that
25 knowledge passed on, obviously, to other members that
26 are still in the community, but that knowledge has been

1 documented, and it should be referenced and referred to
2 because it goes back prior to when Agnico Eagle started
3 working.

4 So my issues with the expansion. Clearly there's
5 going to be an increase in the mine footprint at the
6 main mine site, and especially at Discovery, where we
7 can see or we have seen in the caribou animation
8 videos -- or -- that -- and from personal observation
9 that this area is heavily used during the post-calving
10 period, and the caribou are moving from the northwest
11 to the southeast on the north side of Tasirjuaq going
12 towards Itirlak, and they would either go north side or
13 south side of that lake continuing to go east. The
14 Discovery area is essentially a staging area where
15 caribou moving east in late June and early July meet
16 from the northwest and west and continue moving east or
17 southeast.

18 Increases in waste rock will also increase dust in
19 the area, and the -- the HTO had mentioned this.
20 Kangiqliniq Hunters and Trappers Organization had
21 mentioned this late last week. Dust is generated from
22 the rock in the waste rock pile, and you have to assume
23 that it has the same chemistry, composition, as the
24 rock in the waste rock pile. And there's potential in
25 this dust to produce what's called "acid mine
26 drainage". And as the dust will be carried by the

1 wind -- the prevailing wind here generally is
2 northwest -- and the dust will be carried well beyond
3 what Agnico Eagle calls their "minimalistic footprint",
4 which is just a bare outline of where the mine activity
5 is. And I've suggested over the years that the
6 footprint extends well beyond, which we heard Noel
7 mention earlier today, that you can see light from the
8 mine when you're towards Whale Cove.

9 So the dust will be carried beyond the site and be
10 in -- in contact with water where we could have
11 potential contamination building up. And in particular
12 on the map back here, there's a -- a lake that has
13 trout in it at least can overwinter directly below and
14 essentially southeast of or downwind of the -- the
15 mountain of tailings that's being built.

16 It's potentially -- it -- it's very possible that
17 contamination is developing there and/or the depth of
18 the water in the lake is decreasing as more and more
19 dust come through. I'm seeing caribou walk through
20 there in that area. And as they walk, they stir up a
21 lot of dust. And it's not just a little bit of dust.
22 It's a lot of dust. It goes up into the air. So my
23 concern is that dust contamination can spread into
24 other watersheds and -- farther away from the mine.

25 Expansion of the Tiriganiaq-Wolf mine will
26 actually destroy an area where I've seen caribou

1 migrate through. The same applies to -- to -- to the
2 Discovery proposed expansion. And we have to consider
3 that proposed, temporary, or stockpiles will produce
4 negative impacts to caribou as they will present an
5 obvious impediment to their movement and cause them to
6 deflect.

7 Keep in mind that the expansion of waste rock and
8 other stockpiles not only produce a wider or new
9 horizontal footprint; they also produce a vertical
10 footprint that can be seen from miles away. And we can
11 see that now. The -- the ski hill being developed at
12 the mine site is obvious from many, many miles away
13 when two years ago, three years ago, it was not.

14 For the wind farm, a lot has been said about it
15 and especially the impact on caribou, so I'm not going
16 to repeat that. What Agnico Eagle Mines has not done
17 is provide proof, evidence, that caribou will not react
18 badly when they first see the turbines. Late last
19 week, three questions were asked from the floor about
20 the visual impacts of the turbines. Agnico Eagle's
21 response totally did not answer that. From personal
22 experience, I can say caribou have excellent eyesight
23 and hearing and sense of smell and that they react to
24 unexpected and unusual structures in their environment,
25 and they're especially sensitive to movement.

26 In the images which John alluded to earlier

1 showing wind farm placement there on the wall here,
2 it's abundantly clear that the turbine dwarf the
3 existing mine structure, and in my opinion, this
4 clearly demonstrates that caribou will see these
5 structures probably before they see the mine buildings.
6 Any lights on the turbines for aircraft safety will
7 make the structures more obvious.

8 And something that came up yesterday, I believe,
9 was glare and glare analysis. I had no idea that that
10 would be a consideration. But upon thinking about it,
11 any reflective glare off those turbines could
12 conceivably and easily -- and we all know how far light
13 can reflect -- reach to the northwest beyond the edge
14 of the lake and into the calving grounds, the 2023
15 calving grounds. So has Agnico Eagle done a glare
16 analysis?

17 My biggest concern is what happens when caribou
18 first encounter the turbines, and no one can answer
19 that. But the risk is immense. Research in
20 Scandinavia tells us there will be behavioural
21 reactions, and that's done with reindeer who are used
22 to being around a lot more infrastructure, around
23 people. In some places they even herd reindeer onto
24 trucks to drive them around industrial sites.

25 And as we know, the leaders of the herd -- and in
26 this case what we're talking about is hyper-sensitive

1 females with calves -- show the way for the rest to
2 follow. They assess the dangers ahead and mitigate
3 their risks by adaptively managing their migration.
4 The risk, therefore, to us who rely on caribou is that
5 they react badly and direct their migration away from
6 the area with the long-term potential that they do not
7 frequent this area again. As we have heard, the
8 caribou learn. So I've learned experience says, Do not
9 go there, 'cause it's not safe. Then they will not go
10 there. They will not come back.

11 That being the case, if they don't come back, then
12 it is us residents who will have to adaptively manage
13 the new reality. Essentially we will not have
14 traditional use of the caribou during the June, July,
15 August time frame. And I know one family in town that
16 have consciously decided that they won't buy beef.
17 They rely on caribou. One of Agnico Eagle Mines'
18 points in their wind farm management plan is to measure
19 long-term responses of caribou to the wind farm. I
20 suggest that this might be a short and simple exercise.
21 The caribou came, they saw, and they never came back.
22 Something else to keep in mind as we're going through
23 all of this. Drawings and models of proposed
24 activities may not provide all the details needed to
25 make sound decisions nor do they actually -- nor do
26 they -- nor do they always accurately reflect the

1 actual finished product, or as commonly termed "as
2 built".

3 In the watershed -- waterline approval process
4 that was conducted by the Nunavut Impact Review Board a
5 couple years ago, many images of the road waterline
6 profile were shown to us, and it shows the waterline
7 will lay at the foot of the road, be covered with sand
8 and gravel, and slope up to the top of the road;
9 however, anyone on the tour to the mine last week will
10 confirm seeing that that is partially true, but there
11 are a number of sections where the cover over the pipe
12 is higher than the top of the road. This, as far as I
13 can recall for many meetings on the waterline process,
14 was never presented to the public. So, in essence, we
15 were never aware that this was a possibility. But the
16 engineers and designers who had all the survey data
17 would have known that. So I suggest that that was
18 deliberately or absentmindedly or for some other reason
19 not provided to us.

20 So in terms of the other activities going on in
21 terms of the turbine construction, what is the actual
22 as-built going to look like? How much structure will
23 there be around the base of the turbines and the roads
24 and whatever? Agnico -- I found that Agnico Eagle
25 Mines' presentation about existing and operating wind
26 farms to be, at minimal, an incomplete and biased

1 analysis of caribou behaviour around Raglan and Diavik.
2 In particular when asked if there are studies to show
3 caribou not disturbed, Agnico Eagle Mines' response was
4 that verbal communication from the Raglan operator was
5 that caribou are not bothered by the turbines. And no
6 substantial peer-reviewed evidence was or has been
7 provided to substantiate their comments.

8 There are many factors to consider in caribou
9 response such as when caribou are in the vicinity, such
10 as when caribou are actually in the vicinity of Raglan
11 and Diavik. Like, are they there during the winter?
12 Are they there during calving, post-calving, which
13 behaviours are different during those times of year?
14 Are they migrating in this environment that they stay
15 around longer because forage is plentiful? What are
16 the reasons why caribou are there?

17 We have not been provided with any subjective
18 evidence that Raglan and Diavik do not affect caribou
19 behaviour. Further, the comparison to turbines is not
20 fair given the lower number and apparently smaller
21 turbines at those two sites.

22 Ultimately, I strongly oppose the wind farm. An
23 alternative as suggested by the Kangiqliniq Hunters and
24 Trappers Organization is to install turbines near the
25 community at Subblu. A suggestion has been made, and I
26 heard -- and it wasn't put on the floor. Instead of

1 running the cable to the mine, provide power to the
2 community of Rankin Inlet, and use that to offset
3 greenhouse gas emissions and perhaps earn credit for
4 the mine.

5 Another question I have: What funding for the --
6 is -- is backed -- Agnico Eagle Mines will be getting
7 funding from the federal government to construct these
8 turbines. What -- how much were they expecting in
9 terms of dollars and tax credits? And Agnico Eagle
10 Mines must have done cost-benefit analysis 'cause they
11 already have said that they've looked at every
12 alternative form of energy production. If federal
13 funding is not provided, would they still construct the
14 turbines? It would be nice to see a cost-benefit
15 analysis.

16 On borrow pits and quarries -- I don't -- I don't
17 think that's come up at all. And I want to comment
18 that further extraction of granular -- granular
19 material further destroys caribou habitat, and the
20 people on the tour would have seen that at around
21 Kilometre 19 where there is major excavations going on.

22 So there would be further destruction of caribou
23 habitat, habitat that Agnico Eagle Mines continually
24 repeats that, quote -- and this is from their
25 presentation at Slide 30: (as read)

26 Analysis shows that caribou interacting with

1 the all-weather road and mine are moving in
2 response to caribou habitat and not
3 mine-related activities.

4 This seems illogical to me. And as I said at the
5 beginning, English is an unusual language. I read this
6 statement a number of times, and I can't really
7 decipher what it means. But if -- and I would ask
8 Agnico Eagle Mines to document how they determine that
9 with evidence, research methodologies, and results,
10 evidence supporting that statement, 'cause that's a
11 critical statement.

12 So if you destroy the caribou habitat and the
13 caribou see that it is destroyed or otherwise
14 inaccessible, why would they even want to interact with
15 it? They do have to react to disturbed land and go
16 around the mine and gravel pits or over the road to get
17 to their preferred habitat, but why would they go into
18 the mine site or borrow pits as there is nothing there
19 for them? And I've seen -- and I've seen -- and I have
20 a video which I can present. I might have presented it
21 to NIRB on the water pipeline before.

22 At the mine site -- east of the mine site, there's
23 a -- a pipeline going down from somewhere within the
24 complex towards the exploration camp. It's a fairly
25 large pipeline. And there were caribou in the area
26 that crossed the road, and then there was green

1 vegetation along the pipe -- green vegetation along the
2 pipe, and then on the other side of the pipe was more
3 green vegetation, probably 10 metres, 20 metres wide,
4 and then going up to a rock pile.

5 So the caribou moved across the road, contacted
6 the pipeline, deflected, and were going parallel across
7 it but did not cross the pipe. And -- what's the old
8 saying? -- it's greener on the other side. The habitat
9 was the same on both sides. The caribou did not cross
10 the pipe.

11 So am I to assume from Agnico's statement that the
12 caribou did not interact with their infrastructure? If
13 their infrastructure wasn't there, the caribou would
14 have gone to the spot on the other side of the
15 pipeline. And I can present that if you want. I can
16 show that video if you want.

17 During migration and especially in the
18 post-calving season, caribou are motivated to feed, and
19 Anne Gunn has described that adequately. As the mine,
20 roads, borrow pits do not provide any food, and if the
21 caribou encounter these blocking their access to the
22 food, then they have to move around or over these
23 obstacles.

24 Caribou are compelled to move instinctively and by
25 learned behaviour and may -- may move through a
26 threatening environment because they have to. Kind of

1 like, why did the caribou cross the road? Obviously,
2 to get to their preferred habitat on the other side.
3 Unless it's a pipeline. Then they don't want to cross
4 it. But if there are too many disturbances on the
5 other side, they will not cross.

6 And I want to bring up the narrows again. Because
7 if you look at the model, the nice model over there,
8 and if you take a Google image of the current site and
9 look down, you will see that once the caribou move from
10 the north side across the narrows to where the mine is
11 that they really don't have a place to go. And when
12 it's expanded further to the south and east, there will
13 be no place to go. So they'll -- if they cross over,
14 where are they going to go? They're going to turn
15 around and go back. Now, it's true: one caribou might
16 cross and keep going, so you can still say a caribou
17 crossed. But not hundreds, not thousands, not tens of
18 thousands.

19 So my point is that clearly in interactions with
20 the narrows, specifically not crossing, will, if not
21 currently -- evidence -- or time will tell -- will be
22 specifically in response to mine activity. And this is
23 where I wonder what WMC's traditional studies,
24 environmental studies show prior to Agnico taking over.
25 Were there caribou crossing there?

26 Well, in the bigger picture with more open pits,

1 more stockpiles, more borrow pits, and new areas,
2 expansion of existing borrow pits and quarries, road
3 construction to Discovery, open-pit and stockpile
4 developments at Discovery, the post-calving and
5 migration on the southern side of the mine extending
6 east or to about Kilometre 19 and developments at
7 Discovery will cut off the corridor at the south and
8 southeast end of Tasirjuaq, or Meliadine Lake, and
9 Itirlak.

10 So the caribou that will be coming down from the
11 northwest on the north side of Tasirjuaq will be forced
12 to go further north to avoid that, or caribou that are
13 coming on the south side -- or caribou coming on the
14 south side will not cross to the north because there's
15 just too much obstacles.

16 In essence, the only activities there are building
17 a fence that caribou will not want to cross. So
18 development of more borrow pits and quarries and areas
19 outside the existing approvals will have a cumulative
20 negative impact. Not much has been said about the
21 Discovery waterline. It's a nice little blue line on
22 the model, but that's about it.

23 So the question is, one more waterline that's
24 going to go up to Kilometre 19 and then to the mine.
25 So from Kilometre 19 to the mine, will there now be
26 three waterlines where there's presently two? So the

1 footprint of that will also have to be made larger.

2 And we haven't -- I don't know if it's been
3 presented what the -- what the profile of the mine --
4 road to Discovery will look like, but Agnico Eagle has
5 said that they build low-profile roads. That's
6 low-lying ground. So if you have a low-profile road
7 and you put a waterline beside it, conceivably the
8 waterline will be higher than the road, and then the
9 road will not be low-profile anymore.

10 And we know this is an important staging area, so
11 there's going to be more disruption and negative
12 impacts on caribou there. The images and video
13 presented by Agnico Eagle Mines, in particular near
14 Kilometre 11, I contend that they are only an
15 incomplete portrayal of caribou behaviour.

16 Images for -- of caribou along the mine road are
17 typically from early June, and behaviours are different
18 between the caribou moving east in late June, early
19 July, and coming back in mid-July. In late June,
20 caribou are moving more leisurely to the east because
21 calves are less than a month old and do not have
22 stamina to endure constant and continuous travel, and
23 insect harassment is negligible.

24 And I find the comment from Agnico Eagle Mines
25 that the caribou use the road for insect avoidance -- I
26 find that to be a misrepresentation. Where caribou

1 possibly would get insect relief on the road -- and I
2 can tell you that they don't spend a lot of time on the
3 road; their purpose is really to go across. They often
4 don't walk very far along the road -- those sections
5 where they would be getting insect relief on the road
6 are high sections of the road that are already exposed
7 to the wind. So if there was no road there, the
8 caribou would still be getting insect relief. So I --
9 I haven't heard any caribou thank Agnico Eagle Mines
10 for the roads cause it keeps the mosquitos away.

11 THE CHAIR: Can you please slow down for
12 the interpreters and keep it to the point.

13 MR. ZAWADSKI: Yeah. So that image that they
14 show the caribou crossing the road, the -- the video,
15 they -- it -- it needs context. I've seen caribou in
16 that area coming from the east going to the west. The
17 lead females will contact the road, one or two or three
18 might go up on top of the road, assess what's on the
19 other side, go back down to the east, meander around
20 for a while, and they could be minutes, multi --
21 multi -- minutes, test it again, and then go up and
22 over.

23 And they're being -- in that situation that was in
24 the video, they're being pressured by the rest of the
25 herd behind that are motivated to move quickly to the
26 west. So it looks like there -- there's no issue going

1 across, but there actually is a hesitation before the
2 caribou get to the road. So I find that Agnico Eagle
3 Mines' representation or -- or the concept that they're
4 trying to tell us is that caribou are not impacted is
5 not entirely true because there is an impact.

6 And on July 12, 2021, we were at Kilometre 27 and
7 a half from about 3:00 -- well, from before 3:00 'til
8 after 5:00 in the afternoon on a cloudy day, and there
9 were lots of caribou there moving from the east to the
10 west, and they got to the road, and one caribou went up
11 on top, came back down, and they would not cross.
12 They -- they paralleled the road. At the same time,
13 there was one Agnico Eagle Mines truck at Kilometre 27
14 heading towards the mine that was stopped and four
15 vehicles coming from the mine heading east, the first
16 one being the -- I believe KIA's caribou monitoring
17 truck and two other pickups and a small fuel truck.
18 After a while, one of the individuals in the monitoring
19 truck walked down to the low part. I'm not sure why
20 when we saw him going there. He picked up something
21 that looked like a tarp, kind of whitish, or Tyvek or
22 plastic or something, picked it up and carried it and
23 went back to the truck.

24 So it appears that the caribou came up on the
25 road, saw what it perceived to be a threat, maybe, went
26 back from where it came, and did not cross the road

1 there. So you have to say that that's a definite
2 impact. So that sort of brings up a point -- and I'm
3 going to jump here a bit 'cause I had other stuff to
4 say, but ...

5 The Government of Nunavut has suggested or
6 recommended or would like to see the -- the triggers
7 for closing the mine and the road to increase to
8 10 kilometres. And that's obvious if -- if turbines
9 are going to go up, it -- it has to be -- Agnico Eagle
10 Mines has said that their road closure protocols are
11 working.

12 So I question why there were those vehicles on the
13 road when they were within 5 kilometres from the mine
14 'cause we were at 27-and-a-half, and the road basically
15 goes to 30, but there's a couple of curves in there.
16 So how could those vehicles be on the road when there's
17 caribou and there was maybe a thousand caribou, 500 or
18 more, whatever? More than a hundred. More than 50.

19 You cannot say that their road closure mechanisms
20 worked, and there's other examples of -- when we've
21 seen three buses stopped. We've seen trucks waiting
22 sometimes 8 hours on the road. And Agnico Eagle Mines
23 even has a trailer sometime with porta potties on it so
24 if they are stopped that people can use the washroom,
25 use the facilities.

26 So that all indicates to me that 100 metres is not

1 an effective measure or protocol for closing the road.
2 It has to be a lot further. People could be along the
3 road, and then they're stuck. So I totally support the
4 Government of Nunavut's request or suggestion or
5 recommendation to increase to 10 kilometres and that
6 those conditions should be built into the terms and
7 conditions of the licence and should not be left to the
8 terrestrial advisory group to decide, because at this
9 point it seems like the terrestrial advisory group is
10 dysfunctional. It's taken a lot longer than it should
11 have to get it in place.

12 The in-pit storage of tailings, this one really
13 concerns me. I had some quotes that I was going to
14 read, but I don't want to take too much longer.
15 Natural Resources Canada's presentation barely
16 describes the complexity of this, and it is complex.
17 Very complex.

18 We heard this morning about pits and liners and
19 permafrost as being the effect of a liner, but -- and
20 we also heard this afternoon that there's no research
21 on the permafrost in the area. Agnico Eagle has also
22 said that they're measuring underground temperatures.

23 The thing with in-pit tailing disposal is
24 assumptions made in the models might or might not be
25 correct, and the only way to know if they're correct is
26 20 years from now or 30 years from now. And the

1 modelling may be the best modelling based on the best
2 research available right now, and it could still be
3 wrong. So you have to be particularly careful in
4 assessing that, which I understand is up to the water
5 board, but I want to -- I want to point that out now.

6 There's also -- in the -- the development, there's
7 going to be impacts on fish habitat and particular
8 water bodies, listed A1, 2, 3, 4; B1, 2, up to 7. The
9 'A' lakes -- ponds will be dewatered, some of them, not
10 all of them. There are fish in there. Some of it is
11 spawning grounds for grayling in the 'A' area. Some of
12 it is summer feeding for char. And B7 is an
13 overwintering lake, or fish can overwinter in there.
14 The char run, from my understanding, my knowledge,
15 experience is not a large char run, not compared to the
16 Diane River. Any impact on char habitat is going to
17 have an impact on char population.

18 Dewatering a lake absolutely is the most impact
19 you can have on a fish. Agnico Eagle says that they
20 believe that there's no negative cumulative effects. I
21 don't believe that to be true. We need to take a very
22 conservative approach, and we've heard from all the
23 delegates from northern Manitoba, northern Saskatchewan
24 who have many years of experience that we have to be
25 very, very careful of what we do.

26 We're in a period of -- the caribou are -- in

1 terms of Agnico Eagle's interpretation that they have
2 no net negative effects, caribou are exposed in the
3 bigger picture -- all the way from northern Manitoba
4 and Saskatchewan to here, they're exposed to power
5 lines, fires, climate change, new predation. We have
6 grizzlies showing up now that we didn't have before.
7 Exploration, mines, roads. And there's exploration
8 going on east of here, west of here, south of here.
9 All these impact the caribou. So any small increase in
10 activity at this mine will add to the effects on the
11 caribou population.

12 And I had a few more things to say, but that's
13 probably enough for now.

14 Thank you, Madam Chair.

15 THE CHAIR: Before I go to Agnico Eagle,
16 NIRB legal counsel.
17 Procedural Matters by Nunavut Impact Review Board Legal
18 Counsel

19 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
20 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
21 Review Board.

22 So, Madam Chair, I just wanted to follow up on the
23 request from the commenter that the board direct
24 parties to provide detailed written responses to all of
25 those questions.

26 The Board's public hearing process, as many of you

1 know, is intended to give parties an opportunity to
2 discuss matters primarily in an oral format to add to
3 the formal written process that precedes the public
4 hearing. The written process includes the Board
5 collecting and circulating amongst all the parties all
6 the written materials on which the parties rely. All
7 those materials are available on the Board's public
8 registry. And while parties may reference them in
9 their oral answers here, the focus of the public
10 hearing is to provide responses in oral form to
11 questions asked by the community and intervenors.

12 If parties wish to follow up directly with
13 questions and questioners outside the public hearing,
14 of course, the Board always encourages that. But the
15 Board will not direct the kind of detailed written
16 follow-up that was referenced in the comments of the
17 questioner.

18 Thank you, Madam Chair.

19 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak.

20 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

21 Pujjut Kusugak, Agnico Eagle.

22 Thank you, Mr. Zawadski, for asking questions and
23 for your comments. I'm going to give it to my
24 colleague, Manon Turmel, if that's okay.

25 THE CHAIR: Manon Turmel.

26 MS. TURMEL: Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle.

1 Thank you for your questions and comments,
2 Mr. Zawadski. If you have any specific questions on
3 the annual report, the monitoring that we're doing at
4 site, please bring them to our attention or to our
5 office, and we'll be happy to answer them in detail.

6 As for the research permits, we pull all the
7 permits that we are required to to conduct our
8 activities. We work with the Government of Nunavut,
9 the Kangiqliniq Hunters and Trappers Organizations, and
10 various other groups to obtain the permits we need to
11 complete our activities.

12 As for Meliadine extension, you mentioned a number
13 of items. Agnico Eagle has worked with subject matter
14 experts to demonstrate that Meliadine extension will
15 not have --

16 THE CHAIR: Can you --

17 MS. TURMEL: Yeah.

18 THE CHAIR: -- slow down for the
19 interpreter.

20 MS. TURMEL: Sure.

21 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you.

22 MS. TURMEL: For Meliadine extension, we
23 have worked with subject matter experts to demonstrate
24 that Meliadine extension will not have significant
25 environmental impacts. We have proposed monitoring and
26 mitigation measures on the caribou protection side of

1 things. We have worked with the terrestrial advisory
2 group, and we will continue to work with them as we are
3 getting closer to the construction of the wind farm.
4 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Recognizing we're getting
6 closer to supper break and there's still four community
7 members who want to either ask questions or make
8 comments, I'll go to them once. So if you have
9 multiple questions, if you can ask them together. And
10 then I'll go to the next community member. 'Cause
11 after the supper break, we're going to go into closing
12 statements from the community representatives around
13 the table.

14 Next on my list, Bernadette Dean.

15 Questions by Bernadette Dean (Roundtable)

16 MS. DEAN: Can you hear me? I don't have
17 any questions. I just want to make a few comments.
18 I'm going to speak in English.

19 Thank you, Madam Chair, and the Nunavut Impact
20 Review Board. You have a difficult job. Thank you for
21 your patience. You've been listening. And thank you
22 to everyone here. I learn a lot by listening and
23 interpreting, and I've been interpreting a few times
24 for the NIRB and for AEM when they do public
25 presentations, and I can say the last time I
26 interpreted for Agnico Eagle Mines was about a month

1 ago when they produced the findings of their water and
2 tea-sampling or tea-making results. I was really
3 impressed because they tested tea and water from three
4 different water sources, one of them plastic bottled
5 water, and 18 different batches of tea. I was really
6 impressed, and because that was a response to Elders'
7 concerns.

8 And I know in the early years of AEM I used to be
9 a very angry person at them because I loved the land
10 and I still love the land, and at that time it was like
11 a David and Goliath fight. But here in this hearing,
12 there are missing groups, and one of them is Inuit
13 seamstresses that have observed the condition of
14 caribou skin and also the babies that were born this
15 year. They will be 20 years old in 2043. And it makes
16 me wonder what the land will look like around
17 Meliadine, around beautiful Itirlak.

18 And sometimes it's easy to mention the word
19 "Elders" in documents or when we are speaking when you
20 don't mention the name of the Elder. When we went to
21 the mine tour, we were brought to the location where
22 they want to put the wind turbines. One of my Elder
23 relatives, David Oolooyuk, was with us. And when he
24 saw the location of where the proposed wind farms are,
25 he looked at me and he said (INUKTITUT SPOKEN), seal
26 hunting ground. And his words stayed with me for a few

1 days.

2 I think the proposed location of the windmill has
3 to change because in the last 10 years or so --
4 remember, Inuit are keen observers. We've been taught
5 to observe the weather and the land and everything. In
6 the last ten years or so, the east wind has been very
7 prevalent. We get the east wind more than we do the
8 north wind. I don't know how wind turbines work, but
9 that is one thing we've observed, I've observed, the
10 east wind becoming prevalent. And today is a good
11 example. We have southeast wind, fog. And the old
12 people used to say, When there is an east wind, there's
13 going to be bad weather for a time.

14 When I was a child. There was no television,
15 radio, or electricity in -- where I grew up. We didn't
16 have electricity until I was 6 years old. And I was 14
17 when we finally got CBC television. But the old people
18 used to talk about the time, our ancestors' time
19 through oral history. They used to talk about a time
20 summer never came. There was -- we were told that
21 there were times when there was no winter. (NO ENGLISH
22 FEED) was to always be ready. We have to be ready, be
23 ready to act, to be prepared because we don't know
24 what's going to happen. That was a lesson they
25 learned.

26 And I became curious. I wonder when the time was.

1 I've heard of the ice age. I've heard of the mini ice
2 age. So I decided to Google them to see when those
3 times were, the times that summer never came to our
4 homeland, to the arctic. And I learned from Google
5 that it was in the 1600s.

6 And we come from -- we are still very much an oral
7 culture. The literate culture and the literature that
8 you reply -- you rely on is pretty much new to us. And
9 we have to learn from that because we have seen so many
10 changes due to climate change. A lot of us women that
11 go berry picking year after year. We used to -- three
12 times in the past. We harvested caribou at Mumirvik.
13 In the last few years I still go up to Mumirvik.
14 There's no caribou when we're picking cloudberries.

15 And another thing that -- I don't know who will do
16 the research, if it's Environment Canada or Natural
17 Resources Canada. I have a botanist friend, and while
18 we're out berry picking, we notice things, and we see
19 things. There was this -- there was this little red
20 plant that we never seen before amongst the food that
21 caribou eat and amongst the cranberries that we pick.
22 I never seen this little red plant before, so I took a
23 picture of it, and I sent it to my botanist friend, and
24 I asked -- 'cause she produced a book before on arctic
25 plants.

26 I asked her, What is this? What kind of plant is

1 this? I never seen it before. She said it's diseased.
2 She used a different term, that it's diseased. And we
3 see those little red plants, diseased plants, all the
4 time now. There's so many more of them when you take a
5 good look out on the land or while you're picking
6 berries.

7 My dog, after he chased a siksik, got really sick
8 for a while. He chased a siksik, and he was digging
9 the ground, and he got really sick. He had -- he had
10 stuffy nose or something. And he would sneeze, and he
11 didn't -- he didn't eat much. He was really sick. I
12 went to Page Burt, and she recommended that I give him
13 Benadryl. So I give him Benadryl once a day for six
14 days. He eventually got better. And then I found out
15 there were two other dogs that I know of that got sick.
16 And so they're -- like my dog did.

17 A few days ago, my brother -- my younger brother
18 came back from Paanaaq. I think it's called "Robinhood
19 Bay" up the Chesterfield Inlet going to Baker Lake.
20 He -- two of the caribou he caught were so diseased and
21 sick that he couldn't bring them. And their fur he
22 brought back are not -- there's some thin parts, and --
23 whatever. He's trying to dry the fur. And they saw --
24 they saw one caribou that was, obviously, very sick and
25 said that he had -- the caribou had green snot coming
26 out of his nose. So they mercy killed it because it's

1 our way when we see animals suffering. We don't like
2 to see them suffer. So they killed it and left it.

3 I think it's urgent that the Government of Nunavut
4 investigate these because others are reporting of sick
5 and diseased caribou right now. I think it's urgent
6 that the Government of Nunavut investigate. I know
7 Ray Mininguchak [phonetic] once said that Government is
8 slow, but I think an investigation should be done about
9 the diseased plants because they're around the lichen
10 that caribou eat, and I think it's urgent to
11 investigate those things.

12 Anyhow, I don't know what the cost of gold will be
13 in 2043, and I appreciate the measures that AEM is
14 taking to minimize the use of greenhouse gases for our
15 environment and for the future generation. But I
16 don't -- I'm getting -- and I don't know what the
17 action plan -- climate action plan is for the arctic
18 and Environment and Climate Change Canada, but I
19 would -- I would hope and think that they're going to
20 do something about it and involve the people from up
21 here. We are Inuit, are observers, and the first thing
22 to research, researchers observed first, even if we
23 don't have long, complicated text and language used in
24 text.

25 Those are just the comments I wanted to say.
26 Thank you for this opportunity to say. And I forgot to

1 welcome our friends from the Dene from the south.

2 That's it. (NO ENGLISH FEED) I want those government
3 departments to take heed. That's it. Thank you.

4 Questions by Maggie Putalik (Roundtable)

5 THE CHAIR: Maggie Putalik.

6 MS. PUTALIK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

7 It's been foggy. We've been foggy for a long
8 while now. It feels like we are never getting away
9 from the fog and that we'll never see what's around us.
10 I feel like that's how it is lately. And, for example,
11 it's -- right now it's foggy, and here too it feels
12 like we're going through fog.

13 I'm Maggie Putalik from Chesterfield Inlet
14 originally. We moved here in 1995 because we wanted
15 our children to go to school, and there was no
16 school -- high school in Chesterfield Inlet, and so
17 that's why we moved here for the kids to go to school.

18 First I want to talk about -- I want to ask. When
19 you talk about Elders, when you talk about Elders
20 committee and how you include them and when you include
21 the Elders -- and I'm pretty sure they meet when they
22 are supposed to meet, obviously. But I often look for
23 meeting minutes, of things that they use during their
24 meeting regarding the Agnico Eagle Mine because they
25 often say they listen to Elders, but I can never find
26 anything. So where can I find these meeting minutes?

1 Or is it because you don't want to share them? Us too.
2 When we read, we learn more. Especially Inuit
3 Qaujimagatugangit. When we read them, we learn more.
4 That's the first comment and question I wanted to ask.

5 And the second thing: Agnico Eagle Mine held
6 meetings regarding the pipeline that they were going to
7 install to the mine, and I was hesitant about that
8 because I thought it would impact the animals that we
9 eat. And it was reported -- and they showed us
10 drawings, also maps. And they were very trustworthy --
11 they seem very trustworthy and believable, and for that
12 reason we were in agreement with that.

13 But during spring -- springtime, we usually go up
14 using the mine road to take pictures, and I was
15 disturbed by the pipes that were installed around
16 those -- that road. One is more higher than the other.
17 The pipe is higher than the road. We went up there in
18 the spring, and this is what I observed before they
19 installed the pipes. When they started working on the
20 pipes, there was rocks everywhere, and I said, Wow.
21 How are the caribou going to cross? After I saw that.

22 Also, a few days ago, I went up -- we went up and
23 saw, again, the pipes. And I saw heaps of sand piled
24 up even at some of the caribou crossings. And right
25 away I thought maybe it was blocking their migration
26 route. And then I said -- while there -- while there's

1 meetings and community information meetings, there's --
2 this -- this -- they -- they tell us that there's going
3 to be plans in place, and they become so believable,
4 and then -- they say those things because they want to
5 get approved for their project proposals, and that's
6 what I observed or have observed.

7 The wind farms that want to be -- be put up and
8 make an -- I'll see -- on the maps here or on the
9 images here, there's images of where they want to erect
10 these wind farms. Are they just going to drill and
11 then erect them? Maybe not? They're going to have to
12 build a strong foundation in order for them to stay up,
13 probably on -- on -- they -- they have to maybe erect
14 them on cement, on concrete.

15 The land is -- is -- is probably going to be
16 impacted more because they've already scarified the --
17 the land while they were digging for or hauling sand,
18 and there's going to be further impacts once they -- if
19 they -- if they get approved for their project
20 proposal, there's going to be greater impacts to the --
21 to the land, and it won't be as pristine after. The
22 land's going to be scarified. And those are the things
23 that I wanted to bring up.

24 I wanted to -- they -- they (NO ENGLISH FEED) that
25 will -- will happen, the destruction of the caribou
26 habitat around that area because I've seen -- I've

1 already seen the destruction of some crossings when
2 they did the pipeline proposal.

3 This was not a question. No one asked questions
4 with regards to -- to that because -- and then there's
5 the piles of sand, sand pits. So I wanted to tell
6 everyone that's in attendance here to -- I'm very happy
7 that this is happening, the public hearing is
8 happening. Please feel welcome. The community --
9 community here is very welcoming, and it's always --
10 it's been really helpful for sharing the information
11 that you have all presented here at this hearing.
12 Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Pujjut Kusugak.

14 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.
15 Pujjut Kusugak, Agnico Eagle.

16 If I can -- if she can repeat her question
17 straight to the point, I would appreciate it.

18 Can you please ask straight to the point of your
19 question. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Maggie Putalik.

21 MS. PUTALIK: There's two. First one is the
22 Elders. You often say that you have Elders committee.
23 Are there any meeting minutes that you can show or that
24 I can find, and where can I find them? That's the
25 first question.

26 Second one is those wind turbines. I'm pretty

1 sure you're going to have to form a foundation, right,
2 so that's going to include a creation of sand pit. How
3 big is that going to be? How big are those sand pits
4 going to be? Are you going to have to create a sand
5 pit? Do you understand me now?

6 THE CHAIR: Will you have to create a new
7 quarry in order to get material for the base of the
8 turbines?

9 Pujjut Kusugak.

10 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.
11 Pujjut Kusugak, Agnico Eagle.

12 Thank you, Maggie. Sorry about that. I'll get
13 David Kritterdlik to answer the first question, and
14 Nicholas is going to answer the second question.

15 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 The Elders committee in the Kivalliq region was
17 created in 2021, and there's five committees in the
18 Kivalliq. In the start, they had to create policies on
19 how they can run, and some of these members are here.
20 Not all of them, but some of them are here. But if you
21 want to know more about it or about anything, you can
22 ask them.

23 But we -- when we meet, we often open it for the
24 public. But sometimes we have to meet just amongst the
25 committees. But we do try and keep it open for the
26 public. When we meet with the organizations from the

1 communities, we have a secretary that writes stuff
2 down, and we call them minutes. So we send them to our
3 coordinator.

4 There's not -- quite a -- I mean, there's not
5 much. There's not a lot. But we had meetings twice in
6 2022. And springtime we had a meeting in June. And
7 there should be meeting minutes. They're not
8 confidential. They're open to be viewed by anyone.
9 Anyone can view them if you want them -- if you want to
10 read them.

11 THE CHAIR: Nicholas Allen.

12 MR. ALLEN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

13 Nicholas Allen, Agnico Eagle.

14 You were asking for information on the foundation
15 in the area and the pad required for the wind turbines?

16 Each wind turbine will have a 100-metre by
17 100-metre pad, and that is just required during
18 construction. And after, the actual foundation itself
19 is made of piles, so there will be 12 piles per wind
20 turbine, and then steel and concrete foundation over
21 that. And at the end when the wind turbine -- at the
22 end of the project, if we want to take the wind
23 turbines out, all that is left is just the pylons in
24 the ground. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: John Ussak. Is he still here?

26 No.

1 Questions by Annie Tattuinee (Roundtable)

2 THE CHAIR: Annie Tattuinee.

3 MS. TATTUINEE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

4 My name is Annie Tattuinee. I've lived in Rankin
5 Inlet since 1976. I'd say -- so over 40 years. My
6 interest in -- I wasn't in the meetings until I came in
7 last night and then came into the meeting this
8 afternoon, so I was privileged to be able to hear from
9 the people making their closing remarks or
10 participating.

11 Okay. I've worked for Inuit organizations for
12 25 years in various capacities, and I've sort of walked
13 away from participating in -- in things for a few years
14 now. My husband was privileged to work for Agnico
15 Eagle Mines for a few years, and they used him in his
16 -- in their promotion materials for employment in
17 working for the mine. And while I appreciate all of
18 that, we still require quite a bit of education for
19 Inuit to fully participate in all the activity that's
20 happening, to fully participate in these hearings that
21 are taking place, to understand the importance of those
22 HTO minutes that -- some of them have existed since
23 1976, which provide most of the argument that are
24 presented to me when I'm speaking. Our -- everything's
25 based on oral history. We have nothing documented. I
26 would argue that a little bit --

1 THE CHAIR: If you could slow down for --

2 MS. TATTUINEE: Sorry.

3 THE CHAIR: -- the interpreters?

4 MS. TATTUINEE: I would argue that point just
5 a little bit in that we have minutes going from every
6 HTO across Nunavut that existed since the 70s that
7 document wildlife and impact and regulations,
8 government rules, how Inuit should respond to such
9 things which have not gone -- that have not been
10 researched, that have not been taken into consideration
11 when we're talking about impacts on our lives and on
12 what we eat as people.

13 When you put quotas on things and you're
14 listening -- listening to government regulations and
15 impacts, people lose appetites for the food that is
16 available to them around them, and they lose the
17 appetite, and so they prefer to go with whatever is
18 made available to them from outside their environment.
19 And you need to consider that when you're doing
20 development because we have only existed as a territory
21 for just over 20 years. And compared to the rest of
22 Canada, you're celebrating a few hundred years of
23 First Nations, reservations, and those kind of things.
24 And we're very young as a territory, and we're very
25 young in the area of -- of development in industry and
26 the impacts of such because we're the last frontier.

1 And it's very important that we be very, very diligent
2 and very, very careful of those environmental impacts
3 because all of you or a significant amount of us
4 sitting around the table are not going to be here to --
5 to feel those impacts, and this is where participation
6 of First Nations and their discussions and their
7 contribution to this conversation is very important
8 because their exposure exceeds ours at this point in
9 time. Our agreements go back to 1978, with the first
10 one between Inuit and Canada. And the whole of the
11 Nunavut settlement area was given up, and we know that
12 for certain areas. And one of these areas is
13 Inuit-owned surface and subsurface areas, and this is
14 what's being developed first, and it has the most
15 significant impact on Inuit, and we have agreements
16 with the developers so that Inuit can benefit from such
17 agreements.

18 But it needs to be in a balanced manner. I would
19 say it's like walking on a tightrope and you have
20 support on either side of you, but you have to cross
21 from one side to the other, but you have to be aware of
22 everything that's happening around you, above you, and
23 below you. And I don't envy you, your task as an
24 impact review board to take all of the comments and
25 considerations in and come up with a recommendation
26 that is best for Inuit and best for -- for Nunavut.

1 So what I really, really want to say is Inuit need
2 the jobs. If you're going to take away from our
3 environment, if you're going to take away our ability
4 to harvest the food that is in our environment, and if
5 you're not going to allow us to protect that or if
6 you're not going to listen, then you better make darn
7 sure we get the jobs and the ability to continue to
8 live in our area where we choose to live and not force
9 us to move somewhere else. And you better make sure
10 you invest in the communities that are 28 kilometres
11 from your mine site. Not just an arena. Not just --
12 and not force your employees to move away because
13 there's no housing.

14 You have a -- a facility or a community that's
15 28 kilometres, and you're developing 11 turbines,
16 windmills, and we had one windmill in Rankin Inlet
17 where somebody put it on top of their house to
18 provide -- and it was just a small, little,
19 not-even-2-feet windmill, and the noise impact of that
20 for the people living down the road was significant.
21 You could hear it all the time. I can only imagine
22 when you're building very tall facilities what that
23 noise pollution is going to -- have impact on the
24 environment.

25 So you need to make sure that the harvesters
26 continue to have the ability to harvest for their

1 community, for people to continue to be able to eat the
2 food that is closest to them so that they continue to
3 have that appetite for that food; otherwise it's going
4 to be lost, and we will continue to be poor people.
5 And it's not necessarily -- it's because of the --
6 because of the -- what we've been exposed to, and we've
7 been exposed to very little compared to the rest of
8 Canada.

9 So I need you to bring your education here. I
10 need you to acknowledge all the people that helped you
11 in your research, the Inuit guides, the Inuit that
12 helped support you, that helped you put that instrument
13 in the ground and where best to put it. You need to
14 acknowledge their contribution to the research you're
15 doing. It's -- it's important because it's written in
16 history, and the only people getting acknowledgement
17 are those scientists, not necessarily the people that
18 help them get that information. So I'm making more of
19 a comment --

20 THE CHAIR: If you can slow down --

21 MS. TATTUINEE: Sorry.

22 THE CHAIR: -- for the interpreters.

23 They can't keep up.

24 MS. TATTUINEE: Sorry.

25 And I need all of you -- 'cause we're -- we're all
26 levels of government here from the local HTO to the

1 municipal government to the Government of Nunavut to
2 the Government of Canada to industry trying to mitigate
3 everything and make a project move forward.

4 But the ultimate goal is to create an economy.
5 Don't forget the Inuit in all of that. And we want to
6 do it as efficiently and as cost effectively as
7 possible. But there is always a price to pay. And
8 don't let it be at the expense of Inuit. They need the
9 jobs. They need the income. They need to be able to
10 provide even for harvesting equipment to be able to go
11 further.

12 The impact is significant, and again, I -- I
13 acknowledge your challenge in making recommendations to
14 move forward or not. And I'm hoping that what I'm
15 saying makes sense. But develop your plans to provide
16 the most opportunity for Inuit as can possibly be
17 provided if you make a decision to move forward.

18 If it's not moving in the right direction for
19 Inuit, I would say you do it in stages. Don't go for,
20 I approve this for 11 years, I approve this for
21 20 years. You need to do it in a measured fashion
22 because from what I can see, we're not making such
23 progress when it comes to Inuit employment and Inuit
24 impact. And, yes, we're putting up arenas and, yes,
25 we're doing family days. But every day I don't see a
26 boost in economy.

1 That being said, thank you for giving me the
2 opportunity to speak. I don't know that it's me asking
3 a question. But if things are moving forward,
4 acknowledge that the impact is there and provide
5 opportunities for the harvesters to go further or for
6 Inuit to obtain that employment.

7 Thank you. And look into the history of those
8 minutes that do have information that might not have
9 been acknowledged in the past. So thank you, again,
10 Mr. Chair -- Ms. -- Ms. Chair. Bye. I don't have
11 anything more to say.

12 THE CHAIR: We're going to go on a supper
13 break. After the supper break, we're going to final
14 questions from the Board and closing statements from
15 the community representatives.

16 I want to remind the community representatives
17 that this evening we'll start the closing statements by
18 having a single spokesperson chosen by each community
19 to provide short closing remarks summarizing their
20 community's concerns and if they've been addressed and
21 if the community supports the proposal going ahead or
22 not. So it'll be time for closing statements from
23 community representatives around the table. And we'll
24 reconvene at 6:30.

25 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 6:30 PM)

26 (PROCEEDINGS RECOMMENCED AT 6:35 PM)

1 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everyone.

2 All right. On our agenda for tonight involves
3 final questions from the Board and going over the
4 closing statements from the communities of the Kivalliq
5 region as well as Northern Manitoba and Northern
6 Saskatchewan, and then we will turn to a discussion of
7 deferred items and the completion of the procedural
8 matters and deferred questions.

9 Questions from the Board, Phillip Kadlun.

10 Questions By Nunavut Impact Review Board Panel
11 (Roundtable)

12 MR. KADLUN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

13 Phillip Kadlun, Nunavut Impact Review Board.

14 I have questions to the -- or clarification to the
15 Agnico Eagle. It's regarding the tailings pond
16 waste -- mine site waste area, also the waste rock
17 stockpile. In light of your proposal to extend the
18 mine life up by 11 years, I'm wondering whether the
19 tailings pond will need to be expanded, and the other
20 one is mine site waste area will also be expanded. And
21 the existing waste rock pile, I'm assuming it will also
22 be expanding as well, and, if so, how much expansion
23 would those be taken in light of additional 11 years?

24 Thank you, Madam Chair.

25 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle?

26 MS. LACOURSE: Sophie Lacourse, Agnico Eagle.

1 So the tailings and waste rock storage facility
2 have been optimized compared to the 2014 final
3 environmental impact statement and will be
4 approximately two times smaller. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: NIRB board, Phillip Kadlun.

6 MR. KADLUN: Thank you, Madam Chair.
7 Phillip Kadlun, Nunavut Impact Review Board member.
8 Those are the questions I have. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: NIRB board, Guy Alikut.

10 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you, Madam Chair. Guy
11 Alikut from Nunavut Impact Review Board.

12 Elder, what we call Elders, the older -- I am an
13 Elder now, and there's some Elders among here. Even
14 though we say "Elders", there are more Elders that we
15 cannot see. They should be involved and also the
16 youth. That youth are our future generation; they
17 should be involved. Please invite them.

18 All of us, it would -- we would make a more
19 holistic plan in who our parents were. And when you
20 just say "Elders", it makes you wonder because there's
21 Elders out there. We should involve and consult with
22 them and plan with them and inform them.

23 And the youth that were mentioned, they have to be
24 educated and trained that this process should be an
25 educational -- for youth. That -- this is just a
26 comment. I don't know if there's a question and who

1 it's directed to. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

3 MR. KUSUGAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

4 Pujjut Kusugak, Agnico Eagle.

5 Thank you, Guy, for saying what you spoke. We try
6 and inform the youth in the school, and if we could --
7 we're looking at going to the school to educate them
8 about the mining industry because they are the future.
9 And the Nunavut government has said for ten years,
10 10,000 -- that in ten years, the youth -- 10,000 youth
11 will be employable. This was mentioned that it was a
12 shock and also something to look forward to and to
13 urgently act. But we have to prepare for that too,
14 that this has to be known that we have to prepare
15 education and training opportunities for the future.
16 It is true the youth have to be involved.

17 I used to think I was young. I'm not that young
18 anymore. I used to be a teacher. The youth are
19 willing, but we have to encourage them, to educate them
20 so that we will have a brighter future. Thank you.

21 THE CHAIR: NIRB board, Guy Alikut.

22 MR. ALIKUT: Guy Alikut, Nunavut Impact
23 Review Board.

24 Yes. Thank you for that answer, Pujjut. I
25 understand. I just had to update that because it's
26 been in my heart. That all the comments I have for

1 now. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Any more questions from the
3 Board? Seeing none, we'll continue with closing
4 statements from community representatives around the
5 table, from the spokesperson that was appointed by your
6 community to provide your closing statements, and we'll
7 start with Hatchet Lake. Who is going to be your --
8 speak for you? Peter Gazandlare.

9 Closing Remarks by Hatchet Lake First Nation

10 MR. GAZANDLARE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

11 That's close enough, but it's Gazandlare. My name
12 is Peter Gazandlare. I'm from Hatchet Lake band. I'm
13 a band councillor. I've been a band councillor for --
14 this is my ninth year as a councillor.

15 And a little background is, yeah, I did grow up on
16 the land hunting, trapping, and as well when I -- when
17 I spoke earlier about this, you know, when you -- when
18 you speak about caribou as well as the future of our
19 people and especially the Inuit people as well, it is
20 emotional when you look at it. When you look at
21 everything that's happening around us, everything is
22 changing. The weather is not the way it used to be.
23 The animals are acting differently, and we need to
24 adapt as well, and we do need to protect the caribou.
25 Especially the water, the land, and the animals. Not
26 just caribou. Everything that inhabits the tundra as

1 well as the tree line, they are important to us.

2 I'm not really -- I'm not against green energy
3 when it comes to wind turbines. I'm -- you know, but
4 the only problem I have, like I said before, is that --
5 the location of where it is. I'm a hunter.

6 In the wintertime when I come across caribou on
7 the lake or anywhere, they don't run towards me. They
8 run away like they should.

9 When you look at the crossing and then they keep
10 saying they still cross, yes, maybe one or two. But
11 when you look at the 3D mapping, it's hard to believe
12 for thousands of caribou to come across and have
13 nowhere to go but to go back the same way that they
14 came because when you look at that map, there's nowhere
15 to go unless they go right through the mine, and I
16 don't think it's possible, especially with the caribou.

17 I was here in June. I saw those little tiny
18 calves. You know, they're really, really tiny.
19 They're very vulnerable. They're vulnerable to
20 everything, the surrounding, the sound, everything.
21 Without the mother they have no chance of surviving.
22 So is our little babies.

23 Like, this proposal, when you look at it, it is
24 something green for the north, for the future, but I
25 don't -- I can't get around the location. I stressed
26 this already back in June when we had a meeting with

1 Agnico Eagle. I talked about the location because
2 that's what -- that got me, was the location. Why not
3 away from there because, to me, that's too close to the
4 calving grounds.

5 But for the extension, if it does happen, the Dene
6 and the Inuit need to come together and come up with a
7 better solution of how to protect the land, water, and
8 animals, because without that, I don't think we have a
9 chance. I don't think our kids have a chance.

10 Because to rely on the western science is another
11 thing, but what was taught to us has been embedded in
12 us. Since I can remember, everything that was taught
13 is still embedded in me. I'm pretty sure everybody --
14 a lot of people around the table have the same idea of
15 what I'm talking about.

16 We do need -- we do have -- it may not -- excuse
17 me. It may not -- we may not see it today, but in the
18 future we will, but, like I said, how -- are we going
19 to wait 'til it's too late, or do we need to act now?
20 Because there's a lot of locations you can look at
21 right now, but that location, when I look at it, is so
22 important. It's really important to the caribou.
23 There's a reason why they go there after --
24 post-calving.

25 And we need to acknowledge that the calving
26 grounds are actually shifting. I've been hearing a lot

1 of stories about this year when we were here that they
2 were calving, like, there's a lot of cows having their
3 calves just right here near -- near the community. We
4 need to acknowledge that. We can't say that's not 50.
5 We can't wait 'til it's 50 before we shut anything down
6 because that's the really crucial part of a calf for
7 them to survive and how they can flourish and keep
8 coming back to the same roads. Because the tundra may
9 be vast. When you look at the map, it's really far,
10 but for caribou it's not that far. Every winter they
11 range in our area. Sometimes far, sometimes we're
12 lucky enough to have it not that far. But, still, we
13 need to have a better idea and better plan if we're
14 going to save the caribou, land, and water. With that,
15 masi. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: From Fond Du Lac, Louie
17 Mercredi.

18 Closing Remarks by Fond Du Lac First Nation

19 MR. MERCREDI: Thank you, Madam Chair. Louie
20 Mercredi, Fond Du Lac First Nations.

21 As we all know that the -- we've been here for
22 over a week now exchanging information left to right,
23 talking about our way of life as indigenous people, the
24 main source of a food that we rely on.

25 In the past week talking, exchanging information,
26 we opened up other avenues to work together as Dene and

1 Inuit. We would be stronger in pairs, work together
2 nation to nation.

3 We learn the same values as you did from us. As I
4 mentioned today and yesterday, we are not opposed,
5 against the industry. We are opposed against the
6 location of the wind turbines that's been proposed. If
7 that can be relocated to an area where it does not
8 affect the calving-ground areas, we would be happy,
9 both sides. There -- if that happens, we know our
10 caribou is going to be with us longer.

11 By working together we also need to include our
12 youth at these tables. We need to start educating them
13 on where we sit now. We're talking about their futures
14 and futures ahead of them. It might be too late if we
15 don't act on it now. We don't know what the activation
16 number is for an animal to be -- to be listed as an
17 endangered species. If that ever happens to the
18 Qamanirjuaq herd, we'll all be in danger, so we need to
19 be proactive we don't see these numbers.

20 Another thing in regards to the location, there's
21 a noise pollution, habitat loss, and reduce survival or
22 reproduction of the caribou. We also need to make sure
23 the company uses our Inuit and Dene wisdom and
24 knowledge to create their plan. We have to make the
25 wise decision here to sustain our caribou. I myself,
26 maiden name is white caribou, my mother's side.

1 So with that -- I'll leave it at that, and I'd
2 like to also acknowledge the Elders that are
3 participating here with us in the past week. We all
4 know they're tired.

5 I'd also like to thank the hamlet of Rankin Inlet
6 for accommodating us, NIRB staff, the audience. This
7 is a start for us sitting at these tables together as
8 Inuit and Dene people. We can make it happen for
9 protecting our future lives. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: From Black Lake, David Bigeye.
11 Closing Remarks by Black Lake First Nation

12 MR. BIGEYE: Thank you, Madam Chair. The
13 name is David Bigeye, Athabasca Denesuline Land
14 Corporation.

15 I'm a drum keeper. I want to say something about
16 the drum. It reflects back on the caribou. (Drumming)

17 That's a small beat of a drum made out of caribou
18 hide. The knowledge was brought on to me by my late
19 father. I make drums for healing and also to call the
20 caribou back to Saskatchewan from here. We use this
21 drum for hand games and also ceremonies. It's our
22 custom, cultural. We respect the caribou.

23 There's a lot of concern addressed regarding the
24 calving, post-calving of our little ones. They can
25 never speak for themselves, but we can speak for them
26 as a nomadic people.

1 Caribou is part of our lives regardless how we
2 live. An indigenous First Nation people and Inuit,
3 these turbine, the location, it's not acceptable.
4 Please come with a solution and resolve this issue that
5 we've been addressing for the past few days, ten days,
6 almost ten days. We rely on our main food as caribou,
7 food chain.

8 Mining is good in a way, but they're not going to
9 be here forever, and the propose of the windmill,
10 there's a lot of things that they did not address, the
11 foundation, the location where it's going to be, the
12 height, the width, transmission line all the way to
13 Discovery, the pipeline. All of that, caribou will
14 never go over it.

15 Through what I experience in my lifetime as a
16 trapper on the tundra, caribou have a vision. Not like
17 ours. They can see miles away and hear. It's
18 something that we need to reconsider, and that's
19 important, the location. Like earlier before we went
20 for a break, a lady made a presentation regarding an
21 unusual plant. That's a serious factor right there.
22 And also sick caribou, I came across that in my time
23 too.

24 We need to do further investigation. What's going
25 to happen after the impact? Who is going to be
26 reliable for it? It's going to be us, the decision we

1 make for our people.

2 I know in our past time regarding negotiation of
3 complex things, Canada always turn it over -- rather
4 whatever decision it makes -- we make, but this is
5 different. I respect each and every one of you Inuit.
6 Your words are powerful. You're strong. You work
7 together, and we are the same as you.

8 There's a lot that I want to say, and when I think
9 about it, it's never-ending. It always reflects back
10 to the turbine. I hope and wish this is an
11 opportunity, but I'm concerned even though it may work
12 or may not, but the thing is, would it benefit the
13 community of Rankin?

14 I seen the location close to the mine. Are they
15 going to provide the power source here? Is there going
16 to be a service charge? Are you guys going to own it?
17 Who knows. We need to reconsider.

18 I'm very, very concerned. The reason I'm saying
19 this, there's rich ore here. If it's all harvest out,
20 we will be left here with nothing. Our land is
21 beautiful.

22 THE CHAIR: (NO ENGLISH FEED)

23 MR. BIGEYE: Right here, for what's yours,
24 what's going to happen here right now. And it's a
25 beautiful ore, a lot of money involved, a lot of people
26 supportive, but then again -- but our -- our live or

1 die, our food are caribou. Like us, you feed off the
2 caribou, rely on the caribou like us.

3 Once that turbines are accepted and the waterline
4 all in place, the caribou will relocate. I see that
5 already right now. I seen -- I've been -- I've been in
6 that spot. I look at it, and I seen it myself. I was
7 crying, tears in my eyes. I seen that Ennadai Lake and
8 Great Esker [phonetic] I seen that again. The caribou
9 move up to esker, and they come down the -- and that
10 was a beautiful place to see and a beautiful site.

11 My dad, my late dad, he cried. When the caribou
12 move up to him, he cried. And it's right here. It's
13 in my heart still today. Even though a lot of money,
14 if the caribou left us, we'll be vulnerable. We'll be
15 poor, like, all together.

16 When the caribou is sick, we have to take it away,
17 take its life, for that way they don't spread the
18 sickness. We have to think about that.

19 And right here in this room we've got kids
20 generation. We have to speak for the generation,
21 future. Right here, I spend a week here. I seen a
22 lot. And good people, I'm very thankful for that.

23 The young people -- young people -- when we say we
24 speak for a young generation, if you put the money
25 ahead of them, our generation, our land, we have to
26 hang on for them what's on the land. If we keep the

1 caribou, we'll go a long ways, my fellow members, my
2 relationship. We can't let go, remember that.

3 Our hydro project right now that's happening at
4 wind turbines, and the caribou will leave us. Remember
5 those word. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: From Lac Brochet, Tom
7 Shaoullie.

8 Closing Remarks by Northlands First Nation, Lac Brochet

9 MR. SHAOULLIE: Tom Shaoullie from Northlands
10 First Nation, Lac Brochet.

11 In closing, I'd just like to reiterate what's been
12 said, that we oppose the location. We're not
13 against -- against the turbine but the location,
14 because we're concerned about the migration route.

15 Even with the mines itself, the caribou is already
16 disturbed. Who's to know that in, say, five years they
17 won't see any caribou in the 5-mile range, and then
18 there will be no shutdowns, and there will be room for
19 expansion if there's no caribou around. No telling
20 where it's going to migrate to, you know, maybe further
21 west. That's a concern for our community. I speak for
22 the people of Lac Brochet. There's no telling what the
23 future has in store for us.

24 I remember the Elders used to say there will come
25 a time when you catch two fish but end up throwing back
26 one. You'll be allowed one fish. The same for the

1 caribou, there will be a limit, restrictions on it.

2 Each family might harvest one caribou.

3 All this talk, you know, about caribou all these
4 years, if it does go, say, to 50,000, there will be a
5 cap on it. So that's what concerns me, and I wouldn't
6 want to see that in my lifetime.

7 But, yes, it was nice coming up here, meeting new
8 people. The week went fast, except for the weekend,
9 yeah. And that I'd just like to say thank you. That's
10 it.

11 THE CHAIR: From Tadoule lake, Ernest
12 Bussidor.

13 Closing Remarks from Sayisi First Nation, Tadoule Lake

14 MR. BUSSIDOR: It's not very much, but I'll
15 give you -- I'll say a few words. I am from Tadoule
16 Lake. We went through a difficult time. Still we live
17 in a small community.

18 Thank you for inviting us to this hearing, to
19 NIRB. I come from a small reserve straight south of
20 here. Tadoule Lake is in the middle of nowhere. We're
21 170 miles from Churchill. We're 200 miles north of
22 Thompson and 168 miles from Lynn Lake.

23 The reason why we live where we live, our
24 territory runs from South Knife Lake, Tadoule Lake, and
25 as far north as Yathkyed Lake, according to my
26 grandfather. The Dene used to follow the caribou up

1 there a long time ago, but when I look at the territory
2 here between Tadoule and Rankin Inlet, it's huge land.
3 We're so far apart. It seemed like I was going to the
4 space station coming up here, it was such a long
5 journey. Beautiful land, tundra all the way.

6 But we live in a modern world now where our
7 friends are on the other side of the world, and you can
8 touch -- talk to them on Facebook, but we live with a
9 sense of kinship with other aboriginal people. We live
10 in a territory where Cree to the south, us Dene, and
11 the Inuit to the north, always refer to us as the
12 "Three Amigos". The fact that we co-existed for
13 thousands of years with three distinct nations with
14 better harmony than most European nations can ever
15 boast.

16 We were fortunate to escape from the clutches of
17 relocation. We ran away as far as we could. As a
18 young man I got out of high school, and my parents, my
19 grandparents, and our people had moved to Tadoule Lake
20 and they left Churchill where the town almost destroyed
21 us.

22 We were poor, dirt poor. I've never seen poverty
23 like that since in my life. But now we have land. We
24 have a renewed sense of pride in our culture, in our
25 language, and how beautiful our land is. I've been
26 teaching that to my kids, to my grandkids, and to the

1 community kids, all of us have, the adults, how
2 beautiful your land is. And once the children start
3 paying attention to that, it gives them a renewed sense
4 of who they are. It gives them pride to have a
5 beautiful homeland, and through land claims we have
6 surface rights, we have fee simple lands, insolvent
7 Nunavut, and the Inuit have land in Manitoba now.

8 And stories of my grandfather. My grandfather was
9 an orphan. He was raised by his aunt, who raised many
10 orphan children around 1900. Tuberculosis, small pox,
11 influenza, Spanish flu, whatever disease was out there
12 affected us. We were crippled by disease.

13 My grandfather had 12 children. They all died of
14 tuberculosis. My grandfather spent three years in a
15 sanatorium. He lost six ribs, and yet he survived. He
16 lost all his children, but he took my brother and I in.
17 He didn't speak a word of English, but he had a dog
18 team, he had fish nets, he had a gun, and even though
19 the government forbid us to hunt caribou -- we lived in
20 Churchill -- my grandfather always snuck off and went
21 hunting and shot caribou, as most men did from our
22 community.

23 But when the government found out we were
24 shooting -- killing caribou in Churchill, they took the
25 guns away, and then we had nothing to live for, and
26 people started dying until 1973.

1 But my grandfather and his stories always stayed
2 with me. As a young child, my brother and I would sit.
3 There was no such thing as TV or radio telling stories
4 of the past. Every summer we would spend at the four
5 Prince of Wales at the Jesuit mission school they had
6 there. As a child he never learned English, he never
7 learned French, but he learned Inuktitut very well.

8 He had friends. One of his friends was Peter
9 Adam, Aglook [phonetic] snowball. Men like that would
10 come into my Grandpa's house, and they would drink wine
11 and play hand game. It was beautiful. They'd chant.
12 It was a chanting game, and we should revive that
13 friendship game that we had with the Inuit. We call
14 it "teghna udzi". It means Inuit hand game. All it is
15 is chanting and hiding objects, and it's a beautiful
16 way to form brotherhood and friendships.

17 Stories of Nakio Nyluk, an island on the Kazan
18 River for the Dene and the Inuit. They met, and they
19 hunted together on that island. I don't know where it
20 is, but I remember that island. My grandpa used to
21 talk about it. It's got a pile of antlers on it where
22 the Dene and the Inuit used to hunt together.

23 The last hand game they had with the Inuit was at
24 Tha-anne River in 1920. The Inuit were on the north
25 shore and the Dene on the south shore, and they played
26 hand game for days, weeks. And when the Dene left,

1 they left forever. They never came back up there.

2 The treaty that our people signed, there were
3 promises of gardens, promises of livestock, a promise
4 of a home. You don't have to walk to the barren lands
5 anymore. You can grow your garden here. We're going
6 to give you livestock, and we're going to give you a
7 beautiful house to live in. My grandfather believed
8 that. All the Dene believed that. My grandfather died
9 in 1990 still waiting for that to happen.

10 But in 1921 when he walked away, there was three
11 boys, Inuk boys, I remember he said. They were so fond
12 of the Dene. They were friends. That was Oolih Bah,
13 Anawuyuk, and Googily, and they were our friends. And
14 it's caribou that ties us together, our land, our
15 tundra, and the caribou. Caribou are very fragile, but
16 they're very, very resilient.

17 I know from sitting on the caribou board
18 representing Tadoule that when certain herds go below a
19 certain threshold, they employ recovery strategies.
20 And caribou have an amazing ability to rebound if you
21 leave them alone, and I think that's a testament with
22 the Beverly herd around the rebound now, from what I'm
23 hearing. So all is not lost.

24 Our endeavour for us in the seal river. I live in
25 the Seal River, North Seal, South Seal, and the Seal
26 River proper. Tadoule Lake is right in the middle of

1 that. We chose a different route instead of industry.
2 We have ample areas of potential minerals, but we saw
3 what civilization does to people, and we don't want
4 that. So we've been trying to protect our watershed
5 from hydro because hydro always wants to divert rivers
6 and make dams and make money and flood people's lands.
7 We don't want that.

8 And because of what they did to us, they've been
9 leaving us alone. The government hasn't come near our
10 community. There's no mines. No development of any
11 kind within 200 miles of my community. And we've been
12 rebuilding ourselves, rebuilding our pride and our
13 language and our culture, our history, and we teach
14 that to our kids, the young generation, just repeatedly
15 telling them how beautiful their land is.

16 The opportunities to showcase your culture and
17 your traditions and your history. Eco-tourism and
18 cultural tourism is another alternative to industry.
19 You can have both. It gives the children a sense of
20 pride to know that they have beautiful lands, and they
21 have beautiful fish, and they've got caribou. We're
22 very fortunate. We're a small community. We get
23 caribou almost every winter.

24 But like my friend with the caribou drum, we have
25 a drum group. We drum in the falltime. We play hand
26 game with the doors open in the band hall. If the

1 caribou are close, we drum, and we play hand game. And
2 the caribou hear that drum. The drum is a very special
3 tool. It's a portal to the spirit world for us, and
4 when you drum, the spirits of the ancestors come into
5 the room. That is our belief.

6 We belong to Treaty 5. It's a very poor treaty.
7 It's based on the Homestead Act. We're not farmers.
8 We don't -- we can't even grow potatoes, and yet
9 they -- our treaty is full of references to livestock
10 and farming and oxen.

11 We have no industry really right now at our
12 community level. We're a welfare economy. Lots of
13 poor people with no jobs. Some people have never had a
14 job in their life. They have no idea what it means to
15 get up at 9:00 in the morning and go to work. It's
16 hard for us to teach our children those kind of values
17 when there is so much unemployment. Probably
18 80 percent of my community is unemployed and living on
19 welfare.

20 But we're rich. We're rich, richer than any
21 people that I know. We have healthy fish, and we can
22 drink water out of our lake. We have berries. We have
23 all kinds of animals. We've got moose. Trapping, when
24 it was a big industry, our people made a good living at
25 trapping, but that industry is dead.

26 Our community is connected to Lynn Lake, Manitoba,

1 by way of a winter road that open January to March,
2 three months of the year. I helped build that road.
3 There is 340 kilometres from Lynn Lake to Tadoule, and
4 Lynn lake is a dead mining town. It used to be a big
5 boom town. There used to be thousands of people there,
6 but now it's just a ghost town. But they're looking
7 for other minerals there, and there's promises of
8 better days ahead for them too.

9 So mining is a beautiful concept, I guess, for the
10 people that make a lot of money because mining makes a
11 lot of money. It makes money for everybody. It gives
12 royalties to governments. It gives royalties to
13 communities, to people, all the side benefits. And the
14 mining company themselves make decent money. They
15 wouldn't be here for charity. But the only problem
16 with mining is it's very short-lived. You have to see
17 beyond that. You can't just plan for the next
18 20 years. You've got to look further ahead than that.

19 But with cultural and eco-tourism you can never go
20 wrong. Your culture is rich. Your history is rich. I
21 mean, it's amazing. I watched TV the other day, and I
22 see a show on Inuk people in 1972, the movie.
23 Beautiful. It's amazing the resilience. And you have
24 to hang on to that because that's going to be your ace
25 in your pocket when the mines shut down.

26 The fear for me is -- not just for me, for my

1 people, is that once you start that business, you look
2 for other deposits. You start spreading out. Nunavut
3 is a huge territory, and there's lots of minerals out
4 there, all kinds of it, but you're sacrificing
5 something for that. It's a destruction of the
6 environment. So it's a balancing act; culturally too
7 it's a balancing act. But we have to think of our
8 children. I do. I have five children. I have
9 12 grandchildren. They worry me every day.

10 So we're all the same in that regard, that we have
11 to do things for the betterment of their lives, and
12 it's a beautiful thing to have a mine and all the
13 benefits it brings you, but there is always that
14 gnawing feeling in the back of your mind that maybe
15 it's not as good as it seems, but only you can tell
16 yourself that as a people.

17 We chose a different route. We chose to protect
18 the environment, our environment anyway. We have a
19 huge territory. Not because we're mighty, the tundra
20 is an amazing place. It could be rich in resources one
21 minute, and it could be a desert with nothing in
22 different seasons, but we've learned to live with that
23 over the thousands of years.

24 I'm sure we can keep on going as a people, but I
25 still think fun and games is important. We've got to
26 have social connections together as aboriginal people,

1 all of us do, and I'd sure love to see hand game again
2 with the Inuk and the Dene. That would be so beautiful
3 to see.

4 And before I start rambling on and on and on, I'll
5 stop there. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Before we continue with
7 closing statements from community representatives,
8 we're going to take a 15-minute break.

9 (ADJOURNMENT)

10 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everyone. If
11 you can please take your seats, and we'll continue.

12 Continuing with closing statements from community
13 representatives. Next we have from Whale Cove,
14 Percy Kabloona.

15 Closing Remarks from Whale Cove (Roundtable)

16 MR. KABLOONA: Thank you, Madam Chair.
17 Percy Kabloona. I'm the Whale Cove mayor.

18 I got involved with the hamlet back in 1992. I
19 was very young. I used to be very nervous to say
20 anything in public and emotional. Tried my best to
21 help the community. I got involved with -- agreement
22 was signed, got involved with the IPG where you guys
23 are sitting today. I was part of the Board. I was the
24 chair back then. That was 2002, around there. Years
25 go by, Agnico Eagle put a proposal in for the
26 Meadowbank when I was on NIRB. That's how far I know

1 Meadowbank today -- Agnico Eagle.

2 And I used to be involved with the Nunavut
3 Planning Commission, which I travelled to northern
4 Manitoba, north Saskatchewan. I know a few people here
5 that I met at that time.

6 I used to be involved with KIA as a board. It's
7 very hard to make those decisions too representing
8 Inuit. It's very hard to make decision as a board. I
9 know where you're sitting at. All these
10 recommendations, you need to combine them and -- which
11 is better.

12 As a hamlet councillor, mayor, my community would
13 always support business and job that we don't have in
14 our community. We don't even have a taxi going into
15 our community. The only store we have is low pretty
16 quick, and gas price is going up. Most people are
17 saying it's very hard to get a job in a smaller
18 community.

19 At our council meeting, just about every meeting,
20 our councillor would say, Put your stuff down and get
21 something going. I don't have the power as -- as a
22 mayor too. I can't, you know, make somebody do
23 something for our community just for one person asking
24 it. Although we have councillors making the motion to
25 do the ledgers and stuff like that, it's very hard. We
26 are looking for support too as some people are saying

1 it. As I mentioned, when I travel in between
2 communities in cold weather, December, January, with
3 temperatures about 50, 70, it's very hard to track any
4 animal in between communities at most time.

5 As I mentioned, I travel through Qamanirjuaq going
6 to Princess Mary Lake for musk ox. There was no
7 caribou at all. Even with Ferguson River just west of
8 Qamanirjuaq. So that's how hard it is to see some
9 caribou in some years. In spring they migrate near
10 Whale Cove, just west side of us, but they won't stop
11 'til they get to their calving area or when they're
12 starting to -- ready to calve.

13 Like I mentioned earlier, I've been involved with
14 all kinds of board and stuff, trying to support my
15 community. And -- and when exploration comes to our
16 council meeting, we accept -- and I support them to do
17 something near our community.

18 We did have an exploration called Inco camp that
19 was back in ages. They shut down the group camp. They
20 all did -- they were saying that it's positive to get
21 it going, but when you're (INDISCERNIBLE) that one. So
22 they had to shut it down and sell it. Today we still
23 don't know if it's a go-ahead for the new buyers,
24 and ...

25 I kind of overheard that Agnico Eagle wanted to
26 work around padlik [phonetic], what they call padlik,

1 used to be borealis. Council, Whale Cove, supported
2 it. And we heard KIA or NTI did not approve it --
3 approve it or they wanted more money or something like
4 that. So this is how we're not getting any support,
5 what we want.

6 I know the Agnico Eagle group is trying to get
7 more mineral or whatever in some other community area.
8 But when we travel to a community like Rankin, we're
9 told, I hope you won't support it. It's doing
10 something wrong. But in small communities, we're
11 having -- we're suffering. We have to support
12 business, exploration, mining just to get some kind of
13 a job. Small income at least.

14 Housing is the main factor in our community. Lack
15 of housing. Families not getting along because of
16 drugs and alcohol. So this is what we need to find to
17 solve that problem, help the small communities create
18 something. The decision-makers need to look into that
19 as well. Like I said, it's very hard to make that
20 decision. I used to be on KIA, NTI, so, you know.

21 Commercial fishing is one of the smallest thing
22 that is helping the community. It's not much, but it's
23 helping us. Harvesting beluga is helping us a little
24 bit but doesn't last long. But if my council supports
25 something -- like I said, I did not get anything in
26 writing from my council, if we were to support the

1 turbine. But if it would help them more, I know the
2 council would say, Do if you need to.

3 I am not trying to make recommendations, but as --
4 as -- I travel myself, alone. The people I work with,
5 if they don't see money, if they're not going to earn
6 an income, they won't come. And they could say big
7 things but not make money. They travel when they get a
8 letter requesting them to attend a meeting. Those of
9 us who want to, we try our best. But, Madam Chair, I
10 am just saying what I wanted to say.

11 I thank my wife. We've been married 46 years. I
12 am often away from her as I attend meetings. Some --
13 some people say, You only go to meetings because of the
14 money. I don't know how to respond to that. And when
15 I go home, I get asked, What did you say, and what are
16 we to expect? We can't get an answer. We never get an
17 answer yet. I hope all the organizations and
18 intervenors work hard to support the smaller
19 communities. The bigger communities get more support
20 based on the population.

21 Majority of the people in Whale Cove are Inuit.
22 The Co-op, the police, and the nurses are the only
23 white people. They don't vote. They're just there to
24 work. We try and get them -- support them, but they
25 can -- their support is limited. The people are there
26 just to respond to crimes. They're just -- they're

1 protecting people. The nurse looks after sick people.
2 The teachers look after the children.

3 I said earlier I used to shake when I was younger,
4 but I am getting older. I am not afraid to speak
5 anymore. I used to be shy, and I used to think I said
6 shameful, but I am better to speak. I never used to
7 speak because I was afraid, and I didn't share what I
8 knew because I was too shy.

9 We are in support of the proponent for
10 development, but not just one community can -- can make
11 that decision. I will end here for now, Madam Chair.

12 Closing Remarks from Chesterfield Inlet (Roundtable)

13 THE CHAIR: From Chesterfield Inlet,
14 Simeonie Sammurtok.

15 MR. SAMMURTOK: Thank you.

16 I want to thank, first of all, the Nunavut Impact
17 Review Board and -- being here, representing the
18 hamlet, they would ask me since last year, but I had --
19 I could not attend. And because of family reasons.
20 And my older brothers and my younger sisters have
21 passed away. I still have three sisters. They are
22 younger than me. My brother -- older brother passed
23 away in March.

24 When we are a small community, it's very
25 difficult. There's -- we have 400 to 500 people in our
26 community. Everything is hard there. We have no taxi.

1 And if we have to go to the airport, we have to look
2 for someone with a truck or a Honda. Those are little
3 things that become hard. Some of us need walkers to
4 help us because we have nothing. There are many
5 barriers in our communities, and many of our youth have
6 committed suicide. Something has to look into this.

7 In Chesterfield Inlet, our youth -- we treasure
8 our youth. I was not going to cry. But I have lost
9 nieces and nephews, younger siblings. Why? Why? It
10 is very stressful. It is hard. We need help. The
11 smaller communities -- the -- the small communities
12 have no voice. We -- we can't -- it's hard for Inuit.

13 I thank all the Dene that are here. We understood
14 from you we can work together even if you're from a
15 small community or a big community. I used to be a
16 mayor at one time, 10, 12 years, and I've been involved
17 on negotiations. I was 22 years old when I became the
18 mayor.

19 When I think back, like Percy said when he was
20 young, it was -- it was very hard to keep our mindset.
21 And as we get older, it gets easier to speak. But I am
22 grateful to be here. And the hamlet has been
23 encouraging me to go attend for the last three years.
24 I finally agreed to attend.

25 And the -- there are many -- there's a hospice for
26 disabled people in Churchill. Women are very capable.

1 They are very -- they support the disabled hospice.
2 There are many -- there's been no development. It is
3 hard to start fisheries. It's been waiting for -- it's
4 been closed for five years because there is no adequate
5 equipment or no proposal has been submitted. We have a
6 fish plant, but it hasn't operated for the last four or
7 five years. These are things that become barriers in
8 our small communities. We need to voice. Some people
9 who attend meetings don't say anything. We encourage
10 them to have a voice for the betterment of our
11 community. It is a community that we know.

12 We go through hard times. Very hard times. What
13 we can do, and the things that -- alcohol and drugs are
14 on the rise. Because they are lonely or depressed,
15 they use -- they turn to those, the young people. Not
16 just in the big communities, but in the small
17 communities too. We have to examine this. We used to
18 request mining companies how they can help us more. We
19 were told in 2016 to 2019 when we talked to mining
20 companies, Help us. Help us. Our land -- update our
21 landfill. We are still waiting, and we've never seen
22 them again.

23 And the mining companies -- who work for mining
24 companies, they want to leave their jobs because they
25 have abuse in the workplace. This has to be heard.
26 The workers at Agnico Eagle, my fellow Inuit, look into

1 this. Look into the communities. Look into the
2 smaller communities what can you do to help the smaller
3 communities.

4 That is very difficult on what else to do. We
5 have to work together. And we have others coming in to
6 move. I am very proud that people from -- move to our
7 community to live there from wherever. And these --
8 the work we have to do and what we propose are
9 rejected. These things that would give us capacities
10 and to help us develop.

11 Like, we wanted a port when I was a mayor for
12 Chesterfield Inlet, and ever since then, it was
13 approved, but it -- it never happened. A port. A
14 seaport. But the smaller port was built, but they
15 didn't -- those are little things that made -- that are
16 barriers. Is it because we are too quiet? Or even
17 when we speak, they don't listen to us. The Nunavut --
18 the Nunavut government and Government of Canada is
19 here. You have to -- I don't think they ever reviewed
20 the proposals we submitted. We need to think about
21 something. The KIA, Nunavut government, Agnico Eagle.

22 Chesterfield Inlet is located in the centre
23 between the Hudson's Bay and Baker Lake. So many ships
24 just pass through. When -- around September and
25 October, there are many ships that are returning from
26 Baker Lake -- from Baker Lake area. There's a big

1 ship. It's 2 kilometres away. The month and a half of
2 waiting, the big ship sits there with the smaller ships
3 ferrying back and forth. It's very loud. The sea
4 mammals, the whales have been far away.

5 We used to go -- we went to residential
6 schools or to be taught by our Elders when there was a
7 lot -- there was -- the sea mammals were plentiful.
8 Ringed seals, harp seals, bearded seals. We don't see
9 those anymore. These would help our economy. We have
10 nothing right now.

11 The youth are -- we worry about our youth and how
12 can we support them. But I am happy, the Kivalliq
13 Inuit Association, they created a cultural centre. But
14 what is -- what are they going to do? It is incomplete
15 without the materials inside. Some of it is used as an
16 office, but the work that would happen there, there is
17 nothing yet.

18 Our youth are going behind or leaving their
19 children. They raise -- they give birth to children
20 and then just let them go, abandon them. Maybe four or
21 five in the last year committed suicide. It is very
22 hard. Very difficult. Not just suicide, but getting
23 cancer too. The -- the climate change is real. It
24 falls upon us.

25 The October used to have sea -- we only start
26 getting sea ice in December. We had sea ice form two

1 weeks before Christmas. We could only travel on the
2 sea ice in late December. These are difficulties that
3 are accumulating. The Elder -- Elder that was with us
4 at KIA, Leo Mimialik, he's been a big supporter. He
5 taught me much. I was taught by my stepfather and my
6 uncle. I used to travel and go out hunting when I was
7 12 because once my father died -- I respect those. I
8 treasure those. I respect the Elders. They are very
9 capable. We have to respect them even if they have
10 passed on. Those two taught me much, my stepfather and
11 my uncle Leonard Putalik. They taught me so much. My
12 uncle used to come and pick me up; that I'm really
13 grateful for.

14 But today there are many difficulties in our
15 community because the people who go to meetings don't
16 have voices. The youth want to work. They are scared.
17 They are intimidated. They are looking. I don't -- we
18 have to communicate with each other, and they never
19 voice their complaints. If they voice their opinions,
20 go through the local radio -- they won't speak out on
21 local radio, but in venues like this -- the smaller
22 communities lack cell phones. We don't have cell
23 phones or computers. We don't have any of those. But
24 we hear. Our local radio is always open. You can make
25 announcement there. Our Elders cannot use computers or
26 cell phones. It seems like this technology is a way

1 for others to advance.

2 There has to be changes for the smaller
3 communities. The number of suicides is very hard when
4 one suicide is enough. I don't know what to do. We
5 don't know what to do. But we need support as small
6 communities. I am very grateful to be here. And for
7 the Dene that are here, we gain understanding with you.

8 And regarding the wind turbine -- the wind
9 turbines, I don't agree with it. My grandmother once
10 said in 1995 in -- she told me -- she used to call me
11 her dear little uncle. She said that the way -- the
12 migration of the caribou has changed greatly. They
13 go -- they used to travel through the north, and they
14 go in another direction now, from the south instead.
15 We see -- we see what the Elders have spoke of. We
16 have to consider these. The Elders, they walked, and
17 they use dog team. They would hunt. If they stop,
18 they build snow houses to spend the night because there
19 were no cabins out there. We have to respect those.
20 The Elders today too. We have to consider -- we have
21 to collaborate and make plans to -- to have a better
22 future.

23 Thank you. And that is all I wanted to say. I am
24 representing the hamlet of Chesterfield Inlet. But
25 they know that I can speak out. They know what I am
26 capable of saying. They ask -- the Elders, for me, ask

1 me to come. They encourage me, Don't just sit there.
2 You are capable of speaking and therefore listening to
3 there.

4 I continued here because I have love for my
5 community. I grew up in Chesterfield Inlet, and I was
6 born in 1959. I grew up there. I moved to other
7 communities at different times, but I always returned
8 to Chester. My children live here. They adore me. I
9 have grandchildren. I adore them. I respect them. We
10 have to respect the little children. We cannot just
11 talk bad about them.

12 Thank you very much for this time to speak. I
13 have a lot of respect for you, the Nunavut Impact
14 Review Board. I respect the Chair of the Board. Thank
15 you. I have a lot of respect for you. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Owingayak.

17 Closing Remarks from Baker Lake (Roundtable)

18 MR. OWINGAYAK: I'm David Owingayak from
19 Baker Lake.

20 I've been asked by the hamlet to come and
21 represent my community. I've never been on any boards
22 or council. My wife used to -- used to go to meetings
23 more than I did. My wife is more outspoken than I am.
24 But at this time I've decided that I would want -- that
25 I wanted to help my people in any way that I can. My
26 heart -- I -- I felt my heart.

1 In 1974, my adopted father, we travelled by plane
2 by a twin otter to Kuujjuaq. After we were there, we
3 were on board an army plane, and we were in a plane
4 crash, and that was very -- a very big -- had a big
5 impact on my life. And then we went to -- we went to
6 different cities down in Manitoba.

7 We had no ways of communicating back to our
8 families back then. We used to go to Thomas Tapatai.
9 We used to hear Thomas Tapatai on the radio, and we
10 would listen to him until midnight. And our parents
11 used to listen to see if they could hear any news
12 from -- of us. So around about 9:00 people used to --
13 used to -- used to go to bed early because we had no
14 way of entertainment like television or radios.

15 I also wanted to mention when we got to Baker Lake
16 when I was young, we used to work for -- my dad --
17 my -- my adopted dad used to work for DOT Tapatai, and
18 he used to help me with heavy equipment, and we used to
19 plow the snow for the department of transportation. I
20 enjoyed that very much. And then I went to Fort Smith
21 to the vocational school to learn about how to operate
22 other types of heavy equipment. And then I went
23 outside of Toronto as well. There was about 10 of us
24 to go train. And once we got back, prior to having
25 hamlets, established hamlets, I used to help with
26 electrical work, and then I used to work on the water

1 trucks as well, and I used to assist the drivers. And
2 once our hamlets were established, I -- I took a course
3 on air brakes.

4 And when I took breaks, I used to go out caribou
5 hunting to ensure that we had a good supply of food.
6 And then we would trap fur animals, fur-bearing
7 animals. There was five Inuit, and then there were
8 five white people in 1970s. We went -- we had to go
9 down -- oh, we got -- we skidooed from Montreal.

10 So we -- we travelled from our community all the
11 way to Yellowknife to try the -- test the equipment
12 out. We didn't -- we had no way of knowing which
13 direction Yellowknife was, but the army helped us a lot
14 back then. Around Tubak [phonetic], one of the men
15 said that he was -- he would go out trapping. And we
16 were able to communicate with the City of Yellowknife.
17 There was a small store when we got in that -- we
18 would -- they had told us that we should have taken a
19 different route to get to our destination, and I
20 don't -- I can't forget -- I -- I -- I always have a --
21 a memory of this. We had told the fellows that we
22 travelled with that we lived off caribou, and there are
23 groceries that we could have -- that we could purchase,
24 but our livelihood is mostly based on country food, and
25 we -- it's -- it's part of our culture, and it makes us
26 feel good, so that's what we -- that's how we survived.

1 So I just wanted to make a small comment about
2 this. I am not a very good speaker. My -- my wife was
3 my caretaker, and she taught me a lot of things along
4 the times that we -- when we lived together. We have
5 to praise women. We have to put them on a pedestal.
6 They sew our clothing. They provide for us, Inuit just
7 used to wear caribou clothing. And they made mitts for
8 us, they made warm clothing for us, and as long as we
9 were kept warm, we -- we were able to survive out in
10 the cold weather. It's -- it's -- for that, we -- we
11 hadn't had the -- the type of clothing that we have, we
12 wouldn't have been able to go out hunting during the
13 different seasons.

14 And we would travel great distances by dog team.
15 Even though animals don't speak like us, they're very
16 intelligent, animals. When the men would go out to
17 their trapline, I remember that well. And our dogs
18 were able to guide us to our final destinations home
19 and to the places where we hunted.

20 The -- the -- the rocks that were being pulled off
21 the ground and around the hills. We knew exactly how
22 to read where the wind directions were coming from by
23 just reading where the prevailing winds were coming
24 from along -- even along the hillsides.

25 So when we were up in Meliadine, we were told --
26 I -- I was going to mention a bit more about that

1 particular area. Those are just the very few things
2 that I recall. I'm very pleased that I was able to be
3 sent here to represent my community. I want to thank
4 the mining company. And welcome to the people from
5 outside of our territory from the two provinces that
6 came long distances. And we are very pleased that we
7 were able to be educated about your culture and the
8 culture of the mining industry. And to whoever spoke
9 here, thank you. I'll stop here for now, Madam Chair.

10 Closing Remarks from Rankin Inlet (Roundtable)

11 THE CHAIR: Baker Lake -- I mean Rankin
12 Inlet.

13 MS. HICKES: Thank you.

14 I was born here in Rankin Inlet. (NO ENGLISH
15 FEED) on the land. I travelled -- I travelled with my
16 parents on the land. I grew up on the land. We
17 travelled by dog team in the winter, stayed in igloos.
18 And then in the summer we stayed in tents. We lived
19 off the land, and that was our livelihood. My dad
20 would hunt for a living until I was 12 years old.

21 And I was first elected to council in '95, and I
22 was nervous and really young. Like Percy said earlier,
23 I was scared to talk. But I am here now.

24 We met with three governor generals in council.
25 We first met with Adrienne Clarkson. She asked us how
26 it was in the past, so I went on to say that we had

1 good life living off the land. My father trapped and
2 hunted seals to sell the pelts to the stores. That was
3 our way of -- or that was his way of making a living,
4 buying the necessities that we needed.

5 And when that trapping and sealing was banned by
6 whoever, he had no more income. So he found work with
7 renewable resources or government hired him to travel
8 around, hauling freight to Churchill and stuff by a
9 long liner. So that was his way of making a living.

10 And then the next governor we met was Michaelle
11 Jean. I went on to say that we were called nomads
12 forever. But we're hardworking people. We've been
13 paying taxes for over 50 years. We're sick and tired
14 of living in third-world conditions. The only
15 transportation out of our community is by air, and it
16 costs a lot. Most people can't afford to buy tickets.
17 So I said -- I said that, We want to be connected with
18 the rest of Canada with all the services that Canada
19 has to offer. And when you return to Ottawa, tell your
20 colleagues we want the road for Manitoba. And I
21 repeated that with the third governor general,
22 David Johnston, what I said now. I said the same
23 thing. When I was done talking, David Johnston came up
24 to me and said, You know a lot. So that was good to
25 hear from a governor general.

26 Nine years ago, we had this rundown arena. Again,

1 I was sitting on council. The executives from
2 government services came in to meet with us and
3 council. They were all dressed in suits. I said, Why
4 do you guys even come here? Nothing happens at these
5 meetings. We have a rundown arena. Just this past
6 winter, the roof almost came off. And you say you guys
7 care about our children. The arena's falling apart.
8 So when you guys go back to Iqaluit, I want to hear
9 good news from you when you come back. That's what I
10 told them. In two weeks they came back and told us we
11 were getting a new arena. So you have to be forceful
12 sometimes to -- when you want something. Just tell
13 them. Coming from the heart.

14 And our only airline in Kivalliq is Calm Air, and
15 it costs a lot to try and get ticket to go anywhere to
16 visit family. We can't even go through Churchill
17 anymore. Department of transportation, they probably
18 know, from Ottawa.

19 And our youth. Too many youth are committing
20 suicide in Nunavut. People are trying to find ways of
21 stopping it. The only solution I can think of is
22 bringing the Lord's prayer back into the schools. I
23 said that to the premier, Peter Taptuna, when we met
24 him -- with him. I said, The Lord's prayer needs to
25 return to the schools. I think that's the only thing
26 that will save our children or youth from committing

1 suicide. Our age group, we grew up with the Lord's
2 prayer, and look where we are. That needs to be taken
3 into consideration.

4 And back to our AEM -- Agnico Eagle. Next time,
5 invite the HTO or members from Salluit, the closest
6 community to Raglan mines. We want to hear from them
7 what they think of the turbines in their area, in their
8 region 'cause it's hard to tell if it helps them or it
9 doesn't help them. We need to hear from them too.

10 And hearing from other -- other members bringing
11 up the Elders advisory committee, would be nice to hear
12 from them too, even if they go on local radio after
13 their meetings so we all know what's going on and where
14 we're heading. And listening to people around the
15 table, most are opposing the wind farm.

16 I'm not against it or anything, but I think we
17 need to find a better location that won't affect our
18 caribou. The hamlet's meeting on Monday, so I'll bring
19 that up. But at this time I'm opposing it too 'til we
20 get more information from people in Salluit and if we
21 can find another location that won't affect our
22 caribou.

23 And thank you to the First Nations, our new
24 friends that are here. You gave us strength and
25 confidence to speak up more. Thank you very much for
26 coming and helping us out, my new friend, the chief.

1 Thank you to the Chair and the board members of NIRB
2 for letting me speak. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you to all of the
4 community representatives for your closing statements.
5 I will now proceed to deal with any motions or
6 objectives filed with the Board in respect of this
7 public hearing. I'll turn the microphone over to the
8 Board's legal counsel to deal with -- Teresa Meadows,
9 to deal with any objections or motions.

10 NIRB legal counsel.
11 Procedural Matters by Nunavut Impact Review Board Legal
12 Counsel

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

16 So, Madam Chair, we have -- I -- I don't know if
17 anyone remembers, but back about four days ago or five
18 days ago, there were several exhibits that were
19 provided by parties to the -- to be filed on the
20 registry on the -- on the public hearing record, three
21 proposed to be filed by Agnico Eagle and three to --
22 proposed to be filed by the Government of Nunavut.

23 Because these were materials that had not
24 previously been filed in that format with the Board, I
25 asked the parties to park it and that we would discuss
26 tonight. So we've been looking forward to this for all

1 these many days, and we would discuss the exhibits,
2 whether or not they can be entered on the public
3 hearing record.

4 So I'm going to ask Agnico Eagle to address the
5 three exhibits that they had proposed to be filed, and
6 we have them on a -- on a memory stick, and we will be
7 projecting them, and then I will get Agnico Eagle to
8 speak to the exhibits, so describe them, describe why
9 they are being provided to the Board for the public
10 hearing record, and then I will -- once those three
11 exhibits are presented, I will then poll the legal
12 counsel and parties as to whether or not they have any
13 objections to those materials being entered on the
14 public hearing record, and then we will proceed to the
15 Government of Nunavut's three matters -- or three
16 documents that they proposed to be filed.

17 So if I can have projected the file that is marked
18 as Exhibit 6. So, Madam Chair, if I can get Agnico
19 Eagle to speak to this document as to why they are
20 offering it to the Board to be filed on the public
21 hearing record.

22 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, Christine
23 Kowbel.

24 MS. KOWBEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.
25 Christine Kowbel, legal counsel for Agnico Eagle.

26 So this document is the reply presentation that

1 Agnico Eagle provided to the Board following the 'G' --
2 Government of Nunavut presentation of their animations.
3 I guess the only change is on Slide 8. There's a
4 photo, and the Government of Nunavut asked Agnico Eagle
5 to -- to get some more information about that photo.
6 So basically they were asking if there were more
7 pictures from the camera that day. And we -- we didn't
8 have any, but what we did find was -- were pictures of
9 caribou at the narrows on a different day, July 14th,
10 also a day the mine was shut down. And so we proposed
11 to replace that slide with that exhibit.

12 And I actually think we got the slide number
13 wrong. I think it might be Slide 7. Yes. So -- so
14 this is the picture that we would replace with -- with
15 the upcoming exhibit which Dr. Sharam will speak to,
16 Madam Chair.

17 THE CHAIR: Greg Sharam.

18 MS. KOWBEL: Christine Kowbel, Agnico
19 Eagle.

20 My apologies, Madam Chair. I think I was
21 confusing. I think it would be a good idea at this
22 point to put up the -- the series of photos that we
23 propose to replace that slide with so that Dr. Sharam
24 can speak to that video. And -- and I should say when
25 I say "video", it -- it's sort of a few photos put
26 together. So when you press "play" it looks like a

1 video, but it's just a bunch of single pictures put
2 together.

3 Madam Chair -- and with your permission I'll give
4 the microphone to Dr. Sharam.

5 Video Played

6 MR. SHARAM: This is a series of
7 photographs that we've put together into a short
8 animation. The location is about 250, 300 metres north
9 of the location that has been referred to as the
10 Meliadine narrows. You can see the mine site in the
11 background on the right-hand side and the Meliadine
12 esker in between, which is just south of the Meliadine
13 Lake.

14 THE CHAIR: If you can slow down for the
15 interpreter.

16 MR. SHARAM: Sorry.

17 These photos were taken on Camera 36, which was in
18 place in 2020, and they were taken on July 14th in the
19 evening. As the video cycles through, you can see that
20 there's a group of animals just on the other side of
21 the -- of the crossing here which enter the water and
22 then cross to this little island as these animals carry
23 on. We may -- may need to turn off the lights to
24 properly see them. They're -- they're pretty far in
25 the distance. Those animals are right here as the
26 video starts again. There they are entering the water

1 and then crossing onto the island. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

3 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

6 And there is one final exhibit that was offered by
7 Agnico Eagle to file.

8 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle,
9 Christine Kowbel.

10 MS. KOWBEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.
11 Christine Kowbel, legal counsel for Agnico Eagle.

12 As -- as the Board may recall, during his -- his
13 questions with the Kivalliq Inuit Association, my -- my
14 partner, Brad Armstrong, mentioned that Agnico Eagle
15 would give some further information for context with
16 respect to overall herd populations. This is that
17 information. It's all from the cited public documents.

18 And, Madam Chair, with your permission, I will
19 again pass the microphone to Dr. Sharam to -- to speak
20 to these -- these graphs.

21 THE CHAIR: Greg Sharam.

22 MR. SHARAM: Thank you, Madam Chair.
23 Greg Sharam from ERM.

24 As -- as Ms. Kowbel indicated, this additional
25 exhibit is to provide some further follow-up context
26 for population numbers for the Qamanirjuaq herd. The

1 graph presented in Slide 16 from -- from the Kivalliq
2 Inuit Association goes from 1994 to 2017, and we
3 noticed that this graph does not include some earlier
4 information on the size of the herd that we thought
5 would provide useful additional context for the Board.

6 We also wanted to emphasize that the last
7 population estimate conducted by the Government of
8 Nunavut is from 2017. So this graph should really end
9 at 2017 instead of 2022. The numbers from 2022 have
10 not yet been released officially. The following graph
11 is from the assessment report for barren-ground caribou
12 produced by the Committee on the Status of Endangered
13 Wildlife in Canada, referred to as "COSEWIC", in 2016.

14 This assessment report included some additional
15 older data for the Qamanirjuaq herd from 1985 and 1988
16 here on the previous image here circled in red. So
17 these points are the same as on the previous figure,
18 and these additional points from the 1980s are circled
19 in red. So in that graph you can see some more of the
20 trends over time.

21 We also wanted to highlight that the Government of
22 Nunavut has published additional older population
23 information. As part of their 2010 report on the
24 2008 population survey, the Government of Nunavut
25 included a figure of earlier population estimates. All
26 of these population estimates used similar methods, all

1 of which were aerial surveys of the calving grounds.

2 These surveys go back to 1968, here, and the red
3 line on this figure is the total population estimate.
4 I'd be happy to give more details on the survey
5 methodology used if the Board or staff have questions.
6 But the important point is that the surveys have
7 improved over time.

8 Biologists report that older surveys from the
9 1960s through to 1982 have some concerns. These
10 surveys used people to count caribou from small plains
11 and, when encountering large groups, likely missed some
12 caribou. So biologists estimate that the numbers
13 reported in this figure could be two to three times
14 higher than reported here. So these might be higher
15 numbers up here where the laser is.

16 Since then, the Government of Nunavut has moved --
17 then the Government of Northwest Territories -- has
18 moved to using photo surveys which is a more accurate
19 survey methodology; however, there were some criticisms
20 of the early surveys from the 1980s and the 1990s
21 because some of these surveys had fairly low
22 confidence.

23 Biologists use what are called "confidence bars",
24 which are these vertical bars, to indicate how accurate
25 the estimate is. You can see these confidence bars are
26 quite large, meaning that those estimates are quite

1 small, not very accurate -- or not very precise.
2 After, 2008 improvements were made to the methods, and
3 biologists have higher confidence in the accuracy of
4 these surveys, and you can see that the size of the
5 confidence bars gets smaller.

6 The earlier data is what we have available to us,
7 and so we can't ignore it. We use that data in our --
8 in our work, keeping in mind the challenges of the
9 quality with the older data. Since that 2010 report,
10 there have been two additional surveys where the
11 reports have been released in 2014 and in 2017. Those
12 estimates were for 264,700 caribou and 288,000 caribou
13 displayed here.

14 To sum up, the herd seems to have been at a lower
15 population in the 1960s and '70s, although it's
16 difficult to know exactly what the size of the
17 population was, as we discussed earlier. The herd
18 appears to have grown quickly during the 1980s to
19 between 200,000 to 300,000 animals.

20 There was a single large survey of about
21 495,000 animals in the 1990s. Just to remember, that's
22 one of the years when there were larger confidence
23 intervals, and so concerns about how accurate those
24 estimates were, followed by the first three surveys of
25 about 300,000 animals from twenty -- 2008 to 2017, all
26 with quite small overlapping confidence intervals.

1 Hopefully that provides a bit more context to what
2 the survey data from the Government of Nunavut and
3 Northwest Territories tells us about the historic
4 Qamanirjuaq population. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

6 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
7 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel.

8 So now that we have that summary of the -- the
9 documents and the purposes for which they are being
10 offered to be filed, they have been marked as exhibits,
11 but they have not yet been entered.

12 So I will poll the parties now regarding whether
13 they -- they have sort of one of three choices,
14 multiple-choice exam today: whether they have no
15 objections to the filing of the -- entering the
16 exhibits as provided; 'B', whether they object to the
17 exhibit being filed and request time for -- time to
18 respond to the new information in the exhibit by
19 keeping the public record open; or, 'C', whether they
20 object to the exhibit being filed on grounds as set out
21 in the Board's rules of procedure and specifically
22 Rule 33.1. So I will go now to the parties.

23 Nunavut Tunngavik, Dominique Nouvet.

24 MS. NOUVET: Thank you. Dominique Nouvet,
25 Nunavut Tunngavik.

26 I'm requesting an Option D to make some quick

1 comments on Exhibit C -- proposed Exhibit 6. Sorry.
2 Nunavut Tunngavik does wish to put on the record its
3 concern with the very, very last-minute filing of the
4 new photos and the negative impact that this has had on
5 the hearing process, and I'll explain that quickly.
6 It's important, from our perspective, to have that on
7 the record. This exhibit was filed today --

8 THE CHAIR: If you can please slow down
9 for the interpreters.

10 MS. NOUVET: This exhibit was filed today.
11 Hearing participants had minimal opportunity to
12 consider these photos. Hearing participants did not
13 get to integrate this information into their questions
14 for Agnico Eagle's main presentation. The public
15 attending the community rounds did not -- are -- are
16 mostly not here this evening, and some of them raised
17 comments and questions about this issue. So they did
18 not get to see these photos, and they did not get to
19 ask questions about these photos or make comments about
20 these photos the way they did about other photos that
21 they did get to see.

22 The Government of Nunavut as well as the Sayisi
23 Dene and Northlands Denesuline squarely raise the
24 concern that caribou movement at the Meliadine narrows
25 has changed in recent years. The Government of Nunavut
26 did this at page 8 of their written submission. The

1 Sayisi Dene and Northlands Denesuline --

2 THE CHAIR: Wait --

3 MS. NOUVET: -- raised this concern at
4 page 6 of their submission.

5 Agnico Eagle is a sophisticated and well-resourced
6 party. It could have and should have for the sake of a
7 more meaningful hearing provided these photos as
8 attachments to its written response in August. There
9 is simply no reason why that could not and should not
10 have been done in August.

11 Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

13 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

14 I will take that as an objection. So it was
15 actually Item A. So we'll take that objection under
16 advisement.

17 And, Agnico Eagle, you will have an opportunity to
18 respond after all the parties have been polled.

19 Thank you.

20 Kivalliq Inuit Association, Jonathan Katz.

21 MR. KATZ: Hi. Thank you, everyone.

22 Jonathan Katz, legal counsel to the Kivalliq Inuit
23 Association.

24 So about five minutes ago I wasn't planning on
25 objecting to any of the material. But when the graph
26 that was just put on the screen responding to

1 Dr. Gunn's comments was put on the screen, I received
2 a -- an email from Dr. Gunn advising that what Agnico
3 Eagle was saying is not entirely correct, and rather
4 than go through that here, we are asking for the record
5 be extended to allow for a response in writing to AEM's
6 comments with respect to the graph to correct the
7 misinformation. Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

9 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
10 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
11 Review Board.

12 Mr. Katz, what timing are you requesting to keep
13 the record open for a response?

14 MR. KATZ: Until Monday of next week. Is
15 that okay?

16 THE CHAIR: I know you guys don't usually
17 talk very often during the hearing, but there's
18 interpreters. And for people to understand, we really
19 need you guys to wait for the interpreters to finish
20 interpreting so that everybody can understand what's
21 being said. So just please be patient and slow down.

22 NIRB legal counsel.

23 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

24 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
25 Review Board.

26 So that would be Monday, September 25th, is the

1 timeline that has been requested to extend keeping the
2 record open in order to be able to allow parties to
3 respond to the additional materials provided in marked
4 Exhibit 6.

5 And now we will move on to the Government of
6 Nunavut. Eamonn Carroll.

7 MR. CARROLL: Eamonn Carroll, legal counsel
8 for the Government of Nunavut.

9 What was referred to by legal counsel for the --
10 for the proponent was -- would have -- this would have
11 been an objection under the third option; however, with
12 the addition of the new Slide 7, the Government of
13 Nunavut has been satisfied -- the concerns with the new
14 evidence entered in the reply to the response to the
15 Board, and Kivalliq Inuit Association's request for
16 animations has been satisfied.

17 That being said, if the record is to remain open,
18 the Government of Nunavut would like to have an
19 opportunity to make submissions as well.

20 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

21 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

22 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
23 Review Board.

24 Government of Canada, Spencer Dewar.

25 MR. DEWAR: Qujannamiik, Madam Chair.

26 Spencer Dewar, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern

1 Affairs Canada.

2 We were prepared not to object, but it appears
3 that maybe there is some information that needs to be
4 corrected, so we would be supportive of extending the
5 timeline so that we can have the best available
6 information on the record.

7 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

8 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

11 Sayisi Dene and Northlands Denesuline,
12 Kelly Olson.

13 MR. OLSON: Kelly Olson, legal counsel for
14 Sayisi Dene First Nation and Northlands Denesuline
15 First Nation.

16 We would support the request that the record be
17 kept open to provide additional submissions. We would
18 ask, though, that we be provided 'til the end of the
19 month, so 'til next Friday, to provide a submission.
20 Thank you.

21 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

22 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

23 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
24 Review Board.

25 So, Madam Chair, that date would be Friday,
26 September the 29th that is requested by counsel.

1 And Athabasca Denesuline Ne Ne Land Corporation,
2 Katie Rasmussen.

3 MS. RASMUSSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Katie
4 Rasmussen, consultant for the Athabasca Denesuline Ne
5 Ne Land Corporation, not legal counsel.

6 We also request more time to have a discussion
7 about this new information with our legal counsel and
8 request the same date as the Sayisi and Northlands
9 Dene, the end of the month. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

11 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
12 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
13 Review Board.

14 Perhaps a reply from Agnico Eagle.

15 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle,
16 Christine Kowbel.

17 MS. KOWBEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Legal
18 counsel for Agnico Eagle, Christine Kowbel.

19 I've confirmed with Agnico Eagle, and we think
20 perhaps we'll just make things a bit simpler. We'll --
21 we'll withdraw the series of photos. But I also would
22 like to give a bit of context.

23 As I said, the -- just -- just to give a bit of
24 background, Agnico Eagle received those animations from
25 the Government of Nunavut, I believe, a week ago
26 Monday. So those photos were part of our reply to that

1 evidence. So nobody asked for those photos in August.
2 That animation wasn't provided to us in August. There
3 are literally millions of photos in the Agnico Eagle
4 database from those cameras because they take automatic
5 pictures when wildlife come by. So -- so it sounds
6 easy just to find these pictures, but it does take some
7 work from the teams that support our -- our experts.

8 And so -- so we -- we put the original photo in
9 the -- to provide some more context for people at the
10 hearing, and -- and as my friend, Mr. Carroll, spoke
11 to, we put in the series at GN's request -- sorry --
12 Government of Nunavut's request to provide a bit more
13 contextual information. But we don't think it's a
14 matter that requires, you know, further -- further
15 fuss. So we're -- we're -- we're fine to withdraw that
16 exhibit and -- and leave it at that.

17 As for the comments on the graph, the request to
18 keep the record open based on what Dr. Sharam said when
19 he was introducing it, that exhibit is actually part of
20 Agnico Eagle's reply. That is something that we're
21 entitled to in the agenda. There's no right of
22 sur-reply. All of those graphs were provided, I think,
23 on Friday to -- to the Kivalliq Inuit Association's
24 expert. She's well aware of them. They're public
25 information. They -- we've -- we've discussed these
26 exhibits quite a bit.

1 And, Madam Chair, my suggestion in the interest of
2 time and -- and closing the hearing would be that if --
3 if KIA has further things to say about that exhibit,
4 they could say them as part of their closing statements
5 tomorrow. And so that's my suggestion, and I think
6 that's a fair suggestion in the circumstances.

7 If you could just give me one moment to confer
8 with my client, I may add something.

9 Thank you, Madam Chair. Those are my submissions.

10 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

11 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 With respect to the two -- the other disputed
13 exhibits, my recommendation is the Board take that
14 under advisement, and we will provide direction. The
15 Board can deliberate and provide direction tomorrow.

16 Madam Chair, recognizing that we are 20 minutes
17 past our time, but I'm hopeful that this round will --
18 will go quickly, I would just like to introduce the
19 Government of Nunavut's marked exhibits but not entered
20 and get -- if I can have Eamonn Carroll there, legal
21 counsel, step up to a mic and -- and walk us through
22 them. The first one is -- I'll just look --
23 Exhibit 38.

24 Thank you Madam Chair. Teresa Meadows, legal
25 counsel for the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

26 So if I can have you walk us through this exhibit

1 and describe the exhibit and why it's being offered by
2 the Government of Nunavut. Thank you.

3 MR. CARROLL: Thank you, Madam Chair.
4 Eamonn Carroll, legal counsel for the Government of
5 Nunavut.

6 This is a density graph of caribou movements that
7 has been entered in response to the Board's question of
8 density movements at the same time as the animations.
9 This is not new information. It was included in Agnico
10 Eagle's submissions.

11 We had hoped to provide the Board with 2023 data;
12 however, unfortunately, we do not have time to create
13 these sorts of analyses for 2023 on such a tight
14 timeline. We are not requesting that the record stay
15 open and would instead rely on this to -- and what
16 the -- our expert, Stephen Atkinson, has already said
17 to stand as our answer to the Board's question
18 regarding density at the same time as the animations.

19 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

20 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
21 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
22 Review Board.

23 If I can have Exhibit Number 39 projected and if I
24 can have Mr. Carroll walk us through that exhibit,
25 please.

26 MR. CARROLL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 Eamonn Carroll, legal counsel for the Government of
2 Nunavut.

3 This report was submitted in its entirety in
4 response to the Board's question directed at the
5 Government of Nunavut to comment on caribou data prior
6 to the 1994 survey. Page 71 of this report was read
7 into the record by Mr. Atkinson -- Dr. Atkinson almost
8 in its entirety. I'll also note that page 76 of this
9 report is the citation for which Agnico Eagle obtained
10 the slide on the second page of their graph submission,
11 their third exhibit that was displayed.

12 THE CHAIR: NIRB legal counsel.

13 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

16 So I will go through the parties again. Again,
17 asking whether or not they have no objections, whether
18 they object and need more time, or whether they object
19 on the basis of -- of the rules of procedure.

20 So over to legal counsel for Nunavut Tunngavik
21 Incorporated, Dominique Nouvet.

22 MS. NOUVET: Thank you. Dominique Nouvet,
23 counsel for Nunavut Tunngavik.

24 No objection to this exhibit.

25 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

26 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact

1 Review Board.

2 The Kivalliq Inuit Association, Jonathan Katz.

3 MR. KATZ: Hi. Thank you.

4 Jonathan Katz.

5 No objections from the Kivalliq Inuit Association.

6 Thank you.

7 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

10 Government of Canada, Spencer Dewar.

11 MR. DEWAR: Thank you. Spencer Dewar,
12 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
13 and Northern Affairs Canada.

14 No objections on behalf of the Government of
15 Canada.

16 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

19 Legal counsel for the Sayisi Dene and Northlands
20 Denesuline, Kelly Olson.

21 MR. OLSON: Thank you. Kelly Olson, legal
22 counsel for Sayisi Dene First Nation and Northlands
23 Denesuline First Nation.

24 No objections. Thank you.

25 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

26 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact

1 Review Board.

2 Representative for the Athabasca Denesuline Ne Ne
3 Land Corporation, Katie Rasmussen.

4 MS. RASMUSSEN: Thank you. Katie Rasmussen,
5 consultant for the Athabasca Denesuline Ne Ne Land
6 Corporation.

7 We have no objections to these materials. Thank
8 you.

9 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
10 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
11 Review Board.

12 Legal counsel for Agnico Eagle, Christine Kowbel.

13 MS. KOWBEL: Thank you, Ms. Metals --
14 Ms. Meadows. Christine Kowbel, Agnico Eagle. I guess
15 that's on my mind.

16 No objection.

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

20 So, Madam Chair, subject to the Board reserving
21 their decision with respect to the two exhibits that
22 were identified by the parties as objections to being
23 filed, we will conclude the procedural matters.

24 EXHIBIT 38 - Electronic Copy Only, Additional
25 Slides "Calving Distribution Relative to
26 Meliadine Mine"

1 EXHIBIT 39 - Hard copy, A Calving Ground
2 Photo Survey of the Qamanirjuaq Migratory
3 Barren-Ground Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*
4 *groenlandicus*) Population - June 2008,
5 Technical Report Series 2010 - No. 1-10

6 MS. MEADOWS: And we are about 30 minutes
7 over time. My apologies, Madam Chair.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you to
9 everyone for getting us through those exhibits and
10 those procedural matters. Thank you, Teresa. And
11 thank you to the interpreters for your patience and the
12 court reporters. That leads us to the end of our
13 agenda on -- for Day 7.

14 As you leave tonight, please remember to turn off
15 your headsets and put them at the table as you leave
16 and clean up your area. We'll be meeting back here at
17 9 AM tomorrow -- tomorrow morning to -- to close out
18 the public hearing.

19 _____
20 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 9:00 AM, SEPTEMBER 20, 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.

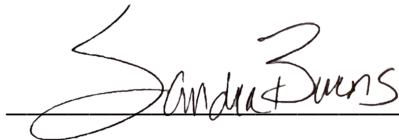
8 Dated at the City of Edmonton, Province of
9 Alberta, this 9th day of October 2023.

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14 Sandra Burns, CSR(A), RPR, CRR

15 Official Court Reporter

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21 Derek Lopez, CSR(A), RPR

22 Official Court Reporter

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