



AGNICO EAGLE

November 24, 2016

Kristina Benoit
Technical Advisor - Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU
X0B 0C0

Re: NIRB File No. 15EN049 – Opportunity to address comments received regarding Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s for the "Parker, Peter and Fox Lakes Winter Access".

Dear Ms. Benoit,

As requested, the following responses are intended to address the comments outlined in the NIRB letter dated November 15th, 2016, which provided AEM the opportunity to address comments received regarding the "Parker, Peter and Fox Lakes Winter Access" project proposal.

- Concerns noted regarding the potential to disturb denning animals along the land portion of the ice road and a recommendation that the Proponent undertake a den survey for wolverine, grizzly, bear, fox, and Polar Bear prior to the proposed winter activities.
 - With the major part of the winter route located on frozen lakes and has been selected to avoid eskers (which may contain higher densities of wildlife denning sites). Therefore Agnico Eagle believes the selected routing reduces the chance of disturbing denning animals. Nevertheless, prior to use, AEM will conduct a den survey and will alter the routing to avoid den sites. Furthermore, AEM will monitor the wildlife seen on the winter access during the transport and this information will be compiled in the log.
- Uncertainty with the Proponent's refueling procedures while transporting exploration supplies along planned route and recommendation that the Proponent provide details of designated refueling points along the route to NIRB and that these be used for refueling.
 - As per standard practices for exploration, the tracked tractors will transport a fuel tank on their sleds to refuel during the transport as needed. The tanks used will be double wall and a spill kit will be present to ensure to contain and clean any spill that could occur during the refueling. If a spill occurs, the Spill Contingency Plan will be followed.
- Concerns noted regarding the planned management procedures for potentially disturbing wildlife while transiting the proposed route and a recommendation that the Proponent give right of way to all wildlife including caribou when operating the winter



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road, vehicles slowing should groups of 25 or more caribou be observed within one (1) kilometer of the road.

- Agnico Eagle agrees with these recommendations to provide the right of way to all wildlife including caribou, however will adhere to the Wildlife Protection and Response Plan which provides information regarding the procedure to apply when wildlife including caribous are near the winter access. The plan, that has been accepted for exploration leases, requires for a group of caribou (≥ 50) or muskoxen (≥ 10) within 100 m from a winter road:
 - Regular vehicle traffic for transport to and from the sites will be suspended and /or stopped to allow Caribou herds to cross the winter road.
 - Wildlife has the right of way and vehicles must wait without disturbing their movements.

Regards,

Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. – Exploration Division

David Frenette
Environmental Coordinator