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February 1, 2017

Sophia Granchinho
Manager, Impact Assessment
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0
Via electronic mail to: info@nirb.ca

Re: Notice of Part 4 Screening for Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "Amaruq Exploration Access Road – Additional Quarry Amendment" Project Proposal

Dear Ms. Granchinho,

On January 16, 2017 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "Amaruq Exploration Access Road – Additional Quarry Amendment" project proposal. Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request:

Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;

INAC is unable to offer comments on whether the project amendment is likely to arouse significant public concern since the amendment application does not contain any detailed records of community engagement/consultation activities undertaken by the Proponent to discuss community concerns regarding the proposed new activities. INAC recommends that the Proponent provide the details of community consultations prior to the start of the new activities.

Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic and socio-economic effects; and if so, why;



The Proponent has submitted an amendment to the Amaruq Exploration Access Road project to include six additional quarries. The Proponent states that the additional quarries are needed to provide large aggregate material for reduced road thaw susceptibility and washout.

INAC notes that within the proposal there are plans to salvage soil for post closure reclamation of the quarry sites. However, other than citing INAC's 2010 "Northern Land Use Guidelines" for pits and quarries, there are no details provided on the remediation techniques to be applied during the quarry closure phase. INAC recommends that the Proponent provide this information and also outline, within the detailed reclamation plan, the expectations for the proposed post closure reclamation.

Furthermore, no dust suppression mitigation measures are outlined within the project amendment. The addition of quarries and spur roads are likely to increase the propagation of dust which could negatively impact vegetation and wildlife. INAC recommends that the Proponent provide a Dust Control Plan.

INAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent throughout any further review phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Norman M. Scully at (867) 975-4554 or by e-mail at norman.scully@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

[Original Signed by]

Charlotte Lamontagne
A/Manager, Impact Assessment