



NIRB File No.: 11EN010
NPC File No.: 148394
KIA File No.: KVCA15Q02
NWB File No.: 8BC-AEA1525

February 8, 2017

Ryan Vanengen
Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
93 rue Arseneault, Suite 202
Val d'Or, QC J9P 0E9

Sent via email: ryan.vanengen@agnicoeagle.com

Re: Opportunity to address comments received regarding Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "Amaruq Exploration Access Road - Additional Quarry Amendment" project proposal

Dear Ryan Vanengen:

On December 22, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s (Agnico Eagle) "Amaruq Exploration Access Road - Additional Quarry Amendment" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission). On January 16, 2017 the NIRB circulated a public notice of the screening for this project, inviting interested parties to provide comments directly to the NIRB by February 6, 2017.

On or before February 6, 2017 the NIRB received comments from the following interested parties:

- Government of Nunavut (GN)
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
- Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)

All comment submissions received by the NIRB relating to this project proposal can be obtained from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: Amaruq Exploration Access Road - Additional Quarry Amendment
- NIRB File No.: 11EN010
- Application No.: 125036

A *summary* of the public concerns reflected in the comment submissions relate to the following:

- Blasting activities associated with the operation of quarries have the potential to disturb and displace wildlife, including causing injuries or death to wildlife from flying rock. Information not provided by Proponent on frequency and intensity of sensory disturbances to wildlife by blasting activities, proposed blasting procedures, daily blasting rates, and specific mitigation measures designed to avoid or minimize impacts to wildlife caused by blasting.
- Lack of detail in project proposal regarding the estimates of habitat loss in the zones of influence of the quarries and spur roads. Recommended the Proponent provide information regarding habitat loss, zones of influence of the quarries and the spur roads, and measures to minimize impacts to wildlife, and wildlife surveillance protocols.
- Potential impacts to wildlife, especially ungulates, from improper design of the exploration access road, which may deter animals from crossing roads and would amplify its barrier effect; however information was not provided on the design of the road that would allow access for wildlife crossing.
- Lack of details or information on community engagement/consultation activities undertaken by the Proponent that discusses community concerns regarding the proposed new activities. Information on community consultations requested prior to the start of the new activities.
- No details provided on the remediation techniques to be applied during the quarry closure phase. Recommended the Proponent provide this information and also outline, within the detailed reclamation plan the expectations for the proposed post closure reclamation.
- The addition of quarries and spur roads are likely to increase the propagation of dust, which could negatively impact vegetation and wildlife; however, no dust suppression mitigation measures are outlined within the project amendment. Recommended that the Proponent provide a Dust Control Plan.

The NIRB would like to provide Agnico Eagle with an opportunity to address the comments noted above prior to the Board rendering its determination for this screening assessment and issuing its subsequent Screening Decision Report to the responsible Minister(s). The NIRB respectfully requests that a response be provided directly to the NIRB by **February 22, 2017**.

If Agnico Eagle determines that the time required to supply a written response is significantly greater than two (2) weeks, the Board requests written notification and an anticipated date for submission be provided as soon as possible.

Please send any forthcoming submissions directly to the NIRB at info@nirb.ca, or through the online public registry at www.nirb.ca.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at (867) 857-4829 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Sophia Granchinho, M.Sc., EP
Manager, Impact Assessment
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List
 Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
 Stéphane Robert, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
 Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
 Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board
 Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
 Maria Serra, Kivalliq Inuit Association
 Brenda Osmond, Kivalliq Inuit Association
 Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada