



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

March 7, 2017

To: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett
Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
House of Commons
Government of Canada
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

cc: David Ningeongan
President
Kivalliq Inuit Association
P.O. Box 340
Rankin Inlet, NU X0C 0G0

Sent via email: minister@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca, Carolyn.bennett@canada.ca;
dningeongan@kivalliqinuit.ca

Re: Screening Decision for Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "Amaruq Exploration Access Road - Additional Quarry Amendment" Project Proposal, Kivalliq Region

Dear Ms. Carolyn Bennet:

On December 22, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "Amaruq Exploration Access Road - Additional Quarry Amendment" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission) with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan. The NPC noted that the previous conformity determination issued on July 12, 2002, July 21, 2003, March 10, 2011, October 21, 2015, July 16, 2015, and June 17, 2016 for the activities associated with the current proposal continues to apply and has determined that the project proposal is a significant modification to the project because of previously unforeseen quarrying activities.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada* (Nunavut Agreement) and section 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA), the NIRB

commenced screening this project proposal. Due to the proposal containing activities that were sufficiently related to previously assessed activities under NIRB file number 11EN010, the NIRB viewed this project proposal as an amendment to the previously screened project and assigned this proposal with that file number.

Please note that at the time of the screening, the NIRB was also assessing an amendment to another component of the same NIRB file number that involves a pilot program to determine the feasibility of the usage of hovercrafts to transport personnel and light cargo on the Amaruq Exploration Access Road and potential usage in search and rescue activities (NIRB File No.: 11EN010, NIRB Application No.: 125071, NPC File No. 148399). As the additional quarries and hovercraft pilot study project proposals are both related to the ongoing Amaruq Exploration project, the proposals are currently being assessed under the same file number, however the NIRB would note that the amendments are not integrally linked to the undertaking of the other and as such the NIRB is screening the proposals separately.

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s "Amaruq Exploration Access Road - Additional Quarry Amendment" project is not required pursuant to paragraph 92(1)(a) of the NuPPAA.

Pursuant to its discretion under paragraph 92(2)(a) of the NuPPAA, the NIRB has determined that specific terms and conditions are appropriate for this project.

Accordingly, the NIRB is issuing the attached Screening Decision Report dated March 7, 2017 to the responsible Minister(s). The Screening Decision Report provides, among other things, the regulatory framework, project overview and the NIRB's assessment process, factors relevant for the determining significance of impacts and recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Please note that the project proposal will not be enclosed due to the size of the electronic document and the limited bandwidth. However, an electronic copy of the project proposal is accessible online 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

We look forward to receiving a response from the responsible Minister. If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Director, Technical Services, Tara Arko at (867) 983-4611 or tarko@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "E. Copland".

Elizabeth Copland, Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure: Screening Decision Report, NIRB File No.: 11EN010 (March 7, 2017)