

NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

WHALE TAIL PIT EXPANSION PROJECT PROPOSAL

NIRB FILE NUMBER 16MN056

HEARING

VOLUME 3

Baker Lake, Nunavut

August 28, 2019

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1 Proceedings taken at Baker Lake Community Hall,
2 Baker Lake, Nunavut

3

4 August 28, 2019 Morning Session

5

6 NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

7 K. Kaluraq Chair of Hearing

8 P. Kadlun Vice-Chair

9 G. Alikut Panel Member

10 C. Emrick Panel Member

11 U. Puqignak Panel Member

12

13 NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD STAFF

14 T. Meadows Legal Counsel

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17 S. Granchinho Manager, Impact Assessment

18 E. Reimer Technical Advisor I

19 L. Atatahak Secretary/Receptionist

20 A. Omilgoitok Environmental Administrator

21 B. Beattie Environmental Technologist

22

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25 AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED

26 C. Kowbel Legal Advisor

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3		and Regulatory Affairs
4	P. Lapointe	Superintendent Permitting and
5		Regulatory Affairs
6	M. Groleau	General Supervisor, Permitting
7		and Regulatory Affairs
8	M. Turmel	Permitting Lead, Nunavut
9	C. Kennedy	Technical Specialist
10	C. Squires	Senior Coordinator
11	C. Ramcharan	General Supervisor Community
12		Relations
13	R. Allard	General Supervisor Interim
14	S. Leclair	Community Affairs
15		Superintendent
16	L. Chouinard	General Manager Meadowbank
17	M. Beaucage	Nunavut Senior Community
18		Coordinator
19	G. Côté	General Supervisor
20	B. Boucher	Superintendent, Human
21		Resources
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23		(Golder)
24	J. Faithful	Principal, Senior Water
25		Quality Specialist (Golder)
26	C. McNaughton	Environmental Engineer

1		(Golder)
2	C. Stevens	Associate, Aquatic Biologist
3		(Golder)
4	J. Range	Project Coordinator (Golder)
5	A. Amendola	Senior Risk Assessor (Golder)
6	M. O'Kane	Senior Technical Advisor (OKC)
7	M. Setteringington	Senior Terrestrial Biologist
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9	A. Franke	Principal Investigator (Arctic
10		Raptors Project)
11	G. Sharam	Technical Director (ERM)
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13	KIVALLIQ INUIT ASSOCIATION	
14	K. Gilson	Legal Counsel
15	L. Manzo	Director of Lands
16	K. Poole	Wildlife Biologist
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18	BAKER LAKE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ORGANIZATION	
19	R. Aksawnee	Chairman
20	Dr. W. Bernauer	Consultant
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22	GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT	
23	E. Stockley	Legal Counsel
24	S. Pinksen	Deputy Minister
25	E. Taylor	Project Manager Socioeconomic
26		Monitoring

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2		Assessment
3	B. Pirie	Project Manager Research and
4		Monitoring
5	A. Robinson	Acting Director Environmental
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11		Management
12	F. Ngwa	Manager of Impact Assessment
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2 DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

3 M. D'Aguiar Senior Biologist

4 M. Janowicz Regional Manager for

5 Regulatory Reviews

6 B. Tracz Biologist

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8 HEALTH CANADA

9 P. Partridge Regional Environmental

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14 P. Unger Senior Environmental

15 Assessment Officer

16 J. Quinn Senior Environmental Advisor

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19 J. Tucktoo Language Translator

20 M. Angoshadluk Language Translator

21

22 C. Longacre, RPR, CSR(A) Official Court Reporter

23 A. Vidal, CSR(A) Official Court Reporter

24

25 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 9:02 AM)

26 THE CHAIR: Opening prayer.

1 Opening Prayer

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Phillipa.

3 Good morning. You probably all know by now my
4 name is Kaviq Kaluraq. I am the chairperson for the
5 Nunavut Impact Review Board.

6 I'd like to welcome everyone to the hearing on our
7 third day of the hearing, and we are here to hear the
8 hearing of Agnico Eagle's Whale Tail expansion pit
9 project.

10 I'd like to thank the community of -- I'd like to
11 thank my community for welcoming everyone to our
12 community. We would like to remind you that there are
13 two interpreters, and there will be interpretation
14 available, and be reminded that you have to sign in
15 prior to coming to have a seat. Zero is the floor
16 channel. Channel 1 is English, and Channel 2 is in
17 Inuktitut. Prior to beginning our meeting, please be
18 reminded as well about turning your phones to mute.

19 (LOST AUDIO FEED - OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN)
20 presentations from registered interveners. This will
21 be followed by the start of the community roundtable
22 during which the community representative and members
23 of the general public will have an opportunity to ask
24 questions directly to the proponent and interveners. A
25 reminder to all that we have scheduled a community
26 roundtable for this evening from 6:30 PM to 9 PM.

1 For all speakers, whenever you are speaking,
2 please speak directly into the microphone at a
3 reasonable pace and state your name and your community
4 or organization before you provide the comment. Be
5 respectful of other speakers, and do not interrupt.
6 The Board appreciates everyone's commitment to
7 establishing a respectful and productive atmosphere at
8 this hearing.

9 We will begin today by providing opportunity for
10 those parties needing to provide deferred responses to
11 questions posed over the past two days.

12 Legal counsel.

13 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
14 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
15 Review Board.

16 There are two deferred questions that we are
17 awaiting answers to, one to Crown-Indigenous Relations
18 and Northern Affairs Canada and one to Fisheries and
19 Oceans Canada. So I'm not certain whether or not they
20 are able to provide a response at this point, but,
21 perhaps, Crown-Indigenous Relations.

22 MR. DEWAR: Thank you, Madam Chair.
23 Spencer Dewar, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern
24 Affairs Canada.

25 At this time, we have a partial answer. We'd
26 prefer to wait a little bit longer to provide something

1 more fulsome.

2 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

3 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
4 Review Board.

5 So Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

6 MR. D'AGUIAR: Thank you, Madam Chair.

7 Fisheries and Oceans Canada does have a deferred
8 response. However, we're just waiting for it to be
9 printed so we can provide it to the translators, so
10 when we give our answer, it'll be translated. Thank
11 you.

12 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair. Those
13 are the two deferred responses. So we'll -- we'll note
14 that they're deferred again, and we'll come back to
15 them afterwards. Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 THE CHAIR: We will now continue with
17 Agenda Item 5, technical presentations from registered
18 interveners. I will ask that our legal counsel swear
19 or affirm the next group of presenters and mark the
20 exhibits so that we can begin the presentations. And
21 our last intervener is the Government of Nunavut.

22 Legal counsel.

23 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

24 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
25 Review Board.

26 If I can have the witnesses state and spell your

1 name for the record, please.

2 MR. PINKSEN: Steve Pinksen, S-T-E-V-E
3 P-I-N-K-S-E-N.

4 MR. ATKINSON: Stephen Atkinson,
5 S-T-E-P-H-E-N A-T-K-I-N-S-O-N.

6 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you.

7 Do the witnesses wish to be sworn or affirmed?

8 MR. PINKSEN: Affirmed.

9 MR. ATKINSON: Affirmed.

10 STEVE PINKSEN, STEPHEN ATKINSON, Affirmed

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

13 Madam Chair, I have five additional exhibits to
14 file in association with the Government of Nunavut's
15 presentation today, being the Government of Nunavut's
16 PowerPoint presentation in English and Inuktitut and in
17 French and Inuktitut, and then the executive summary in
18 English, Inuktitut, and French of the technical review
19 comments for the Government of Nunavut. And those are
20 my procedural matters, Madam Chair.

21 EXHIBIT 62 - Hard Copy PowerPoint
22 presentation of the Government of Nunavut on
23 Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's Whale Tail Pit
24 Expansion Project (English/Inuktitut)

25 EXHIBIT 63 - Hard Copy PowerPoint
26 presentation of the Government of Nunavut on

1 Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's Whale Tail Pit
2 Expansion Project (French/Inuktitut)

3 EXHIBIT 64 - Executive Summary of Technical
4 Review Comments, Government of Nunavut
5 (English)

6 EXHIBIT 65 - Executive Summary of Technical
7 Review Comments, Government of Nunavut
8 (Inuktitut)

9 EXHIBIT 66 - Executive Summary of Technical
10 Review Comments, Government of Nunavut
11 (French)

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you. You may proceed
13 with your presentation.

14 Presentation by the Government of Nunavut

15 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
16 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

17 On behalf of the Government of Nunavut, I would
18 like to thank the Nunavut Impact Review Board for the
19 opportunity to make this presentation today. I will
20 cover the following topics today: The Government of
21 Nunavut's role, mandate, relevant policies, and
22 legislation, outstanding issues and recommendations on
23 the proponent's final environmental impact statement,
24 and our conclusions.

25 The Government of Nunavut conducts impact
26 statement reviews in a balanced manner. We strive to

1 ensure our priorities as they relate to the
2 biophysical. Socioeconomic and cultural environments
3 are equally considered and assessed during the review
4 process.

5 The Government of Nunavut mandate contains a
6 number of priority areas, two of which relate directly
7 to resource development, to develop Nunavut's
8 infrastructure and economy in ways that support a
9 positive future for Nunavummiut, and our priority for
10 providing education and training to support Nunavummiut
11 in finding meaningful employment, including local
12 skills and trades training to support participation in
13 the economy.

14 Our participation in the impact assessment process
15 is also guided by several overarching strategic
16 documents, including the mineral exploration and mining
17 strategy, parnautiit, the transportation strategy, and
18 the tourism strategy. The Government of Nunavut's
19 mineral strategy outlines a vision for a strong and
20 sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a
21 high quality of life for all Nunavummiut.

22 This slide lists the legislation that is
23 referenced in our final written submission. Of note
24 are the Wildlife Act, Environmental Protection Act, and
25 Public Health Act. The Government of Nunavut maintains
26 that proponents should integrate and reflect Inuit

1 traditional knowledge within the project impact
2 statements and effects monitoring plans. The various
3 principals of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit should be fully
4 considered.

5 We'll now summarize the Government of Nunavut's
6 review of the proponent's final environmental impact
7 statement for its Whale Tail Pit expansion project.
8 The Government of Nunavut working with the proponent
9 has resolved a number of its concerns. Several of
10 which have been resolved include road management,
11 workforce transition, and gender equity initiatives. A
12 number of additional issues have been addressed to our
13 satisfaction at earlier stages of the project
14 certificate reconsideration process.

15 We appreciate Agnico Eagle's ongoing efforts to
16 address the party's concerns and recommendations
17 related to the project. Our first issue is caribou
18 monitoring and mitigations. The Government of Nunavut
19 has been concerned about the expanded haul road's
20 potential to act as a barrier to migrating caribou.
21 Caribou that faced barriers during the spring and fall
22 migratory periods may be negatively impacted in a
23 number of ways due to increased stress, risk of
24 predation, and energetic expenditure.

25 A primary goal in the proponent's terrestrial
26 environment management plan is to address the haul

1 road's impacts to migrating caribou. We have raised
2 concerns that the terrestrial environment management
3 plan is not being implemented consistently, and some
4 commitments have not been fulfilled. We have raised
5 these concerns to Agnico Eagle, and we agree to
6 continue this discussion at the terrestrial advisory
7 group to fully explain our concerns and deal with them
8 at the terrestrial advisory group with the other
9 participants, the Kivalliq Inuit Association and the
10 Hunters and Trappers Organization.

11 Our next issue also on the subject of caribou
12 monitoring and mitigation was the submission that the
13 Government of Nunavut recommending that the road be --
14 a road closure be issued when caribou were approaching.
15 We have been discussing this issue extensively with the
16 proponent and have very recently reached an agreement
17 on a commitment. We will be submitting language on
18 this shortly.

19 The Government of Nunavut have reviewed a
20 stockpiling and conveying operational alternative
21 scenario produced by the proponent. This operational
22 alternative was requested by the Government of Nunavut
23 as an attempt to find a way to maintain mining
24 production while minimizing road traffic during
25 sensitive migratory periods.

26 Having reviewed the proposed alternative, we still

1 have concerns that there may be no real reduction in
2 traffic during sensitive periods. Agnico Eagle has
3 committed to providing further information on this
4 issue to the terrestrial advisory group for their
5 October meeting. The Government of Nunavut is
6 satisfied to continue this discussion at that time.

7 On the issue of management of snow on the haul
8 road, our concern was that snowbanks along the haul
9 road could be a barrier to the movements of wildlife.
10 We had requested that the proponent should maintain a
11 program to keep snowbanks at a height of less than
12 1 metre along the expansion project's roads. The
13 component -- the proponent has committed to this, as
14 well as to conducting a snow study, so we consider the
15 issue resolved.

16 On the haul road design, during the project's
17 technical meeting, the proponent agreed to conduct an
18 analysis to determine what sections of the haul road
19 are likely to be used by migrating caribou in order to
20 inform where crossings should be constructed. This
21 analysis was distributed yesterday, and we have had the
22 opportunity to give it an initial review. We do have
23 some concerns with it, and we will be replying to the
24 proponent in writing and copying the -- the -- the
25 terrestrial advisory group members.

26 Previously, the proponent made a commitment during

1 the technical session to provide a plan for the
2 construction of the haul road, including timing, to
3 ensure that it doesn't in itself the construction cause
4 concerns. We still hope to see this document in the
5 future, and we hope to provide language a little later
6 this morning around our expectations. Further, I would
7 note we would also like to discuss this at the October
8 terrestrial advisory group meeting.

9 The Government of Nunavut had requested -- have
10 requested continued support for the collection of
11 additional Ahiak, Lorillard, and Wager Bay caribou
12 collar data, data that we feel is needed to monitor the
13 haul road effects on migrations. Agnico Eagle has
14 committed to continuing to provide support for these
15 programs, and that is much appreciated.

16 Additionally, Agnico Eagle has proposed to
17 investigate and test new technology for monitoring
18 caribou near the project and the roads. This includes
19 the use of satellite imagery and drone technology. We
20 appreciate and support this concept and appreciate the
21 explanation that this is a proof-of-concept idea that
22 they're bringing forward, but we would note that
23 testing and unproven technology is not a replacement
24 for data from proven technologies, such as collars.

25 Our next issue is haul road management. The Whale
26 Tail Pit haul road is a private road, and public use is

1 prohibited. However, the Government of Nunavut is
2 concerned for the safety of land users who may use the
3 road despite usage restrictions. The Government of
4 Nunavut recommends Agnico Eagle update their Whale Tail
5 Pit haul road management plan. Agnico Eagle commits to
6 adding the Whale Tail Pit haul road to the
7 communication protocol for the Meadowbank project
8 certificate. These protocols apply to both the
9 all-weather access road and the Whale Tail Pit haul
10 road.

11 The Government of Nunavut seeks to address
12 competition for the Kivalliq labour force and how
13 Agnico Eagle can reduce reliance on a southern
14 workforce in order to keep employment benefits in
15 Nunavut. The Government of Nunavut requests that
16 Agnico Eagle develop a workforce transition plan
17 between the Whale Tail and Meliadine projects.

18 Agnico Eagle indicated that the Government of
19 Nunavut's request is addressed in their response to
20 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
21 Canada's Final Written Submission Number 9, to develop
22 a detailed implementation plan built in collaboration
23 with stakeholders, including the Government of Nunavut.

24 Agnico Eagle proposes an update to Project
25 Certificate 008, Permit Condition 51, which is to
26 develop a workforce transition plan and implementation

1 plan which will be included in the conceptual
2 socioeconomic closure plan. The Government of Nunavut
3 agrees and considers the issue to be resolved.

4 On the issue of gender equity, female employees
5 are a relatively untapped labour pool within the
6 Kivalliq region. Increasing female employment may also
7 increase Inuit employment levels at the Whale Tail Pit
8 project. Further, sharing the successes and challenges
9 of gender-specific initiatives with other resource
10 development operators may increase overall female
11 representation in the mining industry.

12 The Government of Nunavut recommends Agnico Eagle
13 continues their gender-specific efforts and commits to
14 monitoring these initiatives through the socioeconomic
15 monitoring plan -- program, sorry, and updated reports
16 and shares outcomes with other resource development
17 operators in Nunavut. Agnico Eagle agreed with the
18 recommendation and has agreed to update the project
19 certificate accordingly. We consider the issue
20 resolved.

21 One of the barriers to female participation in
22 mining may include sexual harassment or intimidation in
23 the workplace. The Government of Nunavut reviewed
24 Agnico Eagle's discrimination and harassment policy and
25 civility and respect in the workplace guidelines and
26 recommends updates and revisions to ensure employee

1 safety needs are being met. Agnico Eagle agreed with
2 this recommendation.

3 The Government also recommended Agnico Eagle
4 establish a multi-stakeholder committee that will
5 review implementation of policies and review complaints
6 that don't qualify for investigation. Agnico Eagle
7 disagreed and states the recommendation is met through
8 the existing community liaison committee. They stated
9 that internal complaints are confidential and all
10 complaints qualify for review and investigation.

11 Discussions remain ongoing on this issue. The
12 Government of Nunavut proposes that Agnico Eagle commit
13 to discussing their relevant policies on at least an
14 annual basis during the community liaison committee
15 meetings and invite relevant Government of Nunavut
16 departments.

17 In conclusion, the Government of Nunavut would
18 like to thank the Nunavut Impact Review Board for the
19 opportunity to be here today. We have raised a number
20 of issues and concerns. We have had very productive
21 discussions with the proponent and other interveners.
22 We have resolved almost all of our outstanding issues
23 and look forward to continued discussions to resolve
24 the final few issues.

25 Further, we look forward to working with the
26 proponent, Hunters and Trappers Organization, and the

1 Kivalliq Inuit Association to bring further
2 improvements to caribou monitoring and caribou
3 protection measures to minimize project impacts on
4 caribou.

5 Thank you very much.

6 THE CHAIR: Questions to the Government of
7 Nunavut from Kivalliq Inuit Association.
8 Kivalliq Unit Association Questions the Government of
9 Nunavut

10 MR. POOLE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Kim
11 Poole for the Kivalliq Inuit Association.

12 The Kivalliq Inuit Association is in general
13 support of Government of Nunavut's caribou comments,
14 concerns, and proposed commitments expressed in the
15 PowerPoint presentation with one caveat.

16 For discussed under GN-5, the proposal -- the
17 research work plan that was released recently, the
18 Kivalliq Inuit Association would like to see a revised
19 research work plan that proposes collaring of caribou
20 likely to interact with the road that can be used to
21 assess potential effects and interactions with the road
22 and support future adaptive management, and we're
23 asking if the Government of Nunavut would agree to
24 revise this research work plan to reflect that.

25 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

26 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve

1 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

2 We are agreeable, and we are, in fact, working to
3 expand collaring programs for the three relevant herds,
4 so Lorillard, Wager Bay, and Ahiak herds. That is, of
5 course, subject to securing sufficient resources to do
6 so, but we are heading exactly in that direction.

7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: KIA.

9 MR. POOLE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

10 Agnico Eagle presented caribou collar animations
11 from the spring of this year, 2019. My question to the
12 Government of Nunavut is that -- is whether there are
13 any animations from 2018 spring and fall migrations and
14 whether they are prepared to show them here at the
15 hearing.

16 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

17 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
18 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

19 Yes. We -- we do have the animations, and with
20 your indulgence when we finish the question and answer,
21 we'd -- we'd -- we'd like to put them up on the screen,
22 and it would be -- it wouldn't take long. It's very
23 short, and it would -- it would be in addition to our
24 presentation. So it would be entered as an -- as an
25 exhibit as well. So if that's okay with the Chair and
26 Board, we would do that once we get around the table

1 and put it up on the screen. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Legal counsel.

3 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

4 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
5 Review Board.

6 You have already anticipated my question which was
7 going to be: Can we have a copy of that for the -- for
8 the exhibits. So thank you. We'll enter those when we
9 get them from you at the end of your presentation.

10 THE CHAIR: KIA.

11 MR. POOLE: Kim Poole for the Kivalliq
12 Inuit Association. Thank you, Madam Chair.

13 No further questions at this time.

14 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut. Sorry.
15 I was distracted with my note.

16 Baker Lake HTO.

17 MR. BERNAUER: Thank you, Madam Chair.
18 Warren Bernauer for the Baker Lake HTO.

19 We have no questions at this time.

20 THE CHAIR: CIRNAC.

21 MR. DEWAR: Matna, Madam Chair. Spencer
22 Dewar, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
23 Canada.

24 No questions.

25 THE CHAIR: Environment Canada.

26 MS. PINTO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 Melissa Pinto, Environment and Climate Change Canada.

2 We have no questions.

3 THE CHAIR: DFO Canada.

4 MR. D'AGUIAR: Thank you, Madam Chair. Mark
5 D'Aguiar with Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

6 We have no questions. Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Health Canada.

8 MR. PARTRIDGE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Paul
9 Partridge with Health Canada.

10 We have no questions.

11 THE CHAIR: NRCan.

12 MR. UNGER: Peter Unger, Natural Resources
13 Canada. Thank you, Madam Chair.

14 No questions.

15 THE CHAIR: AEM.

16 Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Questions the Government of
17 Nunavut

18 MR. BERGNER: (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), Madam
19 Chair. Keith Bergner for Agnico Eagle.

20 As Mr. Pinksen mentioned, Agnico Eagle and the
21 Government of Nunavut have recently reached agreement
22 on a number of issues related to caribou monitoring and
23 mitigation.

24 Just before I begin, I wanted to express that
25 Agnico Eagle appreciates the focused effort and
26 concentration that the Government of Nunavut brought to

1 those productive and -- and useful discussions, and
2 Agnico Eagle is very pleased to have resolved those
3 issues with the Government of Nunavut and very much
4 looks forward as well to continuing those discussions
5 not only with the Government of Nunavut but also the
6 other members of the terrestrial advisory group,
7 including the Kivalliq Inuit Association, the Baker
8 Lake Hunters and Trappers Organization, and the other
9 participants in the terrestrial advisory group.

10 That has also usefully greatly reduced the number
11 of questions I have for the Government of Nunavut,
12 and -- and we appreciate the Board's procedural orders
13 that -- that allowed those discussions time to take
14 place.

15 I -- I do have a small number of remaining
16 questions for Mr. Pinksen, and they relate only to the
17 first few slides of your presentation. On Slide 3, you
18 mentioned that Government of Nunavut conducts reviews
19 that -- that must balance the priorities of
20 biophysical, socioeconomic, cultural, and environment,
21 and then -- then on Slide 4, you mention two of the
22 Government of Nunavut's priorities that are relevant to
23 this project, and the first mentions developing our
24 infrastructure and economy in a way that supports a
25 positive future, and the second references providing
26 education and training that provides Nunavummiut --

1 that prepares Nunavummiut for positive contributions to
2 society and for meaningful employment.

3 And my question for you is: Is the reason you
4 mentioned these as relevant to this project review,
5 is -- is the reason for that relevance is that the
6 Whale Tail expansion project has a positive role to
7 play in terms of developing the Nunavut economy and to
8 providing meaningful employment opportunities? Is that
9 the relevance?

10 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

11 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
12 Pinkсен, Government of Nunavut.

13 In general terms, yes, the Government of Nunavut
14 is supportive of sustainable resource development, and
15 this particular project stands to provide substantial
16 benefits in terms of employment, skills development,
17 training, and infrastructure development in terms of
18 roads for -- and it remains our position that if
19 impacts are managed through proper mitigation measures,
20 then the answer to your question is yes.

21 Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

23 MR. BERGNER: (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

24 Thank you.

25 My second question relates to the next two slides
26 of your presentation. On Slide 5, you mention

1 parnautiit, the mineral exploration and mining
2 strategy. And on Slide 6, you -- you quote the main
3 strategic goal under that strategy, which is to create
4 the conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals
5 industry that contributes to a high and sustainable
6 quality of life for all Nunavummiut.

7 And so, again, my question is: Is the reason
8 you're mentioning this particular policy and this
9 particular strategic goal in the context of this group
10 would've -- which would, of course, expand -- or extend
11 operations from four years to eight years, is the
12 relevance of this is that this project has the
13 potential to continue the mines' positive contribution
14 to a high and sustainable quality of life for all
15 Nunavummiut?

16 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

17 MR. PINKSEN: In short, yes. Thank you.

18 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

19 MR. BERGNER: (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), Madam
20 Chair.

21 No further questions.

22 THE CHAIR: NIRB staff.

23 Nunavut Impact Review Board Staff Questions the
24 Government of Nunavut

25 MR. BARRY: Thank you, Madam Chair. Ryan
26 Barry, Nunavut Impact Review Board staff.

1 Thank you very much for the presentation. We do
2 have a couple of more general -- a more general
3 question and a couple more specific questions.

4 So I'll read the general one first: Similar to
5 the questions that the staff posed to the Kivalliq
6 Inuit Association, we would like to understand how the
7 Government of Nunavut's intervention in this process
8 are -- is informed by its broader territorial mandate,
9 and we were listening for this in the presentation, but
10 I'm -- I'm hoping to hear a little bit more about it
11 now.

12 Can you describe any efforts made by the
13 Government of Nunavut to ensure that there's
14 information exchange and learning occurring between
15 regions regarding successful or problematic approaches
16 to mining development and wildlife monitoring programs?

17 For example, we recognize the role of the
18 Government of Nunavut in monitoring and evaluating the
19 effects of development through its chairing of the
20 socioeconomic monitoring committees in each region and
21 through implementation of the Nunavut Wildlife Act.

22 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

23 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

24 That's kind of a tough one to answer but -- Steve
25 Pinksen Government of Nunavut.

26 So I'll just describe the process how we -- how we

1 approach our participation in these projects. We have
2 an interdepartmental group called the
3 sustainable advisory -- sustainable development
4 advisory group which is made up of representatives
5 of -- a suite of Government of Nunavut departments.

6 And under that umbrella, there's two
7 subcommittees. There's a socioeconomic committee and
8 the environment of human health committee, and those
9 committees prepare our participation in all project
10 reviews. So they -- they -- both of them feed into
11 the -- the Government of Nunavut's reviews and
12 submissions.

13 So whether it's in -- every mining project,
14 development project, goes through the same preparation
15 process. So it's the same group, same policies, same
16 approach, and all the information from all projects
17 is -- is shared among the entire group, so -- whether
18 it's a wildlife issue or a socioeconomic issue. So the
19 lessons learned from every project are always feeding
20 that group, their experience, their knowledge, and
21 our -- our participation. And above that group,
22 there's actually a senior management group that makes
23 final decisions on the tough stuff. So -- so there's a
24 very well-established process. It's been there for
25 15 years maybe, since -- or just about that.

26 So I hope that comes some weight towards answering

1 your question. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: NIRB staff.

3 MR. BARRY: Thank you, Madam Chair. Ryan
4 Barry, Nunavut Impact Review Board staff.

5 And, yes, thank you. I think that's what we were
6 looking for. It was just to be able to keep it -- and
7 bear in mind that the Government of Nunavut's
8 experience with other development projects informs its
9 experience and intervention in this process.

10 So getting a little bit more specific, Madam
11 Chair, I'm wondering if the Government of Nunavut can
12 describe how it addresses public concerns regarding
13 collaring of caribou. Specifically, we're wondering if
14 any progress has been made to date to make the process
15 of collaring caribou less invasive and whether there
16 are other means of monitoring caribou that are
17 supported by the Government of Nunavut beyond collaring
18 and height-of-land surveys, specifically other
19 approaches that might be used in other areas.

20 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

21 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
22 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

23 So we -- we've heard from Nunavummiut their
24 concerns about the handling of wildlife or for research
25 purposes, whether that's caribou or polar bears or what
26 have you, and we have been working for a number of

1 years and have invested heavily in methodology to
2 reduce wildlife handling. Our biggest success to date
3 has been with polar bears, in fact, where we've been
4 able to move away from handling to different
5 methodologies that almost don't require any handling of
6 bears and still getting our data. But every time you
7 change your methodology, you're losing something.
8 You're gaining something, but you're also losing
9 something, so every technology has its limitations.

10 The -- the data we get from collars is quite
11 unique. It's -- it's movement data and timed to
12 seasons and -- and life cycles, so it's really quite
13 unique, and fully replacing it with something else, we
14 haven't figured that out yet.

15 Certainly, the proponent, in this case, has
16 brought forward a proposal to do some tests on drone
17 technology and satellite imagery, and as indicated,
18 we're quite supportive, and we're interested in being a
19 part of that discussion. Because if there's new
20 information we can get or more efficient ways to get
21 that information, that's all good for everybody, but
22 we -- we don't see at this point in time being able to
23 get fully away from collars. Yeah. Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: NIRB staff.

25 MR. BARRY: Thank you, Madam Chair. Ryan
26 Barry, Nunavut Impact Review Board staff.

1 And, again, thank you for -- for that response.

2 My next question, Madam Chair, is going back to
3 the -- the comments and intervention of the Baker Lake
4 Hunters and Trappers Organization, and the discussion
5 that was had about the need for supporting capacity and
6 the desire to see more monitoring by local harvesters
7 along the existing road between the Meadowbank Mine and
8 the -- and Baker -- the community of Baker Lake,
9 although we've been focusing our discussions on the
10 access road between the Meadowbank Mine and the
11 existing Whale Tail Pit project.

12 So just in the regards to the use of -- of
13 wildlife monitors along the existing road between
14 Meadowbank Mine and -- and Baker Lake, is this an
15 approach that is supported by the Government of
16 Nunavut?

17 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

18 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
19 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

20 So for -- for the HTO to be -- I don't know if
21 it's monitoring the activities of its members or how it
22 would be described, but to patrol the -- the roads
23 for -- it's not exactly enforcement 'cause it's not a
24 law. It's -- it's guidelines, I guess, is that the HTO
25 was asking people to follow. I would say, yes, we
26 would support that -- that approach.

1 We have had some discussions with the HTO about
2 our ability to have our officers participate in that.
3 There's not really much opportunity for it because we
4 are limited to the laws that we have as a government,
5 so our officers have the -- the authority to enforce
6 only our legislation, and we can't be out there
7 purporting to be applying the HTO's guidelines or
8 bylaws. We're not permitted to do that. So there is
9 some limitations there, but we certainly are interested
10 in cooperating with the HTO, and we've had some -- some
11 early discussions on that, but we haven't quite got a
12 formal arrangement in place yet. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: NIRB Board staff.

14 MR. BARRY: Thank you, Madam Chair. Ryan
15 Barry, Nunavut Impact Review Board staff.

16 Again, thank you for that response.

17 My final question, Madam Chair, is somewhat
18 directed to Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern
19 Affairs Canada as well as the Government of Nunavut,
20 and this -- this goes to the -- our discussion
21 yesterday about the responsibility of Crown-Indigenous
22 Relations and Northern Affairs Canada for ensuring the
23 implementation of terms and conditions of Nunavut
24 Impact Review Board project certificates, so for -- for
25 enforcing and dealing with prohibitions under the
26 Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act.

1 So I'll pose the question first to the Government
2 of Nunavut, but with the Board's indulgence, we'd also
3 look for Crown-Indigenous Relations to have an
4 opportunity to respond.

5 So my question, Madam Chair, is: Does the
6 Government of Nunavut -- has the Government of Nunavut
7 had any discussions with Crown-Indigenous Relations
8 about the possibility of having some of its powers
9 delegated for inspection and enforcement under the
10 Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act,
11 specifically for those terms and conditions that fall
12 outside of Northern Affairs' normal purview? So terms
13 of conditions related to wildlife management and
14 monitoring within their project certificates and
15 whether that is something that perhaps either party
16 might be open to considering.

17 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

18 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
19 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

20 We have had some preliminary discussions with
21 Crown-Indigenous Affairs on that specific issue, about
22 if there is a way for some -- if not delegation than
23 some degree of cooperation on, you know, terms and
24 conditions that don't -- we don't have specific
25 authority for. We have not -- we have not had a lot of
26 success in reaching a conclusion yet, but maybe since

1 you asked the question, we'll renew those discussions.

2 Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: CIRNAC.

4 MR. DEWAR: Matna, Madam Chair. Spencer
5 Dewar, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
6 Canada.

7 Although not directly a participant in the
8 conversations, I'm aware that they have occurred. We
9 are interested in furthering the delegations under
10 NuPPAA to increase enforcement and inspection capacity.
11 So I -- I agree with Steve as well that maybe we should
12 renew those discussions.

13 THE CHAIR: NIRB staff.

14 MR. BARRY: Thank you, Madam Chair. Ryan
15 Barry, Nunavut Impact Review Board staff.

16 Again, thank you to both of you for those
17 responses. We have no further questions.

18 THE CHAIR: NIRB Board.

19 Guy.

20 Nunavut Impact Review Board Questions the Government of
21 Nunavut

22 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you, Madam Chair. Guy
23 Alikut, NIRB Board member.

24 I have a question, and the -- the previous
25 question that I had made has already been answered.
26 Yes. I like seeing animations too. It makes me

1 give -- it gives me a better conceptual idea and a
2 visual idea where caribou movements are and where
3 caribou are.

4 The -- some of the ideas that you have is to use
5 drones. It would only probably be good to use during
6 fair weather and not during blistery days. Have you --
7 this is a new type of technology. Have you tried using
8 this new type of technology to know where wildlife are?
9 And do they -- do -- do they disturb the wildlife?

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

12 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
13 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

14 We've -- as a government, we've done very limited
15 work, so very little testing with drones as of yet. In
16 fact, only one test, and that was some years ago.

17 Other parts of Canada in the world have been
18 expanding the use of drones into wildlife research. We
19 have not done that yet ourselves, so we have very
20 little experience. And in this case, it's -- Agnico
21 Eagle is proposing to run a test on the use of drone
22 technology, and as I indicated in our -- in our
23 presentation, we are supportive of that to see if it
24 produces results. Can we get good data? And whether
25 or not it -- it causes any disturbance to the wildlife.
26 So that's the two really important takeaways that we

1 hope to find out from their planned test. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Phillip.

3 MR. KADLUN: (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), Madam
4 Chair. Phillip Kadlun, Nunavut Impact Review Board.

5 My question, it's on the haul road. Have the
6 Government of Nunavut and the proponent in this case --
7 Agnico Eagle, have you discussed the haul road in terms
8 of how a person that may have injuries or getting lost
9 in the blizzard? Have there been any dialogue
10 regarding indications where there may be
11 life-threatening injuries to the hunter or getting lost
12 in severe weather? Have there been any dialogue into
13 the issues such as those?

14 Thank you, Madam Chair.

15 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

16 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
17 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

18 I -- I don't think we've had any discussions with
19 the proponent on that issue. If so, I apologize. I
20 wasn't aware. Certainly, in across Nunavut, responding
21 to emergencies out on the land is a function that
22 exists Nunavut-wide through community search and rescue
23 organizations and the emergency measures organization
24 of the Government of Nunavut.

25 So in -- this normal circumstances, that's the
26 response structure for emergencies out on the land, but

1 I -- I guess I would refer to the proponent, but I
2 expect if there was an emergency anywhere near their
3 project and they had the ability to respond, I -- I'm
4 probably not stretching it too much to assume that they
5 would provide whatever assistance they -- they could.
6 Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Phillip.

8 MR. KADLUN: (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), Madam
9 Chair.

10 For my further clarity, I'd like to get a response
11 from the -- Agnico Eagle regarding the question --
12 questions I have raised.

13 Thank you, Madam Chair.

14 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

15 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
16 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

17 Yes. We would and we have supported search and
18 rescue scenarios with -- with the community. We have
19 an agreement with the hamlets to provide support with
20 our services, and also we provided a financial support
21 this past weekend at the Whale Tail-approved project
22 grand opening with the community celebration.

23 With all the infrastructure we have at the
24 Meadowbank operations and the Whale Tail operations,
25 including roads for access, we would make that
26 available. We're part of the -- the fabric here.

1 We're guests in this region, but we will support in any
2 way we can for any unforeseen circumstance that -- that
3 may occur to hunters or a community member.

4 Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Phillip.

6 MR. KADLUN: (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), Madam
7 Chair.

8 That's all the questions I have.

9 THE CHAIR: Uriash.

10 MR. PUQIQNAK: Thank you, Madam Chair. NIRB
11 Board member.

12 That drone -- the drones that are being used -- or
13 the satellites are being used and the drones through
14 satellite, sometimes they'll put the animals to sleep
15 to put the collars, and after it's -- you identify
16 where the animals are and you -- because they have the
17 collars that are put on animals, animal neck, caribou
18 neck, or different animal.

19 Like -- like, my board of director asked about the
20 drone, when you're going to -- because we -- they are
21 being used to identify where the caribous are using the
22 road. There are -- there's a time during the spring
23 caribou are going towards the shore, and that's where
24 they're going to be spending their time during the --
25 there's a time also during the fall, and they go to the
26 place where they're going to spend their winter. They

1 go back to -- they have specific places.

2 Being that, through the satellite, like, you
3 tranquilize the animals just to put a collar. Not only
4 here, but this has happened in Nunavut, tranquilizing
5 animals and putting radar on their neck. It's not only
6 the caribou; there's all kinds of wildlife that are
7 being treated like that.

8 My question is: When you tranquilize through the
9 satellite -- we call them the "satellite" -- are those
10 not like -- they see the -- can you not use the
11 satellite? Besides using the satellite, can't you
12 tell -- like, have you ever used a satellite to see --
13 to see where all the caribous are moving and where they
14 are going? Have you -- have you ever had this kind of
15 technology? Can you get that kind instead of
16 tranquilizing and collaring the wildlife?

17 Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

19 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
20 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

21 And thank you for that question. We have in the
22 past looked into using satellite photos or satellite
23 imagery for -- for wildlife research, to finding out
24 where animals are, where they're moving and numbers.
25 We haven't expanded our program into that area yet,
26 but, in fact, that is exactly what the -- the

1 proponent, Agnico Eagle, is proposing to do for -- for
2 this project, is to test out satellite photos or
3 satellite imagery to see if it can provide useful
4 information, so thereby having a new source of
5 information and not having to rely on -- on collars.
6 So as I indicated, we are supportive of their plans and
7 their efforts to -- to test this new technology.

8 I would point out, however, that when putting
9 collars on caribou, they are not tranquilized or
10 they're not darted or immobilized; they're -- they're
11 captured physically with a net gun. So there's no
12 tranquilizers when -- when it comes to handling caribou
13 for putting on collars.

14 Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Uriash.

16 MR. PUQIQNAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

17 Uriash, board of director for NIRB.

18 The new technology are -- you are saying that
19 you're looking into different new ways -- that you're
20 thinking to go through new ways before they are being
21 used, like, collaring, to find out where the animals
22 are going, especially our caribou.

23 Today -- before we start using the new ways of
24 technology, do you have a policy? Do you have a policy
25 in place? How many you'll be collaring? Do you have a
26 policy in place per year how much collaring you can do?

1 Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

3 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
4 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

5 It's -- it's not a policy or a limit. For each
6 collaring project, we determine how many collars we
7 think are necessary to provide enough information for
8 it to be useful for decision-making. So we -- we
9 basically develop a research proposal, including the
10 number of collars that we -- we think are -- are going
11 to be required.

12 That proposal is we -- we consult with Hunters and
13 Trappers Organization on that proposal. So it's not an
14 overall policy, but it's very project-specific, and we
15 get the feedback of hunters and trappers organizations,
16 and, very often, it's through that dialogue, back and
17 forth with Hunters and Trappers Organization, that a
18 final decision is made on how many collars actually get
19 used for that specific project. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: We'll move on to animations.

21 Legal counsel.

22 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair. Do we
23 need a break? I think we a need a couple minutes to do
24 the presentation.

25 THE CHAIR: Okay. Let's take a short
26 break.

1 (ADJOURNMENT)

2 THE CHAIR: If you can please take your
3 seats, and we'll reconvene.

4 Legal counsel.

5 Discussion

6 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

7 Teresa Meadows legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
8 Review Board.

9 So, Madam Chair, we are going to give Agnico Eagle
10 some time to take a look at the animations that the
11 Government of Nunavut is planning to present, and we
12 anticipate that after their review, if they have no
13 objections, then the animations will be shown tonight
14 during the community roundtable session this evening.

15 And at this time, before we go into the community
16 roundtable, we have a couple of matters that are still
17 outstanding. The Kivalliq Inuit Association has a
18 couple of terms and conditions on the terrestrial
19 environment that they would like to table with the
20 Board, and Agnico Eagle also has a commitment that they
21 would like to discuss with respect to air monitoring.
22 And so on that basis, Madam Chair, perhaps going to the
23 Kivalliq Inuit Association to discuss their terms and
24 conditions.

25 Madam Chair, it's my understanding they have
26 printed out copies of this and circulated it amongst

1 the participants here, and I propose to mark the hard
2 copy text as the next exhibit in this public hearing.
3 So thank you, Madam Chair.

4 EXHIBIT 67 - Hard Copy Kivalliq Inuit
5 Association Final Hearing Proposed Terms and
6 Conditions KIA-Terrestrial-01 and
7 KIA-Terrestrial-02 (English)

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

9 Kivalliq Inuit Association.
10 Potential Terms and Conditions Tabled by Kivalliq Inuit
11 Association

12 MR. POOLE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Kim
13 Poole for the Kivalliq Inuit Association.

14 We have developed two proposed terms and
15 conditions for the project. The first one relates to
16 adaptive management of the expanded Whale Tail haul
17 road. Since the technical workshop in June, there have
18 been a -- or from that workshop, there were a number of
19 commitments made by primarily the -- Agnico Eagle, as
20 well as the Government of Nunavut. In the last few
21 weeks, we have been provided with -- "we" being mostly
22 the terrestrial advisory group members have been
23 provided with a number of documents, including as
24 recently as -- a revised document as of yesterday
25 morning. So a lot of information has been provided
26 regarding this project, and our concern is that this

1 information needs to be assimilated and integrated into
2 the monitoring and mitigation on -- for caribou for the
3 project.

4 So to read out our first proposed term and
5 condition: (as read)

6 Agnico Eagle shall work through the
7 terrestrial advisory group to update the
8 terrestrial ecosystem management plan to
9 integrate information on the timing and
10 locations of caribou crossings relative to
11 traffic frequency and road closures from all
12 commitments emanating from the 11 to 13 June
13 2019 technical meeting and the 26 to 29
14 August 2019 final hearings for the project.
15 This integration will reduce the
16 uncertainties about caribou responses to and
17 effects of the expansion project and lay a
18 sound basis for adaptive management. The
19 revised terrestrial ecosystem management plan
20 shall be submitted to the Nunavut Impact
21 Review Board within six months of issuance of
22 a project certificate.

23 Our second proposed term and condition relates to
24 caribou monitoring and mitigation. As I noted in our
25 presentation yesterday, the Kivalliq Inuit Association
26 is concerned about the efficacy and efficiency of the

1 short- to medium-distance monitoring conducted for the
2 project. So this term and condition is an attempt to
3 address that. And it reads that: (as read)

4 Agnico Eagle shall work through the
5 terrestrial advisory group to update the
6 terrestrial ecosystem management plan to
7 increase the frequency and efficacy of road
8 monitoring to implement mitigation. The
9 update will identify appropriate road survey
10 sites, map these for viewshed [which is how
11 far you can see from each of these points],
12 and increase the frequency of road surveys to
13 cover a greater proportion of each day when
14 long-distance data (generally collared
15 caribou) indicate that migrating caribou may
16 be approaching. The enhanced monitoring will
17 provide a basis for describing the effects of
18 caribou response to traffic, which, in turn,
19 will improve the effectiveness of mitigation.
20 The revised terrestrial ecosystem management
21 plan shall be submitted to the Nunavut Impact
22 Review Board within six months of issuance of
23 a project certificate.

24 And on a final note, these proposed terms and
25 conditions were provided to Agnico Eagle last night,
26 and our understanding is that they are in support and

1 agreement of these terms and conditions. Thank you,
2 Madam Chair.

3 THE CHAIR: Any questions to the Kivalliq
4 Inuit Association? Any further questions for KIA?
5 Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers?
6 Agnico Eagle?

7 MS. KOWBEL: No questions, Madam Chair.
8 Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Any questions from NIRB staff?
10 Any questions from NIRB Board?
11 Okay. Moving on, legal counsel.

12 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
13 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
14 Review Board.

15 Madam Chair, it's my understanding that Agnico
16 Eagle would like to follow up with a discussion of a
17 commitment with respect to ambient air monitoring. So
18 perhaps over to them and then on to the community
19 roundtable.

20 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.
21 Follow-up Discussion Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Air
22 Quality Monitoring

23 MS. TURMEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Manon
24 Turmel, Agnico Eagle Mines.

25 The Agnico Eagle team was reflecting on some of
26 the questions from Board members about NO2 and health

1 risks. We want to make sure that those questions were
2 fully answered. I'm just going to call our risk
3 assessment expert Andrea Amendola to provide some
4 follow-up information.

5 MS. AMENDOLA: Thank you, Madam Chair, and
6 thank you, Manon.

7 Andrea Amendola, Golder Associates. I would like
8 to clarify the work that was done in the human health
9 and ecological risk assessment to support the
10 conclusion of negligible risk. When I say "negligible
11 risk", I mean a risk that is so small that the
12 consequence is similar to background or normal
13 conditions that you would encounter every day. We also
14 want to help the Board understand and the community
15 better understand what we mean when we talk about
16 health effects or environmental effects of NO2 within
17 the context of the Whale Tail Pit Expansion Project
18 site and people being out on the land who want to make
19 sure that they stay healthy in the project area.

20 So before I begin, I'd like to give a bit of
21 background on my education and experience. My job is
22 to study what might happen when chemicals go into the
23 environment and how that affects things that live in
24 it, taking into account both western science and the
25 traditional knowledge that is shared with me.

26 I have a bachelor's degree in biomedical

1 toxicology, and I've worked at Golder Associates for
2 16 years in the field of risk assessment and
3 toxicology. I'm a qualified person for risk assessment
4 under the Ontario Ministry of the Environment,
5 Conservation and Parks contaminated site regulation,
6 and in that capacity, I peer-review risk assessments
7 that are submitted to the Ministry, and with my
8 toxicology background, I also provide technical comment
9 on toxicity value selection by the Ministry. I've also
10 guest lectured at the University of Toronto for the
11 past three years and will again this fall for a course
12 on environmental regulations for engineering master's
13 students.

14 So yesterday we heard the Board members ask some
15 very good questions about NO₂, and some concerns were
16 raised about the potential for effects to human health
17 and the environment. So what I heard is that to
18 want to -- you want to make sure that you are not
19 facing danger, and you want to have a better sense of
20 how safe Inuit travelling and harvesting in the project
21 area are, given the modelled air quality for the
22 expansion project. So I wanted to answer those
23 questions in better detail so that everyone understands
24 our perspective about the kind of effects we mean, also
25 the likelihood of those risks ever occurring.

26 So to begin, I want to emphasize that my

1 conclusion from my assessment is that people at and
2 near the project are not in danger on this issue. So I
3 want to explain how we make sure that we take a very
4 conservative approach on the issue of air quality and
5 also explain what type of health effects we are talking
6 about when we talk about NO2.

7 So for human health, the ambient air quality
8 standards for -- from both Canada and Nunavut consider
9 that the most sensitive human health effect is
10 breathing problems for children that have asthma or
11 other breathing conditions. So if a child with asthma
12 is exposed to a high concentration of NO2 for a brief
13 period of time -- let's say less than an hour -- they
14 could have problems breathing, which usually starts
15 within about ten minutes of the exposure. So you might
16 hear the person cough, like we heard Health Canada
17 mention yesterday. But once the NO2 concentration
18 comes back down again, their breathing gets better very
19 quickly, usually within a few minutes once the exposure
20 is stopped.

21 Adults and even those with breathing conditions
22 like asthma or also for heavy smokers, they have a
23 higher tolerance to NO2 than children. So they would
24 need to be exposed to more NO2 than children to have
25 the same response. So we assume that -- the most
26 sensitive people in the project area for the purpose of

1 the assessment, even if it's not very likely that those
2 people would be in the project area.

3 So when we think about the Whale Tail Expansion
4 Project, what we've learned from traditional knowledge
5 in consultation is that people don't visit the area
6 around the site anymore. If people do come through the
7 area, they are only there for a short period of time on
8 their way to Back River. So if there's a blast at the
9 same moment that they are coming through, they could be
10 exposed to NO2 above the Canadian Ambient Air Quality
11 Standard for a brief period of time. Given what we
12 heard from the community about their use of this area
13 and that they tend to move through it on their way to
14 someplace else, we do consider that there is very low
15 risk to children who are moving through this area, even
16 if they have a condition that might make them more
17 sensitive to NO2 like asthma.

18 As we discussed yesterday, and as we heard from
19 Health Canada, there's little to no risk to eating and
20 enjoying country foods.

21 I also heard some concerns yesterday about
22 effectiveness of the continuous passive NO2 monitors.
23 I'll now turn this over to Manon Turmel, who is going
24 to speak to this point.

25 MS. TURMEL: Thank you Andrea. Manon
26 Turmel, Agnico Eagle Mines.

1 Mr. Asher appeared on behalf of Environment Canada
2 at the Whale Tail approved project review hearings, and
3 he did not raise any concerns about NO2 passive sampler
4 reliability at that proceeding. We reviewed the annual
5 report comments, transcripts, technical comments, and
6 final written submissions from the approved project
7 Nunavut Impact Review Board review. This information
8 is all on the Nunavut Impact Review Board registry for
9 the Whale Tail project.

10 Based on our review, Environment Canada has never
11 suggested that the continuous passive NO2 monitors
12 might be unreliable before this reconsideration
13 process. In fact, even the most recent comments from
14 Environment Canada on the Whale Tail annual report and
15 dated May 27, 2019, do not say that they think we need
16 continuous active NO2 air quality samplers.
17 Environment Canada appears to be supportive of the use
18 of the current passive NO2 air quality monitoring.

19 Quoting: (as read)

20 The Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards
21 are not intended to be used as enforceable
22 standards at the project perimeter. Rather,
23 they are used to evaluate the nature and
24 severity of the project's impact on regional
25 air quality. The passive air quality
26 monitoring for NO2 produces annual averages

1 that can be compared with the annual NO2

2 Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards.

3 So we don't think that Environment Canada has a serious
4 concern about reliability of our samplers, and we don't
5 either.

6 The continuous passive NO2 monitoring described
7 has advantages. These pucks act like a sponge which
8 absorbs all the NO2 at the monitoring location. The
9 laboratory analysis result then provides the total NO2
10 absorbed by the puck during the monitoring period. In
11 the case of the approved project, we are speaking of a
12 duration of 30 days. This information is quite useful
13 to validate model predictions, as all the NO2 collected
14 at this location can be compared to the predictions.

15 A few comments about the technical document that
16 Environment Canada mentioned yesterday that our
17 atmospheric scientist Dr. Cam McNaughton prepared after
18 the technical meeting. And the Nunavut Impact Review
19 Board already has a copy of this.

20 The important thing to understand about this memo
21 is that it shows that the reliability of continuous
22 active NO2 samplers in use in Iqaluit is an issue. To
23 set up the kind of monitors that Environment Canada is
24 suggesting, we would need to have a power source and
25 build a road, and our atmospheric scientist Dr. Cam
26 McNaughton tells us it is sensitive equipment that

1 requires special training to operate. That option does
2 not make sense to us, given the risk and given that we
3 have a good NO2 sampling program at our site already as
4 stated by Environment Canada in our 2018 annual report.

5 One of the ideas that we've contemplated is to use
6 more than one puck at a time. We propose to double the
7 number of passive sampler by air quality monitoring
8 station in order to have a monitoring point each
9 15 days and to update the air quality monitoring plan
10 and include new thresholds and mitigations for NO2 in
11 the adaptive management section. That way, you can
12 compare the data and make sure they're the same.

13 This will provide more data for analysis to see if
14 our air quality exceeds the predictions and triggers
15 action under our adaptive management plan. We thought
16 that that was a good idea and something we could
17 incorporate in the expansion project to address any
18 concern the Board may still have regarding accuracy of
19 continuous passive NO2 monitors.

20 We hope the additional information about the risk
21 assessment and its conclusion that risks are very low
22 and our additional commitment will help answer some of
23 the questions the Board had yesterday. Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you to the
25 Government of Nunavut for your presentation earlier.

26 Legal counsel.

1 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

2 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
3 Review Board.

4 Madam Chair, it's my understanding that
5 Environment and Climate Change Canada's air emissions
6 specialist is unavailable at present, is travelling
7 today. And so they have asked to defer their response
8 to the new commitment by Agnico Eagle until -- until he
9 is available to consider it. So at this time, I
10 understand that Environment and Climate Change Canada
11 may reserve their right to respond or not respond just
12 as soon as they can get in touch with their -- their
13 expert. But there may be other questions by the
14 participants at the table to Agnico Eagle with respect
15 to this new commitment.

16 THE CHAIR: Any questions from any of the
17 registered intervenors to Agnico Eagle?

18 Kivalliq Inuit Association.

19 MR. MANZO: Kivalliq Inuit Association,
20 Luis Manzo. Thank you, Madam Chair. No questions at
21 this time.

22 THE CHAIR: Questions from NIRB staff?

23 Questions from NIRB Board?

24 Catherine.

25 Nunavut Impact Review Board Questions Agnico Eagle
26 Mines Limited

1 MS. EMRICH: Thank you, Madam Chair.

2 Catherine Emrich, NIRB Board member.

3 I'm just wondering, in the intervening time
4 between now and when Environment Canada's expert is
5 available, if there could be some consideration given
6 to the discussion about the possibility of a field
7 study to validate the passive monitoring results and
8 possibly to give an indication of whether or not there
9 are spikes in NO2 levels that we are not seeing through
10 the monitoring. Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

12 Considering that we're coming close to the
13 community roundtable portion, we'll take that as a
14 deferred response from Agnico Eagle.

15 And that concludes the technical portions of the
16 hearing, and we're going to start preparing for the
17 community roundtable. So we'll take another short
18 break 'til 11:15 and reconvene.

19 People that are here from the communities that are
20 representing their communities, we're going to make
21 arrangements to have you seated up here next, and our
22 staff is going to quickly fix the seating area quickly.

23 (ADJOURNMENT)

24 THE CHAIR: Let us reconvene.

25 Before they show us the animation -- or the --
26 Baker Lake MLA and the speaker for Nunavut from the --

1 Simeon is here. If you have something to say, you are
2 more than welcome.

3 MR. MIKINGUAQ: Thank you, Madam Chair, and
4 all the people in Baker Lake that are coming here.
5 Because, as Inuit, we did get Nunavut and we have -- in
6 the -- we are the Nunavut beneficiaries, and we do have
7 a lot of work. Don't forget your fellow people here in
8 Baker Lake. I'm not going to speak too long. I'll
9 make it brief. I'll make it brief.

10 In -- for us Baker Lake -- back then, when we were
11 the youngest -- back in 2008 and before that, Baker
12 Lake was the highest with unemployment in some parts.
13 Looking at that now, government -- like, there was --
14 it looks like we weren't going to have any people
15 working for the government. That's what we have seen.
16 And after they found gold over at Meadowbank and
17 outside -- and then we seen more gold. After that, we
18 understood that it's not going to only affect Baker
19 Lake, and a lot of us are -- are most affected because
20 we're the closest to that mining.

21 But today, Agnico Eagle have employed not only
22 Baker Lake residents, but they've hired people from
23 Kivalliq. And I know -- I'm pretty sure some of you
24 have been to that area. I want you to realize that --
25 and in some ways -- like, when I heard the air -- air
26 supply quality -- I've been with the MLA -- I've always

1 asked that as an MLA and a minister. And coming from
2 Baker Lake -- Baker Lake -- I represent a lot of -- I
3 have a lot of people who I -- after today, we have not
4 seen our government, Kivalliq Inuit, and the mining
5 companies. We know our own community. We see it with
6 our own eyes, and we feel it. Being residents of Baker
7 Lake, ever since 2008, up to today, we see what's going
8 on.

9 Being an MLA and a speaker, I could say Baker Lake
10 residents -- people come to us to get information. As
11 the mine is started -- when it first started, we didn't
12 have any kind of help when you first started, but today
13 we are -- you are able to bring people here. And that
14 way we can understand each other, how the mining works
15 in Nunavut. Our environment -- we look at everybody
16 around our -- you are here to protect our animals,
17 wildlife, and the policies and all these others are
18 being brought up. But we -- you need to think more --
19 are we not locking up everything? How can we improve?
20 Who can -- who's going to benefit? Who's going to be
21 the most affected? These are the three main I want --
22 I wanted to say to you.

23 Welcome to Baker Lake. And we're always
24 welcoming, and it's good to see that Inuit are being
25 involved with it because we do have Nunavut Land Claim
26 Agreement, and we are from -- and the staff who are

1 here and the Agnico Eagle Mines, I could say on behalf
2 of Baker Lake as soon as we ask them, they always have
3 tried to give us answers. It's just the same -- I'm
4 pretty sure you're going to be talking to each other.
5 We are thinking of our future generation.

6 Have a good meeting. Although there are going to
7 be times we're not happy, but don't forget the three
8 that I just talked about. Some will never say
9 anything, even if you are in a meeting, and even if you
10 are here to attend; you have to consider them too
11 because they are Nunavut beneficiaries here.

12 Thank you very much, and welcome to Baker Lake.
13 Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simeon.
15 Community Roundtable

16 THE CHAIR: We will now begin the
17 community roundtable portion of the public hearing.
18 The community roundtable is focused on following --
19 allowing the Board to hear the views, concerns, and
20 issues from community members on the Whale Tail Pit
21 Expansion Proposal. In addition to the questions and
22 comments from community representatives here at the
23 table, we will also continue to invite questions from
24 the public. For members of the public who want to ask
25 questions to the public or intervenors, please provide
26 your name to our staff at the front of the room.

1 If you don't have questions but would like to
2 provide a statement for the Board's consideration,
3 please also speak with our staff. This will assist us
4 in making sure everyone who wishes to speak gets a
5 chance to do so.

6 Before we begin, we can do introduction, who you
7 are representing, and where you are coming from. We'll
8 start from Arviat.

9 Roll Call

10 MS. PANIGONIAK: I'm from Arviat. My name is
11 Winnie Panigoniak. I'm thankful that you have sent me
12 up here.

13 MR. UBLURIAK: My name is Tommy Ubluriak.
14 I'm Arviat resident coming -- representing HTO. And
15 before I speak, I want to identify first of all I'm
16 here on behalf of HTO. I'm also a board member for
17 HTO, and I've been an instructor with the school using
18 IQ with the schools and -- like, it's kind of like --
19 when there's no priest, I lead with the church in our
20 community. Thank you.

21 MS. TATTUNIEE: Tapisa Tattunee from Arviat.

22 MS. KOMAKJUAK: Agnes Komakjuak from Arviat.

23 MS. IKSIRAQ: Thank you. Philippa Iksiraq,
24 member -- chair -- vice-chair. I was asked -- I just
25 agreed to come, even though I don't really understand
26 what is being talked about. But I thank you for

1 allowing me to sit here.

2 MS. KIGJUGALIK HUGHSON: Thank you. My name is Paula
3 Kigjugalik Hughson. I've been -- I'm representing the
4 Hamlet of Baker Lake as councillor.

5 MS. ELYTOOK: Thank you. My name is Eva
6 Elytook, Baker Lake. Sitting -- I was asked if I can
7 sit around here. Welcome to Baker Lake.

8 Eli.

9 MR. KIMMALIARDJUK: Eli Kimmaliardjuk. Because
10 they have to have Elders coming from a community of
11 Chester, I thought I was an Elder. I signed up
12 thinking I'm an Elder. I'm not -- I'm -- I'm just a
13 regular resident from Chesterfield just waiting. I'm
14 just an ordinary person. If I can ask and I could --
15 if I can say a few words during this -- I would like to
16 say something if I can -- if I remember. I'll have
17 some questions later on. Thank you.

18 MR. KRAKO: Jimmy Krako, Hamlet.

19 MR. AGGARK: Harry Aggark. I'm here -- I'm
20 with Chesterfield HTO chairperson.

21 MR. KUKKIAK: Maurice Kukkiak. I'm coming
22 from Chesterfield.

23 MS. KUKKIAK: My name is Theresa Kukkiak.
24 I'm from Chesterfield. I was asked if I can be a woman
25 rep to come to the hearing. I agreed, so I'm here.
26 And thank you, Baker Lake, for welcoming us. Thank

1 you.

2 MR. NAKOOLAK: Lucassie Nakoolak, Coral
3 Harbour rep, coming from HTO. And it's -- like, I'm
4 the only one from Chester. I didn't know we had to
5 have young and old -- Elder because we weren't informed
6 in Chester.

7 MR. MAPSALAK: Joseph Mapsalak. I'm from
8 Naujaat coming from the Hamlet, but also I was
9 designated by KIA to attend. Thank you.

10 MS. KRIDLUAR: My name is Pauline Kridluar,
11 and I am a youth. (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN)

12 MS. TUKTUJUK: Mary Tuktujuk. I'm coming
13 from Naujaat representing women to listen. I'm also a
14 board member for our HTO. I signed up to come, so I'm
15 here with you today.

16 MS. KATOKRA: Conna Katokra. I'm a board
17 member for HTO. I was sent here to listen to the
18 public hearing. Thank you.

19 MS. HICKES: Martha Hickes, Deputy Mayor of
20 Hamlet in Rankin Inlet. I'm happy to be here. It has
21 been -- past two years I was here when they had the
22 hearing, and I enjoy listening because I want to
23 support the community of Baker Lake and my fellow
24 Inuit, especially Kivalliq. And we'll have an Elder.

25 MR. TARTAK: I'm Clayton Tartak. I'm with
26 the Rankin Inlet HTO.

1 MR. NAPAYOK ELL: Jackie Napayok Ell. I'm
2 coming from Whale Cove. I'm not a member, but I have
3 worked with the mines -- in different mines. So
4 when -- I'm going to have different questions. I
5 wanted to come here and -- for those that sent me up
6 here. Thank you.

7 MS. VOISEY: Thank you. Eva Voisey, coming
8 from Whale Cove Hamlet. And -- and the first time when
9 they had -- I was here -- and when we were here, I
10 remember there was a big storm and we were here, but
11 I'm -- you're all welcoming us here. Thank you very
12 much.

13 MR. VOISEY: Hi. I'm from Whale Cove. I'm
14 Amos Voisey, and I'm representing youth for -- what is
15 it called -- Whale Cove from KIA.

16 MR. ENUAPIK: Simon Enuapik from Issatik,
17 HTO chair. Thank you.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, and welcome.

19 We will now proceed with the community roundtable
20 Agenda Item 4, summary presentation by the proponent.
21 Following the presentation from Agnico Eagle, we will
22 turn to questions or comments from community
23 representatives and members of the general public for
24 the remainder of the roundtable.

25 The registered intervenors are all standing by for
26 questions as well, so community representatives and the

1 general public are encouraged to provide any questions
2 or comments they might have for these parties as well.
3 I will ask that our legal counsel mark the exhibits so
4 we can begin the presentations.

5 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
6 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
7 Review Board.

8 Madam Chair, I have two copies of the presentation
9 materials that are going to be presented by Agnico
10 Eagle during the community roundtable portion. They
11 are in English and Inuktitut, and I propose to mark
12 those as the next two exhibits in this public hearing,
13 and those are my procedural matters, Madam Chair.
14 Exhibit.

15 EXHIBIT 68 - Hard Copy PowerPoint
16 Presentation Whale Tail Pit Expansion Project
17 NIRB Public Hearing August 26-29, 2019,
18 Community Roundtable (English)

19 EXHIBIT 69 - Hard Copy PowerPoint
20 Presentation Whale Tail Pit Expansion Project
21 NIRB Public Hearing August 26-29, 2019,
22 Community Roundtable (Inuktitut)

23 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, you may proceed
24 with your presentation.

25 Presentation by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
26 (Introduction and Overview of Project)

1 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Madam Chair. My
2 name is Michel Groleau from Agnico Eagle.

3 I would like first to thank everybody for
4 travelling to Baker Lake and being here with us today.
5 It's meaningful for us to see the interest of Inuit
6 people on our project, and we're looking forward to
7 learn from your experience and have a better project at
8 the end of this community session. So thank you
9 everybody to be here.

10 So this presentation will discuss of the Whale
11 Tail Expansion Project overview and the response to our
12 final written submission. Before moving on to the
13 presentation, we also have at the front a 3D
14 rendering -- so it's a 3D model -- showing up the site.
15 So the -- the bigger one is showing the surface of the
16 site, and the smallest one on the left you can see the
17 underground mine. So it's good material to understand
18 the project.

19 Also, at the back of the room, we're having
20 posters showing up different project stage, also
21 information collected with the -- with our different
22 community session and the experience we learn from
23 there. So we -- we are having all that at the back of
24 the room. So don't hesitate to go see those if you
25 have question, and -- and ask your question to us.
26 We'll be really happy to answer them.

1 So first I'll describe the Whale Tail Expansion
2 Project. So what we can see here is the Whale Tail
3 dike on that picture that have been built last here.
4 Second, I will provide a summary of the final written
5 submission status. Then we will present about
6 environmental monitoring and mitigation for caribou,
7 water, and air. And, finally, we are looking forward
8 to have questions and discussion with community
9 members.

10 On this slide, we will describe the history of
11 Agnico Eagle in Nunavut. So we started the production
12 at Meadowbank in 2010, and we will cease production of
13 gold at Meadowbank this year, in 2019. The Whale Tail
14 deposit was discovered in 1972 and approved by the
15 Nunavut Impact Review Board 2017. We construct this
16 project and are beginning to produce gold.

17 For the Whale Tail Expansion Project, we would
18 like to start construction next year in 2020 and end
19 production in 2026. The expansion project will add
20 four years to the Whale Tail project. There are
21 already two approved project: so, first, the
22 Meadowbank project where the mill is; and the second,
23 the Whale Tail project, which is simply a pit, the
24 waste rock storage, and a haul road. The Whale Tail
25 project is approximately 60 kilometres north of
26 Meadowbank. We mine ore at Whale Tail and haul that

1 ore south to Meadowbank for processing.

2 On this -- on this slide, we will describe the
3 Whale Tail Expansion Project. We have found additional
4 gold resources in the rock next to the existing Whale
5 Tail project pit. We are applying to the Nunavut
6 Impact Review Board to allow us to add a new pit within
7 the approved area of the Whale Tail project and to mine
8 underground, underneath the Whale Tail project. The
9 new pit is called "IVR pit". We will put the extra
10 rock from this pit called "waste rock" in the waste
11 rock storage facility, and we will have some additional
12 water management. Adding this additional mining at
13 Whale Tail will allow us to extend the project and all
14 the jobs for miners and contractor by four years. We
15 will also mine underground and within the approved haul
16 road for safety reason. Everything else will remain
17 the same. We will continue to use the camp at the
18 Whale Tail and Meadowbank, and we will have the same
19 trucks on the road.

20 We will continue to use the existing Baker Lake
21 facilities such as the fuel farm that we can see here
22 on this aerial picture and the dock at Baker here that
23 we can see over there. The all-weather access road
24 that we see on the picture on the right leads from
25 Baker to Meadowbank.

26 This slide is presenting the Meadowbank mine. It

1 have [sic] been operating for ten years and is
2 authorized to continue operating.

3 We will continue to use the existing Meadowbank
4 camp that we can see on the picture on the left, and we
5 will also process the ore rock from the Whale Tail
6 project at the Meadowbank mill. So the picture on the
7 right is presenting the mill infrastructure. So we've
8 got the power plant, the dome where we're storing the
9 crushed ore rock, and the mill at the back.

10 On this slide, we are showing the existing Whale
11 Tail project, including the Whale Tail Pit here in the
12 middle, the waste rock storage on the left, and the
13 camp right here on the right. To this, we will be
14 adding the expansion project. So this -- we will mine
15 the Whale Tail Pit deeper. We will extend this waste
16 rock storage facility to the east over here. We will
17 add the IVR pit north to the Whale Tail Pit and the IVR
18 waste rock storage facility here on the right. We'll
19 also have additional infrastructure to store contact
20 water from the open pit. So we got this additional
21 attenuation pond. So it's a pond to store the water
22 from the pits during operation.

23 We will also add an underground mine. So the
24 underground mine portal -- so the access to the
25 underground mine is located right here on the figure,
26 and we got the waste rock storage for the underground

1 mine located here. There's three pond to manage the
2 water from the underground mine, so those three pond
3 are those three over here. So you can see all that on
4 the 3D rendering in the middle and the underground mine
5 also on the smaller model.

6 We will continue to use the already approved Whale
7 Tail infrastructure. So on the left, we can see the
8 garage where we're doing the maintenance of our
9 equipment. The exploration pad -- I think it's at the
10 back here -- where we're adding our core and all the
11 logging shack for the -- the exploration and the camp
12 also that we can see on the picture on the right. The
13 addition of the camp is mainly due -- so we'll extend
14 the camp capacity for the new worker that will work for
15 the underground mine.

16 We will also continue to use the infrastructure
17 that is already approve as part of the Whale Tail
18 project. So we can see the water management plant that
19 we're having to treat the contact water from the pit
20 before discharging that water in the -- in the
21 receiver, so in the lake beside the -- the mine. So we
22 need to treat that water. This is the infrastructure
23 we're using. And we use also long-haul trucks to
24 transport the ore from Whale Tail to Meadowbank. So we
25 can see one of those truck here on the picture on the
26 right.

1 This slide is presenting the infrastructure or
2 the -- that we're adding up to the project. So in red
3 is the surface assets that are part of the expansion
4 project for surface mining, and in purple is the
5 infrastructure -- assets that are part of the expansion
6 project for the underground mining, assets described on
7 the other picture.

8 On this slide, we can see the existing Whale Tail
9 road from the Whale Tail in the north. So this is the
10 Whale Tail site, and the road go down this way to the
11 Meadowbank site. Agnico Eagle propose to expand the
12 width of the road from 9.5 to 15 metre to improve
13 safety for vehicles so that two vehicle can pass each
14 other. So those big truck we saw on the -- on the
15 other previous slide need to cross on the road. We
16 will use the material from the existing quarries and
17 esker showed in green and red on this figure to widen
18 the road.

19 We already have over 50 areas along the road where
20 we have built the road with a four-to-one slope so the
21 caribou can cross more easily. When we widen the road,
22 we will add additional crossing location as well. The
23 locations are being determined using IQ, traditional
24 knowledge, field studies, and collar data information.

25 This slide provide more description related to the
26 development of the underground mine of the expansion

1 project which will consist of long-hole mining with cut
2 and fill in flat areas. The existing ramp will be the
3 main connection to the surface. Waste rock produce
4 from the underground will be return underground as
5 backfill, and no underground waste rock will be store
6 at the surface of the mine at the end of operation.

7 Again, Agnico Eagle plan to widen the road, as we
8 discuss previously, from 9.5 to 15 metre for the safe
9 passage of the haul truck and will -- little detail
10 about that. We are regarding the water management
11 infrastructure along the road, so the bridge will not
12 be modified. We'll use the same bridge that we built
13 for the approved project. There's only the culverts
14 that will be lengthened.

15 This map where we conduct our traditional
16 knowledge and scientific studies for the terrestrial
17 wildlife, the regional studies area here is
18 25 kilometres around the project. So we can see that
19 dotted line around here. So this is the 25 kilometres.
20 And the local study area is a bit closer from the road.
21 So it's that line that we can see over here. These are
22 the same studies areas that we used for the Whale Tail
23 application two years ago.

24 This is a detail map of where we conduct field
25 studies for vegetation. So we can see here the map
26 with the contour where the study happen. Again, these

1 are the same studies area for the Whale Tail
2 application two years ago.

3 This is a map where we conducted studies on noise
4 and vibration regional studies area. So we're using a
5 5-kilometre distance around the project for -- for
6 those studies, as we can see on the map. These are the
7 same studies areas for the Whale Tail application two
8 years ago.

9 This is a map of where we conduct studies of water
10 quality and the organism that live in water. So the
11 studies have occurred where we see the dash yellow
12 areas around here. So the project is located in that
13 area, and the Meadowbank project over here. These are
14 based on the watershed surrounding the lake -- the
15 project. Pardon.

16 This slide show the schedule of the Whale Tail
17 Expansion Project. So from 2019 to '20, we're planning
18 to continue operating the Whale Tail Pit as approved
19 while we are reviewing the expansion project and the
20 Type A water licence. We're anticipating receiving our
21 permit licence and authorization to operate around
22 July 2020. From 2020 to 2022, we'll begin operation of
23 the expanded Whale Tail Pit, IVR pit stripping, and to
24 construct the infrastructure. From 2020 to 25th [sic],
25 we'll operate the Whale Tail Pit Expansion Project, if
26 project deems approved, and active closure will start

1 in 2026. So we'll start backfilling the pits with
2 water and flood the pit. And we're expecting that
3 post-closure will happen in 2052, and this will be
4 based on the water quality within the pit. So when
5 water quality will be good, we'll reconnect the lake
6 from the pit to the surrounding lake around the
7 project. So this expansion will extend the project
8 life for four years to an added -- to a total eight
9 years of mining in this -- in this area.

10 So we'll now present a video that show the project
11 so everybody can have a -- an understanding of how it's
12 look like.

13 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle, it's almost
14 12:00. So after we show the -- after you show the
15 video, we'll break for lunch and reconvene at 1:15.

16 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Madam Chair.

17 (VIDEO PLAYED)

18 MR. GROLEAU: So here we're zooming on Baker
19 Lake. Here's the Meadowbank project over here and the
20 Whale Tail haul road. So we're moving up to the Whale
21 Tail project.

22 There's some caribou crossing along the road.
23 We're going around the lakes, and we reach the Whale
24 Tail project area.

25 So here we're flying above the tundra. This
26 portion of the video is showing the baseline status of

1 the site, so before operation. We got the Whale Tail
2 Lake around here. This will be the area where the dike
3 will be built.

4 So here on your left -- we'll speak about that
5 later, but it's the Mammoth Lake and the Mammoth
6 crossing, so it's the river connecting the Whale Tail
7 Lake to the Mammoth Lake over here. So we built
8 another dike in that area as well as part of the
9 approved project.

10 So this is the Whale Tail approved project during
11 operation. So you can see the big dike I was speaking
12 of that we saw the picture at the beginning. Presently
13 it's where we're storing our contact water. It's the
14 Whale Tail attenuation pond.

15 And the pit is located here, the Whale Tail Pit,
16 with the waste rock storage facility. So you can see
17 the -- the -- the ramp going down the pit, and it's
18 just to give you an idea of the size, and we got a haul
19 truck at the bottom.

20 Here is the camp, the ore stockpile on the left,
21 and the haul road is going down that way on the right.
22 The garage is located right there.

23 So for the expansion project, similar
24 infrastructure, the dike that -- the Whale Tail dike,
25 the Mammoth dike I was speaking of, the waste rock
26 storage facility, the Whale Tail Pit over here, and the

1 IVR pit will be just behind. And we got the IVR waste
2 rock storage facility over here. So the underground
3 mine is located between those two.

4 You can see the haul road going down that
5 direction and the new pond where we store contact water
6 from the -- from the pits.

7 Here is our water treatment infrastructure for the
8 water from the underground mine as well, so we'll have
9 another type of treatment for this water coming from
10 the underground mine.

11 Then we're going underground to see the
12 underground mine. So it's the ore deposit in blue.
13 And you can see here the ramp that we're going to use
14 to mine those -- the ore from the underground mine. So
15 it's what you can see on the model on the table at the
16 right.

17 So this portion of the video is showing the
18 closure of the site. So what we're expecting to do,
19 when the water quality in the pits we saw before is --
20 is good enough and meeting the criteria, we can then
21 open up the dike and reconnect the lake together. So
22 water will -- will -- will go back as its original flow
23 and flow toward the -- the Mammoth Lake we were showing
24 up before. So we can see here the pit -- the flooded
25 pit.

26 And this is the end of our video. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Okay. It's now 12:00. So
2 we'll break for lunch 'til 1:15 and then reconvene at
3 1:15 with the same presentation.

4

5 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 1:15 PM

6

7 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 1:16 PM)

8 THE CHAIR: Good afternoon. We'll
9 reconvene. Just so you know that Agnico Eagle, once
10 they have done their presentation, you'll be able to
11 ask questions or comment.

12 Agnico Eagle, you can continue with your
13 presentation.

14 MS. RAMCHARAN: (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN),
15 Madam Chair, members of the board, and community
16 members. My name is Candace Ramcharan with Agnico
17 Eagle.

18 Agnico Eagle's public participation approach is
19 guided by our commitment to Indigenous people
20 engagement in our responsible mining management system.

21 Our commitment is to work in partnership with
22 Indigenous people to establish a mutually beneficial,
23 cooperative, and productive relationship.

24 Our approach is characterized by effective two-way
25 communication, consultation, and partnering. Our
26 responsible management system is an integrated

1 framework for the management of health and safety
2 environments and social performance.

3 The responsible mining management system takes a
4 plan, do, check, and act management approach, and it is
5 a form of adaptive management. We plan engagement
6 strategies based on our sustainable development policy
7 and best-practice guidances and on legal and other
8 requirements, such as project certificates in our Inuit
9 Impact and Benefit Agreements.

10 We do by implementing effective communication and
11 stakeholder engagement strategies, such as our
12 community liaison officer in each Kivalliq community,
13 open houses and public meetings, community investment
14 agreements, and liaison committees.

15 We check to make sure that our engagement
16 practices are working by evaluating feedback from the
17 communities or through our Inuit Impacts and Benefit
18 Agreements committees that are with the Kivalliq Inuit
19 Association, as well as reporting externally.

20 And, finally, we act by reviewing the results of
21 our public engagement strategy regularly, both
22 internally as well as externally, with our community
23 partners to see how we can improve.

24 Since 2016, there have been almost 90 project
25 consultations and engagement for the Meadowbank Whale
26 Tail-approved project and the Whale Tail expansion

1 project. The main community concerns that were
2 identified through the consultations were mainly
3 related to climate change; water quality; air quality,
4 particularly dust and the use of dust suppressants;
5 potential impacts to caribou habitat and migration; and
6 other wildlife from our mine operations; fish out
7 processes and potential effects; and fish returns at
8 closure; as well as shipping traffic and potential
9 effects on marine environment.

10 These concerns have been incorporated and
11 addressed in the relevant sections of our final
12 environmental impact study for this expansion project.

13 I will now let my colleague, Manon, continue with
14 the presentation.

15 MS. TURMEL: Thank you, Candace.

16 Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle.

17 For the Whale Tail expansion project, we have
18 developed various monitoring plans. Over half of them
19 are a continuity of the Meadowbank and Whale
20 Tail-approved management plans. Some were new for new
21 activities, and we will implement the principal of
22 adaptive management. This will result in adapting
23 infrastructure, monitoring plans, and mitigation
24 accordingly.

25 Throughout the Nunavut Impact Review Board review
26 process for the Whale Tail expansion project, we have

1 received a total of 156 information requests from
2 interveners, 90 technical comments from interveners.
3 We have made 53 commitments during the technical
4 meeting in June and, finally, have received 77 final
5 written submissions from the interveners.

6 The next slides will discuss environmental
7 monitoring and mitigation proposed for the expansion
8 project. We have been proactive and inclusive in the
9 incorporation of both Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and
10 traditional knowledge in the project design,
11 construction, and mitigation measures. We have also
12 been conducting consultation and engagement with
13 communities on the project.

14 From 2005 to 2019, we have completed events of
15 engagement through multiple Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit
16 workshops held with communities, public meetings in
17 Baker Lake and Kivalliq hunters and trappers
18 organizations. We have reviewed over 17 existing
19 reports for the project area, and we have had ongoing
20 engagements with the Hunters and Trappers Organization,
21 including through their participation in the
22 terrestrial advisory group, which has met regularly
23 over the past year.

24 This information was used to design the scientific
25 studies that complimented the traditional knowledge for
26 the Whale Tail site. It was also used to structure our

1 environmental assessment for the project. Consultation
2 and engagement has been ongoing following the approval
3 of the Whale Tail project and design of the Whale Tail
4 extension, including multiple meetings on a terrestrial
5 environment with communities, the Hunter and Trapper
6 Association, and the Kivalliq Inuit Association.

7 The Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and traditional
8 knowledge gathered for the project included harvesting
9 sites, wildlife, and fisheries. We used this
10 traditional knowledge, along with scientific
11 information, to produce maps of environmental
12 sensitivities for the project. So you can see on this
13 slide one of the maps that we prepared based on this
14 information. We also have similar maps at the back of
15 the room for you to consult.

16 The Whale Tail project used traditional knowledge
17 and science to address these issues following the
18 mitigation hierarchy of avoiding, minimizing, and
19 managing. For example, Elders were concerned about
20 vegetation and wildlife habitat, which was addressed
21 using traditional knowledge to avoid important wildlife
22 sites, such as dens, nests, and rare ecosystems.

23 Also, Elders wanted to ensure that caribou can
24 cross the haul road safely, which was addressed using
25 traditional knowledge to minimize the structure of the
26 road and locate crossing points for caribou.

1 Finally, Elders wanted to prevent negative changes
2 to caribou and impacts to harvest, which was addressed
3 using traditional knowledge and science to manage
4 vehicle use on the road so that caribou can safely
5 cross the road.

6 The Whale Tail expansion project uses the same
7 infrastructure as the Whale Tail project, as my
8 colleague, Michel, presented. So the mitigations that
9 I just presented still apply. Remember that the
10 project is remaining the same from a wildlife
11 perspective. This is the same activity at Whale Tail
12 and Meadowbank and the same vehicles driving the same
13 amounts on the Whale Tail haul road and the all-weather
14 access road.

15 Okay. Thank you for pointing that out.

16 Some of the maps that I was referring to with
17 traditional knowledge information harvesting sites were
18 distributed to you earlier so that you can have a look
19 at them.

20 This slide shows the movement of the principal
21 caribou herds in eastern Nunavut. These include the
22 Qamanirjuaq to the southeast. It does not interact
23 with the project. You also have the Beverly and Ahiak
24 to the west of the project, and there is a small
25 interaction with the Ahiak with our project.

26 There is also the Wager Bay herd to the northeast,

1 which also has a small interaction with the project
2 and, finally the Lorillard herd, which crosses the road
3 in spring and fall and are the focus of our assessment
4 and management.

5 One important note is that this project area does
6 not overlap with any caribou calving area for any herd.

7 In addition, we worked with Elders and land users
8 to install trail cameras along the Whale Tail haul road
9 to further investigate interactions of caribou with the
10 road. On the left picture, you can see a group of
11 caribou crossing the road. The first and second
12 caribou are on the tundra; the other three caribou are
13 crossing the road. And you can see the trail to the
14 site where other caribou have been crossing at this
15 location.

16 And on the right picture, you can see a camera on
17 the post in the middle of a caribou trail. So we have
18 installed cameras like this along our all-weather
19 access road.

20 These maps here simply highlights the various
21 observations from field programs along the Whale Tail
22 haul road that was used for our baseline terrestrial
23 report. Observations shown include some for caribou,
24 trails and signs, raptor observations, musk ox
25 observations, fox and wolf and wolverine observations.

26 In accordance to our existing project certificate

1 that was delivered by the Nunavut Impact Review Board
2 for the Whale Tail project, we established a
3 terrestrial advisory group for both the Meadowbank and
4 Whale Tail project. This group provides a technical
5 oversight on the project's mitigation, monitoring, and
6 adaptive management measures related to the protection
7 of wildlife. And the following parties are actively
8 part of this group: The Baker Lake Hunter and Trapper
9 Organization [sic], the Government of Nunavut, the
10 Kivalliq Inuit Association, Nunavut Tunngavik and
11 Environment and Climate Change Canada.

12 This group is also a venue to openly raise
13 concerns about wildlife and to review and discuss the
14 results of wildlife monitoring and discuss
15 opportunities for ongoing research. Several groups --
16 several meetings were held in the past years, and we've
17 had some in July and August of this year. They consist
18 of two days in-person meetings or simply conference
19 calls to discuss specific topics, and we are planning
20 the next meeting for October.

21 Thus, we have a substantial track record of
22 engaging with regulators to adaptively manage our
23 terrestrial and ecosystem management plan. Meeting
24 minutes and any subsequent updates to our terrestrial
25 ecosystem management plan are submitted to the Nunavut
26 Impact Review Board and made public, and in response to

1 concerns raised with the terrestrial advisory group, we
2 have updated our terrestrial ecosystem management plan
3 numerous times.

4 As per our existing project certificate, we
5 maintain a terrestrial ecosystem management plan. In
6 this plan, for each potential effect, we are proposing
7 mitigation measures, and to confirm that residual
8 effects are acceptable, a comprehensive monitoring plan
9 is presented that evaluates the response of wildlife
10 habitat and wildlife populations to the effects of the
11 project and project-related activities and measure's
12 effects against thresholds. And every three years, we
13 are proposing to complete a comprehensive report to
14 assess the efficacy of monitoring and other topics.

15 The terrestrial ecosystem management plan outlines
16 a tiered monitoring and mitigation approach based on
17 feedback from the terrestrial advisory group. Their
18 input has been heard, including on our on-site
19 environmental departmental representatives which has
20 resulted in the implementation of strong caribou
21 protection measures.

22 During the 2019 spring migration of caribou, which
23 was the latest, we implemented Version 6 of our
24 terrestrial ecosystem management plan, and this
25 contains reduced group size thresholds and updated
26 tiered caribou protection measures. So, overall, the

1 plan that we have used is more conservative than any
2 previous versions. We are confident that the recent
3 updates to our plan are adequate and protective for
4 caribou. Also, I would like to add that the hunter
5 harvest study that was in place a few years ago resumed
6 this spring.

7 These slides here presents the sensitive seasons
8 for caribou interacting with the Meadowbank and Whale
9 Tail Pit sites. Sensitive seasons are periods of time
10 during the year when increased monitoring and
11 mitigation be implemented to ensure caribou protection.
12 The spring sensitive season is from April 1st to May 25
13 and corresponds to the spring migration. If you can
14 see here, it's the number of caribou that are
15 interacting with our site, and this is the spring
16 season, and this is where there's the highest number of
17 caribou interacting with our site.

18 And the fall season is from September 22nd to
19 December 15 and interact with our project during the
20 rut and fall migration and we can see as represented
21 here. And the other seasons, winter and summer, are
22 characterized as regular seasons.

23 As per our existing project certificate, seasonal
24 caribou group size thresholds were developed. For each
25 season where caribou might interact with the site or
26 road, group size thresholds were developed. For

1 example, during spring, the group size threshold is 12.
2 Let me explain it a bit better. So if 12 or more
3 caribou are observed during the spring within a certain
4 distance from the road, further mitigation measures are
5 required. During fall, we have set the group size
6 threshold at 110.

7 Through discussions with the Government of Nunavut
8 and Kivalliq Inuit Association, a desired minimum
9 protection level of 75 percent of all caribou observed
10 was used as the foundation for those numbers, and we
11 will continue to refine those numbers as we collect
12 more data.

13 Our terrestrial ecosystem management plan defines
14 action levels based on caribou proximity to the mine,
15 haul road, or all-weather access road, and number of
16 caribou.

17 The next set of slides will present in greater
18 details action levels defined in our plan. So this
19 slide shows you what we do during a Level 1 of
20 protection measures for caribou. So if one or more
21 satellite caribou collar are observed within
22 50 kilometre from our mine site or haul road, we will
23 trigger a Level 1.

24 What this means: We must provide daily
25 notification site-wide to all employees. This is to
26 ensure a heightened level of awareness site-wide,

1 inform employees that caribou could be encountered, and
2 that additional mitigation measures can be quickly
3 enacted. In addition, we will conduct surveys along
4 the haul road and at high points near the road every
5 two days, and we will review satellite collar
6 information provided by the Government of Nunavut twice
7 per week. All of that is during a Level 1.

8 If a caribou group larger than the group size
9 threshold we discussed earlier are observed within
10 4 kilometre of the mine site or haul road, we trigger a
11 Level 2. Under a level 2, we must provide daily
12 notification site-wide, and the road dispatch provides
13 an update to all drivers every three hours. Again,
14 this is to ensure a heightened level of awareness
15 site-wide and inform all employees that additional
16 mitigation measures can be quickly enacted.

17 And at this level, we notify the Kivalliq Inuit
18 Association, the Government of Nunavut, and the Hunter
19 and Trapper Organization. In addition, our road
20 surveys and surveys at high points along the road are
21 conducted every day. Also, we review the satellite
22 collar information from the Government of Nunavut every
23 day, so we have a better understanding of where caribou
24 are and when they could be interacting with our site.

25 The highest level of monitoring and mitigation for
26 us is Level 3. If a caribou group larger than the

1 group size threshold are observed within 1.5 kilometre
2 of the mine site or haul road, a Level 3 is triggered.
3 At level 2, it was 4 kilometre, and Level 3 is
4 1.5 kilometre.

5 During a Level 3, the road is closed to
6 nonessential vehicles. Hourly site-wide notifications
7 are provided by the road dispatch to inform of caribou
8 presence. We consult daily with the Kivalliq Inuit
9 Association, the Government of Nunavut, and the Hunter
10 and Trapper Organization representative on-site.

11 We conduct at least twice a day our surveys at
12 high points along the road, and we conduct road surveys
13 every day, as well as review the information of where
14 caribou are from the Government of Nunavut every day.

15 Finally, some pileup convoys of essential vehicle
16 were completed during the spring of 2019 in
17 collaboration with the field technicians, the Hunter
18 and Trapper Organization, the Hunter and Trapper
19 Organization wildlife monitor, and the Kivalliq Inuit
20 Association representative on-site.

21 So those convoys consisted of crew, food,
22 essential parts just to make sure that some essential
23 services are provided to Whale Tail and Meadowbank.
24 It's conducted once per day. Not more than that at the
25 best time of the day.

26 Hopefully this helps you understand a little bit

1 better the mitigation and monitoring completed to
2 protect caribou at our site. I will now let Michel go
3 over the next slides with you.

4 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Madam Chair, Michel
5 Groleau, Agnico Eagle.

6 Thank you, Manon for the presentation.

7 So we'll go back to the -- that slide that we saw
8 together earlier today showing the new infrastructure
9 we're adding for the Whale Tail project. So if you --
10 if you recall, we got two waste rock pile, a new pit,
11 and a new pond to store the contact water from those
12 surface infrastructure.

13 And in purple, we're having the infrastructure
14 related to the underground mine. So there's a waste
15 rock pile for the -- from the underground and the ponds
16 where we're storing the water from the underground mine
17 at the surface.

18 If we look at how we move water on-site during
19 operation, we're -- we're pumping the water getting in
20 contact with our waste rock pile with our pits, and we
21 move it to the attenuation pond, to the pond here on
22 the right.

23 This water is, then, treated in our treatment
24 plant here -- it's the treatment plan that have been
25 approved for the Whale Tail-approved project -- and
26 then discharged in the lakes. So we're pumping the

1 water in the lake here, in Mammoth Lake, after
2 treatment. So we're going to pump in that lake for
3 three years, and then we'll move the discharge location
4 to the Whale Tail lake over here for the next four
5 years of operation.

6 For the water from the underground mine, that will
7 be stored in the pump over here. We'll -- we're
8 planning having a treatment plant right there. So same
9 process. We'll move the water to the discharged
10 location in the Whale Tail south basin at the south
11 here. So any contact water -- so water that get in
12 contact with our mining operation -- will be evaluated,
13 and if it's not meeting water quality criteria, we need
14 to treat prior to be discharged in those lake to make
15 sure we're not having a negative impact on the lake and
16 the aquatic life.

17 We're having a third discharge location located in
18 this area. We're observing on-site water seeping
19 through the dikes, the Whale Tail dikes. So it's the
20 water from the lake that moved through the dikes. So
21 before this water get in contact with the pit, with the
22 mining operation, we want to capture it and re-pump it
23 back in the lake so we keep the water clean. That's
24 our objective with this discharge location.

25 So we're having three new plan, as Manon was
26 mentioning, to manage and -- and monitor our site.

1 Those three plan are the conceptual Whale Tail Pit
2 expansion offsetting plan, the land farm design and
3 management plan, and the incinerator and composter
4 waste management plan.

5 All the other plans that we're having in place to
6 monitor our water quality, air quality, and other waste
7 we're managing on-site are still applicable from the
8 approved project to the expansion project. Those plan
9 have been updated sometime to capture the change
10 between the two project phase and have all been
11 submitted as part of our final environmental impact
12 statement addendum.

13 This slide presents a summary of air quality
14 result for combustion sources and dust. Emission from
15 combustion sources are all predicted to be below the
16 relevant Nunavut Ambient Air Quality Standards. Dust
17 concentration in air and deposition of dust along the
18 road are predicted to be below applicable standards
19 within approximately 1 kilometre of the haul road.

20 Because there were no significant change to air
21 quality predicted, the existing air quality and dust
22 fall monitoring plan was developed to be in line with
23 the Whale Tail Pit, Nunavut Impact Review Board Project
24 Certificate 008. Agnico Eagle will continue to follow
25 this monitoring plan for the expansion project.

26 This figure presents a monitoring location

1 included in that air quality and dust fall monitoring
2 plan. Consistent with the approved project, there's
3 our three dust fall transit along the Whale Tail haul
4 road. These are show in the figure on the left.

5 Station DF5 in red on the figure on the right
6 right here will monitor dust fall for the sites, and
7 the Station DF6 will measure total suspended
8 particulate, fine particulate matter, dust fall, and
9 NO2. This one is presented in green here at the
10 bottom. Those are in area southeast of the Whale Tail
11 camp.

12 So I will let my colleague, Courtney, continue the
13 presentation. Thank you.

14 MS. SQUIRES: Thank you, Michel.

15 Thank you, Madam Chair, members of the board, and
16 representatives of the Kivalliq communities. My name
17 is Courtney Squires, and I will be presenting you this
18 section on the socioeconomic component.

19 This slide shows the 2018 employment statistics at
20 the Meadowbank and Whale Tail projects. Firstly, I
21 would like to explain the type of numbers that I'm
22 presenting on this slide. In order to have a better
23 understanding of Inuit participation at the project
24 sites, Agnico Eagle often reports employment by
25 full-time equivalents.

26 A full-time equivalent represents the equivalent

1 of one person working full-time hours, so that's
2 12 hours per shift on a two week in, two week out
3 schedule at the mine site. So a full-time equivalent
4 can sometimes represent more than one person because
5 some people do not work full-time hours.

6 In 2018, Agnico Eagle directly employed the
7 equivalent of 241 Inuit in full-time positions at the
8 Meadowbank and Whale Tail projects. However, as I just
9 explained, as some of our employees do work part-time,
10 this actually represents 315 individuals, 315 Inuit,
11 directly employed with Agnico Eagle at the Meadowbank
12 and Whale Tail projects, and over half of these people
13 are from Baker Lake. These numbers do not include
14 Inuit who are working for contractors.

15 So as you can see with the Whale Tail-approved
16 project in 2018, Agnico Eagle has already added the
17 equivalent of 24 Inuit full-time employees at the
18 Meadowbank and Whale Tail projects and has increased
19 Inuit employment in almost every Kivalliq community
20 with the exception of Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield
21 Inlet where we had employees transfer from the
22 Meadowbank project to the Meliadine project last year.

23 Through the Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement, Agnico
24 Eagle and the Kivalliq Inuit Association will continue
25 to work closely together to monitor the impacts and
26 benefits discussed previously, including Inuit

1 employment and training at the project, in order to
2 maximize opportunities for the greatest number of
3 Inuit.

4 Agnico Eagle and the Kivalliq Inuit Association
5 meet around 40 times per year through the various
6 implementation committees to discuss, monitor, and
7 collaborate on these topics. And the pictures on the
8 slide depict some of the Inuit training and education
9 programs at the mine and the community, including the
10 site readiness, mandatory training, and the trades
11 awareness skills and knowledge week, task week, in
12 Baker Lake.

13 The approval of the Whale Tail Expansion Project
14 would mean extending local employment by three to four
15 years. The expansion project would add around 99 more
16 employment opportunities for Nunavummiut in addition to
17 the 100 employment opportunities estimated in the
18 already-approved Whale Tail project.

19 In order to ensure that employment benefits will
20 go to Inuit, Agnico Eagle follows a hiring priority for
21 Inuit employees as per our Inuit Impact Benefit
22 Agreement, and we would continue to apply this when
23 hiring for the expansion project. This means Inuit
24 from the affected communities and the other Kivalliq
25 communities will continue to have priority hiring over
26 non-Inuit where qualifications are equal.

1 As mining is a historically male-dominated
2 industry, ensuring that the workplace fosters women
3 participation and success is an ongoing exercise.
4 Women have had success in Nunavut with Agnico Eagle.
5 They represented 33 percent of our Inuit workforce last
6 year. Agnico Eagle will continue its commitment to
7 diversity and inclusion by ensuring that the work
8 environment is adapted for both men and women, that
9 women are represented in decision-making roles, and
10 that women feel safe and secure in their living
11 environment.

12 The expansion project will mean that workforce
13 training will also continue for Nunavummiut employees
14 and community members. This includes pre-employment
15 training, specific training, upward mobility programs,
16 apprenticeships, and on-site education with an adult
17 educator.

18 As most of our workforce is still in school,
19 Agnico Eagle will continue to implement community-level
20 education programs. These education programs will have
21 a focus on youth to provide the tools and the
22 motivation to pursue higher education and a career in
23 the mining industry, and we'll also continue to provide
24 workshops and assistance to Inuit businesses and
25 entrepreneurs to encourage economic development and
26 diversification.

1 The other main mechanism for socioeconomic
2 monitoring and management is through the project,
3 socioeconomic monitoring program. The program monitors
4 indicators and metrics that allow us to understand the
5 social impacts of each of Agnico Eagle's projects in
6 Nunavut. We report according to ten socioeconomic
7 areas, also known as valued socioeconomic components.
8 I won't list all of the areas, but a few examples are
9 employment, contracting, and business opportunities,
10 and individual and community wellness.

11 We do socioeconomic monitoring collaboratively
12 through a multi-stakeholder committee which meets at
13 least once per year to discuss the results of the
14 program. Agnico Eagle, the Kivalliq hamlets, the
15 Government of Nunavut, Hunters and Trappers
16 Organizations, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and
17 Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada are some
18 of the members of this committee. As mentioned in the
19 previous slide, some socioeconomic monitoring and
20 management is also done with the Kivalliq Inuit
21 Association through the Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement.

22 Agnico Eagle also has a memorandum of
23 understanding with the Government of Nunavut to work
24 cooperatively on some of these socioeconomic areas.

25 As part of the approved Whale Tail project, Agnico
26 Eagle was requested to develop a conceptual

1 socioeconomic closure plan. Agnico Eagle decided to
2 expand the scope of that plan to not just include the
3 Whale Tail project but also to include the Meliadine
4 mine and the expansion project, which is the project
5 we're talking about today.

6 The plan was built in consultation with the
7 Government of Nunavut, the Kivalliq Inuit Association,
8 Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, and the
9 hamlets of Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet.

10 The conceptual socioeconomic closure plan
11 recommended an approach to do socioeconomic closure
12 planning. So it identified risks and opportunities
13 associated with closure and also the roles and
14 responsibilities of all of the parties involved in the
15 planning process for social closure.

16 So the next phase of socioeconomic closure
17 planning will be to develop an implementation plan
18 through the already-existing socioeconomic monitoring
19 working group in order to guide ongoing socioeconomic
20 closure planning and to develop strategies that are
21 relevant at the time of closure.

22 I will pass the presentation over to Jamie. Thank
23 you.

24 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Courtney.

25 Thank you, Madam Chair.

26 Thank you and hello to the community

1 representatives. My name's Jamie Quesnel with Agnico
2 Eagle.

3 With this slide here, it just highlights that we
4 do have existing project certificates for the
5 Meadowbank and the approved Whale Tail project, and
6 those are Project Certificates 004 and 008, and these
7 project certificates have terms and conditions that
8 capture the majority -- we feel the majority of the
9 concerns from all the interveners. Also based on
10 discussions over the last couple of days and -- and
11 also continuing with the discussion today, additional
12 terms and conditions have been agreed to with the
13 intervenors that will allow Agnico Eagle to proceed
14 with the expansion of the Whale Tail project.

15 However, I would like to highlight the economic
16 viability of the Whale Tail project or any project for
17 that matter. It depends on striking the right balance
18 between venue and expenses. For the Whale Tail
19 project, the revenue side depends on being able to
20 produce a given amount of gold every year at the
21 Meadowbank mill. The Meadowbank mill has a maximum
22 daily processing capacity. That means that it has to
23 operate a certain number of days every year to produce
24 the gold and generate the revenue.

25 Any shut down of the Whale Tail haul road will --
26 or the all-weather access road creates a very serious

1 challenge for Agnico Eagle, but, primarily, with the
2 Whale Tail haul road, the ore that has to be extracted
3 from the project, the Whale Tail project, cannot be
4 transported 65 kilometres down the haul road to the
5 mill at Meadowbank.

6 In our plan, we had allowed for 28 days a road
7 shut down per year during which the mill will be fed by
8 a stockpile. In order to be able to establish that
9 stockpile, mining has to continue during road shut
10 downs, and workers and supplies have to be moved up and
11 down the haul road.

12 We have also worked on reducing the cycle time of
13 the trucks and increasing the number of trucks to
14 increase the amount of ore that can be transported when
15 the haul road is open. We will continue to work our --
16 with our stakeholders to explore viable and reasonable
17 alternatives to bring the downtime closer to target
18 while minimizing impact on caribou.

19 On the expense side during a road shut down,
20 Agnico Eagle still has to pay for all the workers and
21 supplies, even if people cannot work. We are working
22 at optimizing all aspects of our operations to
23 compensate for the additional expenses, but there is a
24 limit to what we can do and still maintain a
25 well-trained, well-paid workforce, an excellent
26 standard of environmental and safety care. As a

1 result, the expense side of the equation is also
2 higher, reducing the profitability of the Whale Tail
3 project.

4 Agnico Eagle knows that the haul road will need to
5 be shut down from time to time, either because there
6 are caribou close to the road or because of poor
7 weather. Most of the shut downs for caribou happen
8 during the spring and fall migration. And as
9 mentioned, Agnico Eagle's economics were based on the
10 road being closed 28 days per year. However, with the
11 current restrictions, primarily in 2019, the haul road
12 has already been shut down for 41 days.

13 As we know, this is only August, and the fall
14 caribou migration still lies ahead. This means there
15 will be more shut downs of possibly over 60 or 50 days
16 this year. If the haul road was shut down 50 or
17 60 days out of every year and we don't pursue
18 reasonable alternative operating scenarios or
19 conditions, the economic viability of the Whale Tail
20 project could be compromised both from the revenue and
21 the expense side. The impact of adding more
22 restrictions need to be very well understood,
23 reasonable, and studied to avoid serious consequence
24 for the future mine life expansion.

25 Agnico Eagle has worked really hard to avoid
26 having a gap in employment between the end of the

1 mining operations at Meadowbank and the start of the
2 Whale Tail project to ensure continued employment to
3 our many Inuit and non-Inuit employees and contractors.
4 If you do recall last year during the approved Whale
5 Tail project, that was an item that was discussed,
6 reducing the gap at Meadowbank, starting the Whale Tail
7 project.

8 Agnico Eagle takes protection of the caribou very
9 seriously. Agnico Eagle understands that sometimes a
10 haul road will need to be shut down in order to allow
11 the caribou to pass. However, it is also important to
12 keep the haul road open and operating, whenever it is
13 possible to do so, without disturbing the caribou and
14 allowing the Inuit men and women to continue receiving
15 training and economic benefits from the mine operation.

16 Nunavut Impact Review Board has not made a
17 decision on this application. However, based on the
18 approved Whale Tail Pit project and the project
19 certificate, Nunavut Impact Review Board in their
20 statement during the approval of the Whale Tail project
21 understood this balance, and I quote: (as read)

22 The Board feels strongly that Nunavummiut
23 should not feel they are left without making
24 the choice between sacrificing caribou
25 populations for the sake of their economic
26 futures. While the Board recognizes that

1 there's some give and take required to allow
2 for mining development in areas, they are
3 largely untouched by industrial activity.
4 The Board is confident that by building on
5 the experience and knowledge gained by the
6 proponent, regulators and community members,
7 as a result of Agnico Eagle's existing
8 operations at the Meadowbank gold mine, there
9 are ways of developing the project that will
10 limit the potential for adverse effects on
11 caribou and all wildlife as well as fish,
12 freshwater, and the marine environment.

13 Based on this, over the years, we have adapted to the
14 local conditions. However, we need the flexibility to
15 do so. We are not asking for a free pass. We have put
16 in place controlled mechanisms, such as the terrestrial
17 advisory group, to help us adapt our operating
18 conditions while protecting the caribou.

19 The need to protect the jobs of the people who
20 work at the mine is also an important objective that we
21 need to work together to achieve. Both of these need
22 to be kept in mind when we consider the rules about
23 when and how and how often the haul road should be shut
24 down.

25 And in closing, Agnico Eagle would like to thank
26 the Nunavut Impact Review Board for the opportunity to

1 present our plan for the expanded Whale Tail project
2 here this week and especially today to the community
3 representatives. We thank all the community members,
4 the Elders, the Kivalliq Inuit association, the Baker
5 Lake Hunter and Trapper Organization, the Government of
6 Nunavut, and members of the federal family.

7 In particular, we want to thank the people of the
8 hamlet of Baker Lake. We appreciate you as our
9 neighbour, and we appreciate the Inuit perspectives on
10 the land, culture, and family. We appreciate the
11 members of your community who have joined the Agnico
12 Eagle family, and we are encouraged by the difference
13 that we have been able to make to the careers and lives
14 of our employees and the community.

15 This last weekend, we celebrated the opening of
16 Whale Tail. We held our community celebration here in
17 Baker Lake, plus our celebration at the mine site for
18 all of our employees. We thought it was a great day, a
19 fun day, an enjoyable day, and we hope the community
20 had a great time celebrating this big milestone with
21 us.

22 At Agnico Eagle, we have five core values of
23 trust, respect, equality, family, and responsibility.
24 We feel these core values link well with the core
25 values of IQ, including respecting others, fostering
26 good spirits by being open and inclusive, providing for

1 family, decision-making through a consensus,
2 development of skills through observation and practice,
3 working together for a common cause, being innovative
4 and respecting care for the land.

5 We look forward to being a good neighbour to the
6 community of Baker Lake, a good friend with the
7 Kivalliq Inuit, and a good steward of the land for
8 years to come.

9 Thank you.

10 Community Roundtable

11 THE CHAIR: We're going to the questions
12 and concerns, comments to the presentation Agnico just
13 did, and we do have KIA and Nunavut Government and the
14 federal government -- or the DFOs, and all the other --
15 and Health Canada and -- we still have presentations
16 from other interveners to go through. So if you have
17 comments, questions to the presentation, please raise
18 your hand.

19 Please see the staff at the table if you would
20 like me to add your name to the list to speak, and
21 I'm -- as I'm watching the table of community
22 representatives at the front here.

23 Eli Kimmaliardjuk is first. You are free to
24 comment or ask questions.

25 MR. KIMMALIARDJUK: My name is Eli Kimmaliardjuk.
26 I have a question. I don't know how to phrase it. The

1 Elders wanted -- the NIRB wanted to send an Elder to
2 the hearing in Baker Lake. I have a question. My
3 question is: Yesterday, you were talking about caribou
4 crossing and the migration of caribou in some -- there
5 were some that I did not agree to what was said.
6 That's how I am. It's no wonder the recent -- I
7 disagree because I grew up around the wildlife, and,
8 also, the wildlife, we use those. I have ancestors
9 that survived from the wildlife.

10 My question: If you're going to understand my
11 question, the caribou migration that are coming from
12 that area, when they reach the haul road, you probably
13 know they're coming towards the mine site.

14 Just before they go to the road, the animals can
15 hear you from very far, and they know where you're
16 coming from. That being, they go to that direction.
17 They know where their direction is. There are some --
18 I don't know how high that road will be, and the first
19 caribou herd that will be going on -- to that area when
20 they are going to reach that area, they know what is
21 around them, what's surrounding them.

22 And on the road, you have flags. They are moving
23 by the wind. You know the flags that are placed on the
24 road, the caribou knows, and he hears and because they
25 have that trail -- like, since they get near that area,
26 if they see the flag, they'll just stop. And then I

1 have never been up there, but I'm pretty sure you will
2 have these flags. I haven't been really in that area,
3 and I have not seen that area, but once the caribou
4 sees and hears the flag movement, they stop. Like,
5 some of them will just go ahead and -- because they
6 already know that there's a flag moving the -- it's
7 moved by the wind. They hear that noise. I haven't
8 heard, like, what you plan to do with those, and only
9 those.

10 I grew up -- I grew up on the main land, and I
11 have seen it with my own eyes with the wildlife
12 movement. The caribous are not afraid to move
13 anywhere. They have no reason to get stuck anywhere
14 because they know their trail, but it's not -- it's not
15 as if you don't have all these on the way. The animals
16 will keep walking. Near Chesterfield, maybe 30 miles
17 from Chester, the -- there's -- in that area, there's a
18 very deep river. Caribous aren't afraid of that, and
19 we can't stop them from going there through that area.

20 Like, we are not Greenpeace people. They know
21 where they're going. The animals know where they're
22 heading to. I just wanted to mention this to you.
23 Maybe later on if I can -- if you can allow me to ask
24 questions, I'll have some questions later on. I am
25 just saying what I feel I know because I'm a -- I'm
26 representing Elder, and I'm not say -- I'm missing a

1 lot of words that I should be saying to you, but I
2 wanted to mention the main knowledge that I have.

3 Like I said yesterday when I was hearing your --
4 the proponent and the -- everybody around the table,
5 that I had disagreements when I was hearing. I just
6 wanted to mention that it's very brief that -- of what
7 I'm saying. I don't know who will answer me, but I'll
8 finish here for now. I'll have more comments later.

9 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

10 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank
11 you for the question. Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

12 Overall, thanks for a lot for the -- for your
13 comments and your perspective. Just with the -- with
14 the flags on the roads, we've -- we've heard those
15 comments, and we're looking at alternatives for that.

16 Primarily, those flags are -- are installed at
17 certain distances on the road, and primarily for winter
18 conditions, for visibility and for reflection to
19 understand the side of the road, but if we can't see so
20 many flags on the road based on visibility, then
21 there's controls that are -- are kicked in, different
22 thresholds are kicked in. Traffic is reduced and a
23 full closure of the road if the visibility is reduced.
24 So that -- that was a primary reason for those posts,
25 but we're looking at different options to see if we can
26 reduce the noise based on your comments. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: For the interveners in the
2 back, just so you're aware, after Agnico Eagle's
3 response, you are welcome to respond as well to the
4 questions from the community representatives or members
5 of the public. Are there any interveners that would
6 like to respond?

7 Seeing none -- do you have any more questions, Eli
8 Kimmaliardjuk?

9 MR. KIMMALIARDJUK: Thank you for giving me the
10 clarification, and -- and the other question that I
11 have, at Whale Tail, who I think I understand, for how
12 many years it will be -- you'll be working in -- at the
13 Whale Tail Pit? Because we want to see our young
14 people having employment opportunities. Our future
15 children have to have jobs. Unless they work, they can
16 survive. Like -- it's being an Elder now, it's hard to
17 support them all the time. It's hard to support them
18 all the time, having to buy them food, and, like, we
19 don't want to see young people depending on Elders.

20 That's the only question that I have that will
21 tell -- that I have been hearing. I think you're
22 talking about the Whale Tail making road over to that
23 area. How far -- how many kilometres are you going to
24 be building? That's the question I'm trying to raise.

25 I think there is probably some that I didn't
26 understand, but I have a question about the kilometre.

1 How many kilometres will be? I'm pretty sure it's a
2 daily work that you do every day, and on the
3 terrestrial, the -- our ancestors used those. I'm
4 pretty sure there might be some grave sites. There
5 might be some tent sites. There might be some inuksuk,
6 the lakes, the ponds.

7 Have you -- have you looked into to make sure
8 there are no -- do you look into to make sure there are
9 no grave sites, or if you understand what I'm trying to
10 ask you, is there anything that will be affected or
11 impacted by the work that you're planning to do?

12 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

13 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

14 Thanks for your question. Jamie Quesnel, Agnico
15 Eagle.

16 First of all, we -- we'd like to be in Nunavut for
17 a long time. We'd like to be in this region around the
18 Meadowbank complex for a long time. Right now, based
19 on your question of the road, we -- we did receive
20 approval last year on the Whale Tail Pit project, so
21 the road was additionally built for exploration
22 purposes. Then advanced.

23 Once we received the approval, the road was built
24 for hauling of the materials, so the road is built.
25 It's approximately 65 kilometres. Right now, with our
26 approval, we have four years of mine life. So we can

1 mine the Whale Tail Pit approximately four years. With
2 this application that's in front of us in front of the
3 board right now that -- that we are discussing, we are
4 looking at another four years of mine life with another
5 pit and, also, with underground.

6 Based on your concern with your ancestors, the
7 historical artifacts, the archeological component has
8 been done in a large regional area where we proposed to
9 have the -- the -- the Whale Tail pits and the IVR pits
10 and all the other infrastructure. So that's all been
11 identified and assessed, and, also, we use that to
12 change our -- our road design and things like that,
13 which was done with the original project. So hopefully
14 that provided some clarity. Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Tommy Ubluriak.

16 MR. UBLURIAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

17 Just like our Elders -- I'm not as wise as our
18 Elders are, but I know I have some IQ. I'm a teacher.
19 Not very much that I teach in the schools. Being an
20 Inuk, like, can we depend on caribou? Ever since --
21 been way before the white people came up here, we
22 survived on caribou and fish and wild marine animals.
23 Like, that's how we survived. That's why we're here
24 today.

25 Our parents, our grandparents, we practically grew
26 up on country food. Forever we've been asking, like,

1 Are we still going to continue eating off the country
2 food? Like, our animals have four legs. They're
3 walking on ground, and there are some birds that are
4 flying and marine animals. Us Inuit, this is our -- we
5 eat raw meat. Like, this is our diet.

6 Hearing this and hearing -- yeah. I -- I heard
7 about the collaring the caribou. Like, I'm sure
8 there's going to be some collaring taking place, and
9 they look for funding from the government. From the
10 wildlife -- like, they'll look -- look for funding to
11 collar caribous and, like, I have seen -- and seen with
12 my own eyes, two caribous that were collared but dead
13 and then two polar bears that were collard.

14 Like -- like, when they collar and the collar is
15 on them for a long time, the fur comes off, and they
16 get stuck, and they just start dying from that. Like,
17 there are some that I have seen, and I need to see --
18 like, I have heard that mining companies will be very
19 careful.

20 Here it says -- but back then, our wildlife are
21 different from the past. When my -- when our
22 parents -- our grandparents were hunting, if they see a
23 caribou, like, they make sure all their clothing --
24 like, they would change the use of the caribou clothing
25 so that the -- there will be no noise while you're
26 walking.

1 But, today, they hear work going out -- going on
2 out there, but caribou, like, doesn't realize --
3 because they're so used to it, maybe the life of
4 wildlife -- like, caribou has leaders. We know that
5 through our ancestor knowledge.

6 The only thing, tranquilizing animals, polar
7 bears, it's not what we did. If I can speak later on,
8 I will be speaking again.

9 Thank you, Madam Chair.

10 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

11 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 Thanks for your comments and questions. With the
13 collaring program with the Government of Nunavut, we
14 are providing funding to support that program, but I
15 appreciate your comments. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Any comments from any of the
17 registered interveners?

18 Seeing none, Eva Elytook.

19 MS. ELYTAK: Thank you. Thank you, Madam
20 Chair. My name is Eva Elytook. I'm from Baker Lake.

21 First of all, my question will be in regards to
22 monitoring animals, whether they're good or -- ever
23 since they have been working here at the -- they --
24 they use the -- I believe that you use TETRA Flake on
25 the roads. I think there should be studies to see if
26 squirrels aren't being impacted and the population of

1 the ground squirrel is growing bigger.

2 Also, my second question: You were speaking to
3 the plume or the -- I don't know which organization. I
4 don't know who to direct about the -- I don't know who
5 to direct the question to. Are you doing and
6 monitoring the nitrogen dioxide that's going out of
7 your smoke stacks? I think that there should be more
8 studies done to see if it's impacting the vegetation
9 and wildlife as well.

10 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

11 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 Thank you, Eva, for your question. Jamie Quesnel,
13 Agnico Eagle.

14 Dealing with the TETRA Flake, we are using that.
15 We do receive a list of approved items -- approved dust
16 suppressants that we can use from the Government of
17 Nunavut. It's a guidance document. We -- we do use
18 that on our road with some -- some conditions, not
19 applying it close to water bodies and things like that.
20 Also, the majority of the communities are using similar
21 or the same product, and for studies, I would -- I
22 would let the Government of Nunavut comment on that.

23 Dealing with the NO₂, like, we have presented our
24 results. We do have continuous pass of samplers at our
25 site. We do complete a human health ecological risk
26 assessment. So it's just a risk assessment of the

1 interaction of our activities related to the local area
2 around our site, our proposed site expansion.

3 Based on our results and our confidence in our
4 results, we are below the Nunavut Ambient Air Quality
5 Standards and also our health risk assessment. The
6 human ecological health risk assessment shows a very
7 low to no risk related to the aspects related to our
8 activities.

9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Any response from the
11 Government of Nunavut or Environment Climate Change
12 Canada.

13 And Government of Nunavut, there's a spot here as
14 well for interveners at the table next to Agnico Eagle.

15 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
16 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

17 Thank you for the question. The Government of
18 Nunavut does issue guidelines for approved recommended
19 dust suppressants, but we don't test them ourselves.
20 We actually get that list from an approved list from
21 the Government of Canada. So they have approved a
22 certain list of products that they -- they issue and
23 they say are safe if used according to instructions.
24 So we adopt that list and make it available to the
25 proponent and others. Thank you.

26 THE CHAIR: Any response from Environment

1 and Climate Change Canada?

2 MS. PINTO: Thank you, Madam Chair, and
3 thank you for the question. Melissa Pinto with
4 Environment and Climate Change Canada.

5 So we do have concerns with the nitrogen dioxide
6 monitoring, and we're asking the proponent to conduct
7 continuous monitoring, which is different from what
8 they're doing currently, which is passive monitoring.

9 And we're asking them to do the continuous
10 monitoring to understand this -- potential spikes that
11 show up with hourly monitoring and to see the spikes of
12 higher nitrogen dioxide that would not be captured
13 using the current passive monitoring.

14 THE CHAIR: Martha Hickes.

15 MS. HICKES: Thank you. When the caribou
16 are crossing or migrating through the access road, is
17 there a part or section of the road that is lowered so
18 the -- it will be easier for the caribou to cross
19 through?

20 And what is the purpose of widening the access
21 roads? Will it affect the migration route if the road
22 gets widened? If so, what steps will your company do
23 so the wildlife crossing or migrating animals are not
24 affected by this? Will your company work closely with
25 the Hunters and Trappers Organization and local
26 hunters? Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

2 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

3 Thank you, Martha, for your question. Jamie
4 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

5 Dealing with the access roads, we do have some
6 areas that are -- that are sloped for caribou crossing.
7 We are looking at another area with the input of the
8 Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers Organization.

9 Right now with the existing haul road we have from
10 Meadowbank to Whale Tail, we do have the road sloped
11 4 to 1, so a flatter slope. 2 to 1 has a steeper
12 incline. 4 to 1 is -- is flatter. So we have about
13 52 locations along the road right now. We -- based on
14 comments and questions from the interveners, primarily
15 the Kivalliq Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut,
16 Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers Organization, we have
17 assessed different areas where we would look at sloping
18 at 4 to 1, and this includes for the application right
19 now for the expansion from the 9 and a half to the
20 15 metres.

21 And one of the primary reasons we're asking for
22 the approval to widen the road is -- is for safety for
23 the long haul trucks so they can pass without any
24 concern about a safety incident, also, dealing with
25 snow conditions where the -- where the width can be
26 reduced like we know in winter conditions. So it's

1 primarily for safety of the -- of the vehicles and
2 safety of the operators, and, also, we are looking at
3 areas to flatten the areas so -- in designated areas
4 where caribou would be crossing. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Any response from the Kivalliq
6 Inuit Association, (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), or
7 Government of Nunavut?

8 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Madam Chair. Luis
9 Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association.

10 In discussion with the proponent in the last year
11 and a half of this process, we finally get commitment
12 from the proponent, and in order to identify better
13 with the crossings, still field work to be carried out.
14 We hoping to carry out before the end of -- of the
15 summer and get consensus in -- in the 4 to 1 slope in
16 the exact locations for the caribou crossings.

17 At this point, we -- we satisfied with that
18 approach in the TAG community. That's a matter of
19 information to -- to the community. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Any of the other interveners?
21 (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

22 MR. AKSAWNEE: Richard Aksawnee, Baker Lake
23 Hunters and Trappers Organization. Thank you, Madam
24 Chair.

25 With the road design and the road slopes, we've
26 had discussions with the proponent. Also, we have had

1 some Elders come with the Hunters and Trappers
2 Organization come up towards the Amaruq project to
3 point out some important migration routes to have these
4 slopes on the roads. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: We still have seven who are
6 going to be speaking. We know that you want to speak.
7 I do have your names. We will get to your name.

8 Next on my list, we have Angela Cook.

9 MS. COOK: Good afternoon. My name is
10 Angela Cook. Thanks for listening to me, Madam Chair.

11 I guess the -- I have to say that people that are
12 my age and younger, we're getting to depend to use
13 those roads, those roads that the mining companies are
14 putting there. However, I hear that we don't have
15 access to the extra long road that they made that's
16 making the caribou go so far.

17 Last year this time, I went to the health centre
18 at lunch time, and there was six little kids having
19 food from the -- the nursing station because there was
20 not enough caribou around. These guys have to let us
21 more into that road because we're spoiled now. Like,
22 we never had to worry about going more than (OTHER
23 LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

24 And when they make a road that's going to make the
25 caribou going so far, we've got to have access to that
26 too. So there's got to be room for us to try to

1 survive (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), and I want to know if
2 anybody's going to make a thorough fair for us to get
3 through there so that we can get out of their way and
4 go do our business too. We've got kids to feed.
5 (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

6 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

7 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

8 Thank you for your comments. I understand your
9 concern. But right now, we're looking at primarily the
10 safety of our employees along that road. We do have --
11 we made the change on the all-weather access road for
12 Inuit traditional activities to Kilometre 86 -- from
13 Baker Lake past While Hills to Kilometre 86.

14 It was our -- our view is to ensure the safety of
15 the employees, especially on the haul road from the
16 Meadowbank operation to Whale Tail in the safety
17 interaction of light vehicles with -- with the long
18 haulers. That's our -- our concern, to ensure the
19 safety for all people. We do have crossings,
20 snowmobile crossings, ATV crossings across the road,
21 plus the caribou crossings. So we have provided access
22 across the road.

23 But, again, I understand but -- I appreciate your
24 comments.

25 THE CHAIR: Would any of the registered
26 interveners like to respond?

1 Seeing none, next on the list, James Kalluk.

2 MR. KALLUK: (AUDIO FEED LOST - OTHER
3 LANGUAGE SPOKEN) if I was -- I didn't know I would be
4 sitting around here. I -- my parents grew up there. I
5 grew up there. I didn't know I was going to be
6 involved with HTO. All of you are not here except the
7 government and social workers. Those were the only
8 ones. There was no mining companies. There was no --
9 for you, KI, there was no KI.

10 And we never expected any road up there. Like,
11 all of us haven't -- there's road being built. I'm age
12 over 60. When I was 16, we would travel by duck team.
13 We would walk on that land -- very land. I know where
14 the lakes are. I know where the ponds are. We were
15 taught by our parents, our cousins.

16 And in the most coldest, how we survived. Only
17 because our dad, our uncles did their best to make us
18 survive, we are here today. On that very land, we knew
19 where the caribou, the routes, even the -- I know that
20 area. Our dad -- our cousins, my uncles are now gone.
21 All of them are not with us anymore.

22 I don't know when I'll be buried myself, but for
23 you to know, like, when you think about all this, like,
24 our Elders, they have -- they knew. They had a hard
25 life. They -- I know they went through hard life.
26 Sometimes we went through the harshest. We went

1 through starvation. We used to go fishing. We used to
2 go caribou hunting, and they would make fish holes
3 during the winter. During the summer, there would be
4 rodding. It was a hard life that we didn't -- we were
5 in that. I feel it today. Like, when I see that the
6 land is going to be never the same as how it is today.

7 1994, I started being with HTO, and I'm still a
8 hunter. Like, I'm -- I don't probably help much, but
9 sometimes it's very, very heavy, like, especially when
10 you are talking about my homeland, that very spot where
11 you're going to be working. The -- the road is going
12 up to where we used to live. We didn't have one single
13 road. We didn't have a road up there. Like, this is
14 where we would be walking during the summer, duck
15 taming during the winter. This is what we did up
16 there, fishing, hunting.

17 Sometimes during the winter, we had to go hunting
18 pretty far. Like, then we were taught -- since we
19 were 16, we would be taught how you survive out there,
20 and I caught those times, and I'm in between. My
21 ancestors, my dad, my uncles, my grandparents, today,
22 when I'm watching today, today I see there was no
23 mining back then.

24 And KI wasn't around, government wasn't -- the --
25 only government and the social worker, those were the
26 only two that were in our time that time. We're being

1 controlled. We are controlled by a lot of -- this is
2 very heavy to see it for myself. Like, this is very
3 heavy for me.

4 All the younger ones who seem to be younger than
5 me are being able to speak. Like, when -- like, trying
6 to be involved and not -- it's sometimes it's okay.
7 Sometimes -- I'm not putting you down. I'm supporting
8 you, all of you, what you want to do, but we our
9 thinking of our future children. Like, we only eat --
10 our only diet are country food, fish and caribou.

11 And look today, I am people. I am probably going
12 to speak so much, but these are heavy in me. It's all
13 in my head. I wanted to take it out. It's very heavy
14 to see trying to survive there. It's okay sometimes,
15 but once we have the food, it's -- once there's
16 abundance of fish, it's okay. But when there's none --
17 and we live in the harshest cold, and caribous aren't
18 close by. Like, if it was -- we would've had caribou
19 just around here, but because of the road, we don't see
20 any caribous close by anymore.

21 Like, during the summer, I know we used to have
22 caribous and which way they're going, and during the
23 winter, we know where -- we used to know where caribous
24 were but, today, I don't know where they are today. If
25 I can find out where they are -- I don't hunt as much I
26 used to -- as I used it, but I'm aging too. But during

1 the summer, I'm still going out, but during the
2 mid-winter, I don't know if I can go.

3 If it's not too cold, then I can go hunting, but
4 sometimes it makes me cry knowing I used to live in
5 that very area. When I was 16, my dad and my uncle --
6 my cousins -- I used to go along with them through --
7 through thin ice, through -- we would be walking on
8 thin ice just so -- because the caribous were across
9 the lake.

10 I would live through times because our uncles,
11 dad, and they would tell us we can walk through this
12 thin ice. I used to follow from behind. If they are
13 going to sink in the water, then we will die, but we
14 took risk. Like, we had to catch caribous. Like, we
15 would be catching caribou from August to October. We
16 used to catch caribou that we will have for the winter
17 for the dogs and for us right in that very area.

18 After that, we started driving Skidoos going up
19 around that area. We would be camping by my dad, by my
20 cousins. I know. They know the land very well in that
21 very spot in Meadowbank, and between Amaruq, we know
22 that area very well. And I know Meadowbank area. We
23 never once thought there would be a gold mine.
24 Nothing. We didn't even know there would be a road
25 built up there. Thank you for giving me the
26 opportunity to speak.

1 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

2 MR. QUESNEL: Thanks, Madam Chair. Jamie
3 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

4 I appreciate your comments. That seems to give us
5 more insight so we can understand better. I appreciate
6 it.

7 THE CHAIR: Any comments from any of the
8 registered interveners?

9 Seeing none, Timothy Evviuk.

10 MR. EVVIUK: I'm on the Baker Lake Hunters
11 and Trappers Association. I would like to make two
12 comments, if that's possible.

13 First of all, while we're on the topic of caribou,
14 there are tracking collars that they place on caribou
15 at the moment and those that are -- that don't have any
16 tracking collars. They tend to wander along with the
17 ones that do have them.

18 I believe our -- our Elders. It's easy to tell
19 which herd they're from. It looks like they're all the
20 same -- from the same herd, but once you become well
21 versed in what herd they're from, it's easy to detect
22 which herd they're from or they belong to.

23 The ones that come from towards Wager Bay, they're
24 a little bit different in appearance from the
25 caribou -- from the caribou that are in this vicinity,
26 and, also, the ones that come from further to --

1 towards Yellowknife, we also know the different -- the
2 difference of the caribou. It's from -- we -- we know
3 what herd they're from. We can -- we're -- we know.

4 And the ones that are from further north, more
5 towards from Gjoa Haven, they're also from a different
6 herd. We know by how big or how small they are. We
7 have been told by our Elders, and I -- I keep that in
8 my mind all the time. I am not speaking and saying
9 that we are, like, Greenpeace, but we respect our
10 Elders.

11 The company, Agnico Eagle, that are -- that before
12 they built an airstrip -- I'm going to speak to a
13 little bit about the nitrogen dioxide. Before they
14 built the airport, I want to know if they noticed that
15 there's a grave site that's up there. Did anyone -- I
16 wonder if anyone from the company is aware that there
17 is a grave site up there?

18 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

19 MS. TURMEL: Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle.

20 Thank you very much for the information shared
21 with us.

22 Regarding the grave site, before we do any
23 construction, we will -- we complete surveys with
24 professional archeologists and local Inuit as well to
25 make sure we're aware of what is around the project,
26 and we avoid it when building the project.

1 THE CHAIR: Any comments from any of the
2 registered interveners?

3 Seeing none, just be aware we have (OTHER LANGUAGE
4 SPOKEN). These following people in order will speak
5 (LOST AUDIO FEED - OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Your names
6 are being written down to speak next. For now, let's
7 have a 15-minute break.

8 (ADJOURNMENT)

9 THE CHAIR: I believe there's a response
10 from Agnico Eagle to Eva Elytook's question.

11 Agnico Eagle.

12 MR. FRANKE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Yes,
13 there's a response to Eva's question regarding ground
14 squirrels. My name is Alastair. I'm from Edmonton. I
15 work with the University of Alberta, and there is a
16 program called the "long-term ecosystem monitoring
17 program" led by the Government of Nunavut in
18 conjunction with the University of Alberta with support
19 from Agnico Eagle. That program is looking at studying
20 multiple components of the ecosystem, including small
21 mammals, arthropods or intersects, vegetation, and
22 birds, all the way from small birds to ducks and geese,
23 cranes, and so on.

24 There has been some work that was proposed for
25 Baker Lake. We met with the Baker Lake HTO in May, and
26 there was interest expressed in having a similar

1 program here at Baker Lake. That program has not yet
2 been approved or established for Baker Lake.

3 Thank you, Madam Chair.

4 THE CHAIR: Lucassie Nakoolak.

5 MR. NAKOOLAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

6 Lucassie Nakoolak from Coral Harbour. I have -- I had
7 several questions, but they were already raised.

8 I just wanted to make some comments. And there
9 was a comment made just before. I think Ubluriak
10 was saying, I wonder if the wildlife behaviour has
11 changed. I had -- when I was living in Talurjuaq with
12 my family, we had seen ground squirrels. They were --
13 there was a very weird behaviour that they were -- that
14 they were making. They would take insulation and carry
15 them to their dens.

16 I just wanted to, first of all, thank you. I
17 think that what I -- what I'm getting is that they're
18 trying -- we're trying to have a cooperative role as a
19 whole group and thinking about risk assessment as well,
20 and that's very -- a good thing to work
21 collaboratively.

22 If I could make a comment -- a suggestion to --
23 there was comments made to nitrogen dioxide and
24 polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and petroleum
25 hydrocarbons. Yes, there was -- there was -- the
26 company was saying there's very little risk to human

1 health and to wildlife. I totally did not -- I was not
2 totally in agreement with all what was said, especially
3 in regards to wildlife. And we don't wish to see
4 nitrogen dioxide being consumed by wildlife, and if
5 there's any other things that impact them, it's going
6 to impact us as well. Is there any possibility that
7 there may be risks to vegetation that is being consumed
8 by the wildlife? I think these should be reconsidered.

9 And I have another concern with water -- water
10 bodies. We had heard that -- from the project that's
11 being -- that's being -- that -- that there's a mine
12 site at Mary River and water over in that area where
13 potable water is being impacted. I know this is trying
14 to be mitigated with this project.

15 I think that Inuit have to be trusted better.
16 Yes. We have to respect and include Inuit traditional
17 knowledge. Inuit have a lot of knowledge. We are
18 with -- one with the wildlife.

19 There was a comment made that there may be 60
20 days -- a possibility of 60 days of closure on the haul
21 roads.

22 Inuit knowledge should be included more. From
23 today, we are finding out that Inuit are getting -- are
24 getting more and more weary, and we were told that if a
25 polar bear is hunted -- by our ancestors, we are told
26 various things on how -- how to make sure that the

1 animals are not being disturbed.

2 It's sort of a question in a way and a comment as
3 well. I think it's in 2052 there's going to be a
4 closure of the mine and before closure of the mine and
5 that there's going to be reclamation prior to mine
6 closure, as well as the things that -- that are within
7 our environment including lakes and ponds and rivers,
8 creeks. I am thinking about the community members of
9 Baker Lake. I wonder if there -- there's going to be
10 preparedness for -- the people are going to be ready in
11 case the mine should close. They -- they have to
12 prepare them for the future should the mine close.

13 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

14 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank
15 you for your comments and your questions. Jamie
16 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

17 Just dealing with the traditional knowledge, we --
18 we do use that for our consultation before we start a
19 project. So we look at different things where we may
20 have to adjust our original plan based on that
21 information. As an example, we changed the alignment
22 of the road that goes from Meadowbank mine to Whale
23 Tail, based on additional information. Also around
24 Coral Harbour with Coats Island, we pass that
25 information back to our shipping company to avoid those
26 areas.

1 Dealing with the -- dealing with the potable water
2 related to our project, we do take water from Lake
3 Nemo, which is a fair distance away from -- from the
4 operations, to ensure we don't impact that -- that --
5 that lake. And, also, we do treat the water, if
6 required, for the use at the mine site.

7 And just dealing with your other questions and
8 comments, I'm just going to pass it on to Andrea.

9 MS. AMENDOLA: Thank you, Jamie. And thank
10 you very much for the -- the question. It's a very
11 good question.

12 So we -- in the human health and ecological risk
13 assessment, we did look at country foods and the safety
14 for people continuing to use the area to -- to hunt.
15 We were looking at people -- people consuming those
16 country foods, and there were no risks in the risk
17 assessment. So we looked at what contaminants we
18 expected could be in the environment, and they were all
19 at very low levels.

20 For the question about the polyaromatic
21 hydrocarbons and the petroleum hydrocarbons, this was a
22 question from Health Canada as well. Agnico Eagle does
23 have spill response plans and a variety of plans in
24 place to deal with, you know, any potential releases,
25 but those -- those types of contaminants, they -- they
26 really don't get taken up into food items that -- that

1 caribou or other -- other land animals could be eating.
2 So it's -- it -- it wouldn't be a -- a very big concern
3 there. Thank you.

4 MR. QUESNEL: And just to add about closure,
5 for the approved -- for the expansion project for this
6 application, it's the year 2026 related to active
7 mining operations, the drilling and blasting and moving
8 the ore to Meadowbank. So Whale Tail, right now with
9 the -- the application, it's 2026 and there would be
10 active closure until fifty -- 2052. Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Would any of the registered
12 intervenors like to respond to Lucassie's comments or
13 questions?

14 KIA?

15 MR. MANZO: Thank you, Madam Chair. Luis
16 Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association.

17 I -- I heard the comment in regard to the waters
18 that's being -- if you will be monitoring the waters
19 over the basin. I started that program in 2002 in
20 Baker Lake before actually mining start. That program
21 started very small program as a water sampling program.
22 When I took over the position in KIA, there was no
23 baseline data to make informal [sic] decisions at the
24 time. And one of the issues that -- that we had at
25 that time was mining for us in terms of resources it's
26 not about the -- the rock itself. It's about having a

1 good management plan to enable to mine without putting
2 contaminants in the water system.

3 So that program became now what we call the
4 "CEMP", cumulative effect monitoring program central
5 Baker Lake, and from 12 sampling locations became now
6 42 locations, and including three different MOUs that
7 we have with Environment Canada, INAC, Water Resources.
8 We have also shared the information with GN now.

9 We do also have committees formed by our
10 secretariat. Then we have two committees, a scientific
11 committee and also a traditional knowledge committee.
12 And there was a big effort to actually build what's
13 required for government to fund -- or to apply for
14 funds to access that kind of monitoring. But in
15 summary, we cover now Back River. We covering now
16 Thelon basin, Kazan basin, and all the areas around the
17 project. It's 32 location of samplings. And then we
18 have what we call a "one voice program" inside of the
19 CEMP, the cumulative effect monitoring program, that we
20 call "one voice".

21 There was a controversy in the past of how we can
22 collect scientific knowledge and traditional knowledge
23 and have been both evaluated how we can put this -- how
24 we can evaluate it at the same level. So we have to
25 develop matters in how to collect the traditional
26 knowledge. There was a three-year research take place

1 in Baker Lake here in the basin/vicinity of Baker Lake.
2 Also, we did another research of lenology [phonetic]
3 based in -- in historical estimates done in -- in Baker
4 Lake. We also did research in salinity to see the
5 characteristics of the basin, which all these basins
6 that I'm talking about, Back River, Thelon, and Kazan,
7 all of those are -- the depository lake is Baker Lake.
8 In order to enable to understand it, you -- you need to
9 sample up over the rivers, middle -- in the middle of
10 the rivers, and in the outlet of those rivers, which is
11 the basin. Without very good understanding of our
12 waters today and very good, strong baseline data -- and
13 in any event that any contamination happen, we've been
14 able to actually catch it in time.

15 And in top of that, we also monitor -- we will
16 monitor fish. We haven't had funds to do that yet, and
17 we're looking for funds. But we would -- we monitoring
18 water quality and water quantity, water flow, and we've
19 been -- done three different research for the
20 characterization of the depository basin, which is
21 Baker Lake.

22 That's just to give you an example what -- it's
23 not easy to do it, and at that scale, we -- we carry a
24 lot of responsibility to be able to -- to get the funds
25 to do that. We negotiate and try now with the federal
26 government on how we can -- going to do the next 20

1 years. So we're happy with this program and the
2 results also, we -- we're happy with it. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
4 registered intervenors like to respond?

5 Seeing none, Mary Tuktujuk.

6 MS. TUKTUJUK: I have two -- I have two
7 questions with regards to caribou. From Naujaat to --
8 to -- from Wager Bay, it's getting more -- we don't see
9 as many caribou come into our community. We are seeing
10 less and less caribou. I think it's been -- it's --
11 it's a result probably from being impacted by the mine.

12 I have also a question with regards to nitrogen
13 dioxide because soot or nitrogen dioxide splits
14 wherever the wind blows it to, and it spreads on the --
15 on the ground, and it -- it goes into the lichen that
16 caribou eat. Thank you. I wonder if -- if that's a
17 known fact, and has there been studies done?

18 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

19 MR. MCNAUGHTON: Thank you, Madam Chair.
20 Cameron McNaughton with Golder Associates.

21 I'm an expert on Arctic air quality, and I'd just
22 like to take an opportunity to try and answer this
23 question. The soot and the nitrogen dioxide that's
24 emitted from the combustion sources on the project goes
25 into the air and then is transported on the wind. And
26 when it's transported on the wind, it is removed from

1 the atmosphere by the rain and the snow, but it is also
2 diluted by the wind very rapidly as it moves away from
3 the project.

4 And the way that we assess whether the amount of
5 the emissions and its dilution is -- is safe is by
6 using a computer model for the air quality. And we do
7 this very conservatively to make sure that we haven't
8 missed anything. And by that, I mean we assume all of
9 the engines are operating at their maximum capacity all
10 day, every hour. And then the computer model is used
11 to assess whether the concentrations of the NO2 in the
12 air is below the Nunavut Ambient Air Quality Standards.

13 And when my team does this calculation for this
14 project, we find that the emissions and the
15 concentrations outside of the project are below that
16 standard, and those standards are designed to be
17 protective of human health and the environment.

18 These compounds, although they are emitted from
19 the project, they're also naturally present in the
20 atmosphere. They never go to zero. So there is always
21 some in the air, there's always some depositing, and
22 there's always some being emitted, for example, from
23 natural forest fires down south.

24 But we also want to take measurements to make sure
25 that when the model was used for the predictions, that
26 the predictions were safe enough that they were

1 accurate. And so to do this, we also measure at the
2 project the concentrations of the nitrogen dioxide and
3 the particulate matter, and the particulate matter is
4 what -- is the soot from the diesel engines, for
5 example. And we do that to make sure that the observed
6 values are also compliant with the Nunavut Ambient Air
7 Quality Standards.

8 So I'm a professional engineer, and it's my job to
9 assess this for the public's benefit on behalf of
10 Agnico, and the results show that they're below the
11 standards, and the observations will be able to confirm
12 that in the future as they have done so far at the
13 existing Meadowbank project. Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: Would any of the registered
15 intervenors like to respond?

16 Seeing none, Jackie Napayok.

17 MR. NAPAYOK ELL: Thank you very much. I have a
18 question to Agnico Eagle. I have a concern, but not
19 directly to caribou at this moment. I have -- they
20 have mills at the mine, and they also have -- it
21 could -- they also add that treatment, if you
22 understand what I'm trying to say. Can you elaborate?

23 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

24 THE INTERPRETER: What other additives do you
25 use other than lye?

26 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank

1 you for your question. Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

2 We do have other chemicals that are used in the
3 mill for extracting the gold from the rock, and these
4 chemicals are -- we have other regulations to follow,
5 regional standards, international standards that we
6 have to follow to ensure that it's safe for
7 transportation, safe for the workers in the mill, safe
8 in the environment when we finish processing in the
9 mill.

10 We do use -- we do use cyanide as one of the
11 chemicals to extract gold. We do follow a very
12 rigorous international standard for transportation of
13 this chemical, the use of the chemical in the mill.
14 Also, there's strict limits for a certain concentration
15 within our tailings facility. That's where the rock
16 that is not used that does not have gold remains in a
17 facility. And the -- the cyanide is destroyed with the
18 treatment plant within the mill to ensure we maintain
19 the certain level as per the regulation. So we're
20 highly regulated on -- on chemical purchases using the
21 chemicals for the health of our workers and also for
22 the environment. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Jackie Napayok.

24 MR. NAPAYOK ELL: Yes. Yes. I know the
25 process. I used to work at a gold mine for five years
26 in our country. I'm going to ask again.

1 You put the chemicals into the tailings pond.

2 There -- is there a permeable lining that you put
3 underneath the tailings pond prior to putting the
4 tailings into the pond?

5 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

6 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
7 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

8 With our tailings storage facility, no, we don't
9 use -- use a liner. A portion of our tailings
10 facility's within permafrost. And, also, at closure,
11 the material will be frozen, and we do monitor around
12 the facility. And at this time, based on our approval
13 we received earlier this year, we do deposit our
14 tailings in the -- in the pit, the pits that are not
15 operational now in Meadowbank. Thank you.

16 MR. NAPAYOK ELL: Yes. In Collotin what we did
17 is put a pipe and then there's a dike over there in
18 that river, and then it's going to another lake. Like,
19 if it was getting too full because it's -- sometimes we
20 had to -- we had to pour it back into another place so
21 it won't be full. Like, what I used to see when I
22 would work at Collotin, that lake being like that -- it
23 has a dike and becomes one. The caribous -- we didn't
24 make the flooring because it was very rough that --
25 some of it was very deep, some of it was shallow, and
26 the caribous would go around. We would have it lie

1 to -- lie -- I just wanted to mention that to you
2 because if there was to -- that to be put in that lake,
3 we -- they would be facing danger. Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

5 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
6 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

7 Our -- our tailings facility will be covered
8 with -- with clean waste rock, and that will be frozen.
9 So there will be no water on the -- on the tailings
10 facility that we're closing out right now. There's
11 progressive closure happening right now. And the
12 tailings in the pits will be below water. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Would any of the registered
14 intervenors like to respond?

15 Seeing none, Paula Kigjugalik Hughson.

16 MS. KIGJUGALIK HUGHSON: Thank you, Madam Chair. My
17 name is Paula Kigjugalik Hughson.

18 I was selected by the Hamlet council. We had a
19 meeting, and I was nominated to speak on behalf of
20 Hamlet of Baker Lake. And we understood that we were
21 supposed to provide a list of questions, so I wrote
22 them up before last week. And so I'd like to read the
23 questions if that's possible. Okay.

24 I wrote the letter on August 21st, 2019, with
25 regards to 16MN056 Whale Tail Pit Expansion Project for
26 the Nunavut Impact final hearing. (as read)

1 Dear Nunavut Impact Review Board. Thank you
2 for the opportunity to ask some questions for
3 clarification and to better understand the
4 Whale tip [sic] -- Pit Expansion Project
5 owned and managed by Agnico Eagle Mines.

6 Some questions may have already been
7 asked and answered by other intervenors in
8 the past but would help for clarification
9 when presenting to the community at this
10 final hearing.

11 Topic one is about caribou; disturbance of air traffic
12 on caribou habitat; air traffic, whether it is jet
13 service to Meadowbank, drones or helicopters used to
14 explore potential leases for mineral production
15 surrounding AEM properties, leases.

16 This type of disturbance does play a role in
17 behaviour and possibly migration routes. It seems
18 there are less caribou close to Baker Lake.

19 So I have five questions related to caribou. What
20 are the helicopters used for to explore new sites or
21 leases?

22 What time range for the helicopter traffic,
23 months, weeks, spring through to fall?

24 What is the schedule for traffic for jet service;
25 is it daily, twice, or three times a day?

26 Question 4: Are there scientific studies to

1 correlate air traffic with caribou disturbance from
2 other various vehicles such as trucks, semi trucks,
3 tankers, ships, fuel tanker ships, aircrafts,
4 helicopters, noise, and dust? How do all these play in
5 affecting caribou?

6 Question 5: Has air traffic increased over time?
7 I'm -- your study area sometimes is part -- basically
8 from Baker Lake or from marine shipping to Baker Lake,
9 Meadowbank road, Meadowbank mill mine site, Amaruq
10 site? So this is included as the whole study area?

11 Topic 2 is watershed. The extraction of ore and
12 the mill processing to obtain gold uses harsh chemicals
13 such as -- I wasn't sure what chemicals you used. I
14 just learned that it's cyanide, but I thought it was
15 arsenic or ammonium nitrate -- I'm not sure what these
16 are -- plus other chemicals I'm not aware of. These
17 chemicals are -- used are very toxic to the land and
18 the water.

19 Question 1: What measures are being taken to
20 protect the caribou from entering these tailings ponds?

21 Will there be fences used to prohibit wildlife
22 from entering? If so, why or why not?

23 Question 3: What is in place in your mine closure
24 plan to deal with possible worst-case scenarios for
25 environmental damage to leakage of barriers of pit
26 linings, et cetera, or other worst-case scenarios?

1 Question 4: If these chemicals enter the systems
2 of mammals or water bodies, whether it be -- or water
3 bodies, whether it be water tables, streams, lakes,
4 overflow from spring melt runoff, what is the plan and
5 who is in charge?

6 Topic -- next topic is mine closure plan. The
7 life of Meadowbank is expected to end by 2019 and Whale
8 Tail 2022, the closure expected to take place from '22
9 to 2029 as mentioned in your non-technical summary.

10 Question 1: How many years is AEM in charge of
11 the mine closure plan?

12 Question 2: Who monitors the old mine when AEM
13 has left?

14 Question 3: Who is responsible for the breakdown
15 of structures when the mine site is closed, i.e.,
16 liners or pits, storage areas of chemicals?

17 Question 4: How long do the chemicals take to
18 break down, if any, or are the chemicals the same as
19 the day are they [sic] released? For example, arsenic,
20 years, hundreds of thousands of years? Do these
21 chemicals break down like cyanide?

22 Question 5: How many closed mine sites does AEM
23 manage, and for how long are the terms?

24 Topic: Cumulative effects. Increased disturbance
25 in noise, air traffic in the air and on the land,
26 trucks, ships, aircraft, dust, chemicals.

1 Question: What measures does AEM have in place to
2 minimize the above-mentioned cumulative effects on
3 mammals, fish, water, and air?

4 Topic: Future land use. Future land -- future
5 use of the land may be limited due to hazardous waste
6 at the sites. And who is to say the landscape will not
7 see a resurgence in activity from people who want to
8 live out on the land? 60 years ago it was not imagined
9 that people would be living in towns and not living on
10 the land at different places all year round. Today, we
11 cannot imagine going back to living out on the land,
12 but we never know; it could happen. People change, and
13 outpost camps may be the norm. Who is to predict the
14 future? The landscape surrounding Baker Lake and all
15 of Nunavut was and is occupied by Inuit. We may not be
16 using the landscape as intensely as we did 50 to
17 60 years ago, but we could still do that again.
18 Caribou are doing this today. People -- Inuit followed
19 the caribou or knew where the caribou were.

20 The land has names, and they're not being used by
21 mineral explorers. They're being given new names,
22 example, "Whale Tail", "Mammoth Lake", or "A509" -- I
23 made that one up. Some may not have specific
24 traditional place name, or it has been lost due to
25 Elders passing away. If a traditional place name is
26 not known, at least use a general name of a place close

1 by. Names used by companies do not mean anything and
2 disassociate people from the land that is in their
3 backyard. This has been said many times at different
4 meetings before this project.

5 So a recommendation is to use traditional names
6 or, if not known, a general name of the area close by.
7 The name may be foreign or long or unpronounceable, but
8 the local people -- population feels the same for the
9 new name its been given in their backyard.

10 My last -- my last topic is legacy. Baker Lake is
11 the closest direct affected community to Meadowbank and
12 Whale Tail. Signing ceremonies and such has happened
13 in the past for the above projects with various
14 governments and organizations.

15 Question 1: How is Baker Lake going to directly
16 benefit from these projects besides employment and
17 economic spin-offs? What legacy infrastructure will be
18 left for the community of Baker Lake?

19 We are grateful for the baseball diamond, but
20 looking at other countries around the world where
21 companies leave legacy projects for a community
22 well-being such as hospitals, schools, or airports, for
23 example. How can the community of Baker Lake be able
24 to obtain this?

25 I am not aware of AEM asking the community of
26 Baker Lake what they would like for a legacy project.

1 I understand Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreements have
2 been signed for both these projects for Inuit, but as a
3 Hamlet, we serve all people in our community.
4 Infrastructure is greatly needed as our community
5 grows.

6 And as an addendum from the past weekend, we are
7 thankful for the million dollars that Amarug project
8 gave to our community of Baker Lake for the Hamlet
9 business sound system, search and rescue -- the big one
10 was the Abluqta -- there were four. Hamlet got the
11 speaker system for the arena. Search and rescue got
12 equipment for searching. Oh, the garage for the
13 ambulance, which was -- Agnico's donating the garage.
14 And Arctic -- local company Arctic Fuel has donated an
15 ambulance.

16 And so in closing I wrote: (as read)
17 Thank you once again for the opportunity to
18 ask questions. I understand I am stepping on
19 toes of different jurisdictions, but this
20 forum will help clarify questions I have
21 received over the years. I was nominated by
22 Hamlet council to participate in this forum.
23 Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

25 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank
26 you, Paula, for all the questions. Jamie Quesnel,

1 Agnico Eagle.

2 We'll go through this, and I'll be bringing people
3 up to respond, and hopefully we can respond to
4 everything right now. We may have to come back a
5 little bit later.

6 Your computer just died.

7 Just one second.

8 I think we'll start going through it. So I think
9 the first one was related to helicopters. So primarily
10 the helicopter use is for exploration in the areas that
11 we're exploring once we have the approvals to complete
12 the exploration. Typically -- the range is different
13 times, but usually it's not -- I would say spring to
14 late fall. There's some drilling that happens in the
15 winter, but usually I would say January, February
16 majority of the drilling is shut down, just depending
17 if we're drilling on land. If we're drilling below a
18 lake, then we'd be wintertime primarily through the
19 ice. Sometimes we have barges.

20 Also, for our plane -- the jet service, we -- we
21 fly to Meadowbank once a day, typically, from -- from
22 the south, Monday through Friday. We do have a
23 Kivalliq charter to move employees, and I think that's
24 every Wednesday. So we do have that coming in to the
25 airstrip on Wednesdays.

26 And dealing with the scientific studies to

1 correlate traffic, I'll turn that over to Corey.

2 MR. DE LA MARE: Thank you. Corey de la Mare,
3 Golder Associates, on behalf of Agnico Eagle.

4 So just addressing the question related to
5 disturbance of -- to caribou from various aircraft.
6 There -- there have been a few studies out there
7 looking at different types of aircraft, including
8 helicopters and jet planes, low flying aircraft, and
9 what's largely come out of those studies -- the results
10 have been very similar. It depends on the timing of
11 the year for -- for caribou, whether terrain -- and the
12 elevation of the aircraft in particular. So because of
13 that, there are some guidelines related to minimal
14 elevations, which we -- we do have applied in our
15 terrestrial ecosystem management plan, and that's
16 300 metres. So the -- the outcome of those studies
17 have been dealt with within the terrestrial ecosystem
18 management plan.

19 And I believe you also asked questions on impacts
20 from trucks and noise and dust, and it's hard to tease
21 apart all of those individual items on their own. So
22 within the environmental impact statement, we have an
23 indirect effect of what we call "sensory disturbance",
24 which calculates all of those things, and it accounts
25 for that in the environmental impact statement.

26 So those are good questions and things that we

1 have accounted for, and I hope that answers your
2 question.

3 MR. QUESNEL: Has air traffic increased over
4 time? Maybe by one day. Usually we fly Monday --
5 excuse me -- Monday through Friday. Just when we're
6 having a celebration we bring more people into the mine
7 site, so the jet traffic increases.

8 What is included in the study area? We look at
9 all aspects -- all interactions based on our design.
10 What would the impacts be related to the terrestrial,
11 caribou, water, traffic? Will it -- primarily road
12 traffic, especially with this application with the haul
13 road. So we look at all those aspects. We -- we
14 develop a -- a regional area. Then we focus into a
15 local area for different components of the project.

16 Okay. Your next bucket of questions dealing with
17 watershed. What measures are being used to protect
18 caribou from the tailing ponds? Well, we -- we have
19 monitors around the site, like, people physically
20 monitoring. We do have -- well, let me just back up.

21 Just when we decide to develop a -- a layout of a
22 mine, we look at the -- the movement of caribou so we
23 understand where those primary paths are based on
24 migration. So we -- we move -- we adjust our planning
25 as -- as best as we can. The ore bodies are where they
26 are; we can't move those too much. So we have to

1 manage with all that input based on caribou.

2 So based on the tailings ponds, we do have the
3 monitoring related to activity of wildlife, and based
4 on our ten years, we don't see many -- there's some
5 caribou that come through the site, musk ox, wolverines
6 and such, but typically they stay away from those areas
7 'cause we do have deterrents. We discussed -- I think
8 yesterday -- just with migratory birds, we do have
9 cannons that deter birds for landing in -- in the
10 ponds, which is approved by Environment Canada.

11 Are we going to build fences? No, we're not going
12 to build fences. We don't like working in fences. So
13 the fences are not required based on our -- our --
14 our -- our review of all the wildlife.

15 What is in place in our mine closure plan? We --
16 we evaluate very conservative scenarios related to --
17 if you're talking related to -- there's no linings in
18 our pits. Some of our pits that are not in lakes are
19 built in permafrost. So the permafrost in the north is
20 very -- very thick, like we all know. So our --
21 typically our pits would sit within the permafrost.
22 Other areas where we have to build these dikes such as
23 Whale Tail, the pit will be in the lake.

24 But we -- we look at the very conservative inputs
25 into our model to understand the worst case. What
26 if -- what if this would happen? And just keep -- we

1 look at the worst case. And then -- that's typically
2 for an EA -- environmental assessment phase. And then
3 once we get into the water licence phase, it's more of
4 a -- a base case realistic operational model. So we
5 really look at a highly conservative input to
6 understand the worst case.

7 Okay. Dealing with what if -- if these chemicals
8 enter the ecosystems or water bodies, what is the plan,
9 and who is in charge? We're in charge. It's our --
10 it's our property. We -- we -- we operate under the --
11 the terms and conditions we receive from the Board and
12 also from the water licence.

13 Dealing with the -- the chemicals -- like, we were
14 talking about arsenic, and I'm going to get my
15 colleague Chris to talk about that. But that's a
16 natural element in the rock. It's -- it's natural.
17 We -- we don't bring that to the site. So we -- we
18 look at managing all -- all the activities, all the
19 chemicals and how we treat it. We treat -- treat the
20 water to ensure it meets the requirements before we
21 discharge into the environment. So it's analyzed, all
22 this water we'll mix with the environment. So that
23 that's, overall, the plan. And this is the -- the --
24 the big thing here and the -- with the rigour of this
25 process and also the rigour of the water licence
26 process, we feel once we -- there's consensus. We feel

1 we have -- everyone has a good understanding, and
2 there's reasonable terms and conditions to -- to manage
3 these activities.

4 Mine closure plan. How many years is Agnico Eagle
5 in charge of the mine closure plan? Right now, we have
6 multiple closure plans, but we're in charge until
7 post-closure, until -- as we -- we've shown in the
8 video, we -- we breach the dike and it's flooded.
9 That's post-closure.

10 We have -- we have an approved -- we have an
11 agreement on our closure plan, which highlights all the
12 monitoring related to the closure and post-closure. So
13 with the -- with the expansion project that's part of
14 this application, that's until 2052. The mine shuts
15 down and with this application that's not approved
16 right now, it's 2026, and closure is 2052.

17 Then all these -- all the money related to
18 closure, we provide a -- all that -- let's say it's
19 \$100, we provide that \$100 to -- 50/50 to Kivalliq
20 Inuit Association and CIRNAC. So there's an
21 agreement -- if we disappear or something happens to
22 us, they have the money to -- to close it.

23 Who is responsible for the breakdown and
24 structures when the mine is closed? That's our
25 responsibility. That's part of the closure plan. So
26 that -- that design of the structures and buildings,

1 that's -- that's part of the closure plan. That's our
2 responsibility. We may hire contractors. And
3 typically when we put the closure plan together, it's
4 all third-party costs. So it's not our internal costs;
5 it's contractor costs, including mobilization from the
6 south, if people have to come up and do the work
7 on-site. So it's all third-party costs.

8 I think the next one, how long do the chemicals
9 take to break down? You were talking about items like
10 arsenic. So I'm just going to invite Chris to talk
11 about some of those items.

12 MR. KENNEDY: Thanks. It's Chris Kennedy
13 with Agnico Eagle.

14 So arsenic -- as Jamie mentioned, it's not from
15 a -- a chemical we add to the rock or for processing.
16 Arsenic's in all rock on -- on the planet, to be
17 honest, and any rock around here. As sometimes you get
18 closer to gold mines, there's more arsenic in the rock.

19 So what will happen with arsenic over time is that
20 the -- the release of arsenic will slow down. You can
21 think about it like rocks when they rust -- or when
22 your car rusts; it's the same thing for arsenic.

23 We are putting covers of rock on our facilities,
24 whether it's tailings and our waste rock storage
25 facilities. And the -- the rock we're using for that
26 has more or less the same concentration as rock

1 anywhere in the area outside the mine.

2 And then just as a -- a reminder, based on the --
3 the -- the levels of arsenic that'll -- the water
4 quality will always be below protective guidelines for
5 aquatic life.

6 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

7 How many closed mine sites does Agnico Eagle
8 manage? I think there's only one right now.

9 Two? One in Abitibi -- so two? Joutel, yeah.
10 Joutel and -- yeah, Cobalt. Yeah. Lapa, Cobalt, and
11 Joutel.

12 So we have Lapa and Joutel. Lapa is in Abitibi;
13 Joutel, Northern Quebec; and then Cobalt, basically
14 where Agnico Eagle became a company 60-something years
15 ago. And the -- the terms are different, depending
16 which province in the south, and depending on the type
17 of mining, but they're all -- they're all a little bit
18 different. We're still involved with those -- those
19 sites at this time.

20 Okay. Just let me know if I've missed something.

21 Cumulative effects. What measures does Agnico
22 Eagle have to mitigate impacts from disturbances?

23 Do you want to talk about that, Michel, a little
24 bit?

25 MR. GROLEAU: Yeah.

26 MR. QUESNEL: Okay.

1 MR. GROLEAU: Michel Groleau, Agnico Eagle.

2 So related to cumulative effects, the process in
3 which we are right now, the environmental impact
4 assessment, the objective is to see how all the
5 different pockets of the -- the -- of the project, the
6 water, the air, the caribou are interacting together on
7 the project and to see what will be the cumulative
8 effect of our operation on those different aspect that
9 we can have an interaction -- that can have an
10 interaction together.

11 So the modelling we're doing with the conservatism
12 we're using in our modelling help us to understand what
13 will be the biggest impact we can have on the land --
14 on the aquatic, on the lake, on -- and on the
15 terrestrial, the caribou, for example. So we're adding
16 up everything together and providing a final impact
17 assessment that we're reviewing with the different
18 intervenor in the room and with the public as well.

19 So based on that, we're developing our monitoring
20 plan after to make sure that during operation we're
21 respecting the different modelling that have been done
22 at this stage. Thank you.

23 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

24 The -- okay. Future land use -- I think, is the
25 next topic -- may be limited due to hazardous waste at
26 the sites, and perhaps there will be a resurgence of

1 traditional use of the land.

2 With our hazardous waste, we have a management
3 plan. We manage all the hazardous waste on-site, and
4 it's shipped to the south on -- when the ships return,
5 they come up heavy with all -- all the goods, and on
6 their return, that's shipped to the south.

7 The land names -- yeah. Yeah. We're -- we're at
8 fault for that for sure. We need some help with that
9 to ensure we have the right names. So that's something
10 we have to improve on. So maybe we could reach out to
11 you for support to -- or someone -- to -- to give us
12 some support on that.

13 Legacy Baker Lake. I'm just going to turn that
14 over to Courtney.

15 MS. SQUIRES: Thank you. Courtney Squires,
16 Agnico Eagle.

17 So if I understand the question correctly, you're
18 looking to better understand how Baker Lake will
19 benefit from the projects. So I just want to give you
20 some information on the programs and support that we've
21 given to Baker Lake. So outside of the IIBA -- the
22 Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement with the Kivalliq Inuit
23 Association, we're very committed to social and
24 economic development, and we're -- we want to be an
25 active member in our communities, and especially with
26 the community of Baker Lake.

1 Other than the \$1 million, as you mentioned, that
2 was given during the Whale Tail grand opening last
3 week, we do have an annual agreement with the Hamlet of
4 Baker Lake. In 2019, this included \$109,000 that was
5 provided to the Hamlet of Baker Lake for a youth
6 mentorship program to support the Festival by the Lake
7 and also towards a community initiative fund. And this
8 agreement with the Hamlet of Baker Lake has been
9 ongoing for several years.

10 Also largely outside of the Inuit Impact Benefit
11 Agreement, Agnico Eagle is investing in education
12 programs with a lot of them focused in the community of
13 Baker Lake such as Task Week, which has been going on
14 for a few years now in the high school and other
15 mining-related programs for youth such as mining and
16 sports summer camps that were held this past summer.

17 We're also active in assisting in community
18 priority projects and goals such as hazardous waste
19 cleanup, which is currently ongoing and costs
20 approximately \$100,000. We have also provided mutual
21 assistance. For example, after the fire last year, we
22 have been helping with the backhaul and cleanup of the
23 scrap metal. We've assisted in multiple search and
24 rescues in coordination with the Hamlet as well and
25 have for a few years now been involved with the sewage
26 lagoon improvement project.

1 Regarding your point about legacy infrastructure.
2 We have had discussions regarding legacy infrastructure
3 in the past with the Hamlet and also with the Kivalliq
4 Inuit Association and other community stakeholders for
5 different projects, for example, around daycare
6 facilities. We would be open to working towards those
7 projects with other government and organizational
8 partners whose mandate it is to address this issue as
9 well. I hope that answers your question. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Would any of the registered
11 intervenors like to respond on any of the questions?

12 Kivalliq Inuit Association?

13 MS. GILSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.
14 Kimberley Gilson on behalf of the Kivalliq Inuit
15 Association.

16 I will just like to briefly address the questions
17 that relate to the land. The land upon which the
18 project and, necessarily, the extension to the Whale
19 Tail project is located is Inuit-owned land, which is
20 owned by the Kivalliq Inuit Association for and on
21 behalf of Inuit in the region.

22 So with respect to the questions you asked about
23 the care of the land, the Inuit association has a lease
24 with Agnico Eagle Mines, which I'm sure you can
25 appreciate is a very long and complex legal document,
26 but for the purposes of your question, I can advise

1 that the lease contains quite a number of provisions
2 which require Agnico Eagle Mines to ensure that the
3 environment is protected. And the Kivalliq Inuit
4 Association has inspection and monitoring ongoing.
5 It's not just one time. It's regular ongoing
6 inspection and monitoring of the operations. So these
7 are in addition to the requirements that are imposed
8 under the project certificate as well as those that are
9 imposed by the Nunavut Water Board.

10 The lease also requires that the mine be
11 progressively remediated to the extent possible. So
12 where there may be an area that is no longer needed
13 because perhaps it's been mined out, then we would
14 expect remediation of that area to commence, the idea
15 being that it would be better to see remediation
16 continuing, rather than taken as a big, huge package at
17 the end. So we ask for this progressive remediation,
18 to the extent it can happen, and not interfere with
19 operations.

20 There is also a security deposit that is held to
21 protect against the possibility that Agnico Eagle Mines
22 does not do the remediation so that we would not be
23 left with the land in a state that was not acceptable.
24 There would be money that would allow the Kivalliq
25 Inuit Association to ensure that the land was, in fact,
26 remediated.

1 We also have in the lease a provision that says
2 that we require a final sign-off from all of the
3 regulatory bodies before we would release the security
4 deposit so that to the extent that other governmental
5 bodies or regulatory bodies may have concerns, they
6 would all have to be addressed in order to satisfy the
7 Kivalliq Inuit Association under their lease.

8 So, Madam Chair, I've just offered some very brief
9 summary comments with respect to the -- the lease and
10 the lands issues, but certainly I'm sure Mr. Manzo, the
11 director of lands for Kivalliq Inuit Association, would
12 be able to provide additional details if -- if there is
13 something further that you had that we haven't answered
14 at this point. Thank you, Madam Chair.

15 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
16 registered intervenors like to respond?

17 MR. DEWAR: Matna, Madam Chair. My name
18 is Spencer Dewar. I'm with Crown-Indigenous Relations
19 and Northern Affairs Canada. I'd like to thank you for
20 the question. I hope what I'm about to say provides
21 value and clarity. I won't address each question one
22 by one.

23 I -- I -- I just wanted to -- Agnico Eagle has
24 submitted a proposal which the Government of Canada,
25 various intervenors, have been critiquing. There's
26 been a lot of back-and-forth asking questions,

1 clarification. So it's a very rigorous process to
2 date.

3 In the event that there is a determination this
4 project should proceed through the -- the -- the Board
5 process, they'll issue a project certificate which
6 outlines the terms and condition for which this --
7 this -- this project can proceed under. Once that
8 project certificate is issued, it'll be incumbent upon
9 Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
10 to inspect and enforce that those terms and conditions
11 are fulfilled by Agnico Eagle. So we do have an
12 inspection role in that.

13 In addition, we'll go further to the next phase of
14 the process, which will be the Nunavut Water Board
15 licencing process. So we'll look closely at -- more
16 in-depth on the water, water quality treatment, what's
17 being proposed by Agnico Eagle, and we'll do a similar
18 rigorous review.

19 If the Nunavut Water Board grants a licence and
20 the project proceeds, then we'll also be there to
21 inspect and enforce the terms and condition of that
22 water licence. Thank you. (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN)

23 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
24 registered intervenors like to respond to any of the
25 questions?

26 Seeing none, it's almost 5:00, and we're going to

1 break for supper soon. And there are -- I have
2 about -- I have another 11 names on the list. But
3 before we break for supper, I have a question.
4 Nunavut Impact Review Board Questions Agnico Eagle
5 Mines Limited

6 THE CHAIR: Have any studies been
7 undertaken by Agnico Eagle or Fisheries and Oceans
8 Canada or other agencies to assess the potential
9 impacts to fish, health, and quality resulting from
10 shipping and marshalling activities associated with the
11 approved project for some areas like the dock close to
12 the community?

13 Considering that it's almost 5:00, can we take
14 that as a deferred response for when we come back from
15 the supper break?

16 Next on my list before we leave for supper I have
17 Peter Tapatai.
18 Questions for Agnico Eagle Mines Limited by Community
19 Representatives

20 MR. TAPATAI: Thank you. I have a pretty
21 bad cold.

22 Thank you, Madam Chair. All day hearing -- like,
23 back then when we supported -- 2008 I believe it was,
24 I -- we had sat all around, and all the people that sat
25 around, we supported that -- Meadowbank. And all the
26 people who were supporting are not here anymore for us.

1 Like, it's not for themselves that they would benefit;
2 they were looking at their children. They wanted their
3 children to work at the Meadowbank and to hear this --
4 hearing this, like, I've helped, and I -- the Inuit,
5 they come here; they don't get heard. Like, we were
6 brought here -- like, we didn't have any clue what was
7 going to be happening. We didn't know the vision. I'm
8 pretty sure our Elders didn't know what it was going
9 to -- we had -- we didn't know social -- they were
10 social workers. I feel this. And to hear that Agnico
11 Eagle -- like, they really want to be here. And lots
12 of people asking them question. It makes you want to
13 be more supportive because we were just living under
14 social income.

15 The social income didn't have any help, \$600 a
16 month, that would put food on the table, and that would
17 last us 30 days. We can't do that. We all -- you all
18 know that. I have used it. We have gone through that.

19 Like -- like, we only have so much knowledge.
20 We've only taken so much. I'm very proud -- I would
21 like you all to be proud of your -- within the
22 communities in Kivalliq. I'm not lying. I'm telling
23 you how -- how our -- the mining have -- the Meadowbank
24 benefitted the people. There's about 150 people
25 working for the Meadowbank. The fathers have worked
26 very hard, but there's a lot of mothers out there who

1 are -- I -- I used to think they were the best -- like,
2 they would work in places to try and support -- because
3 they wanted their husbands and -- to go out hunting.
4 They didn't get paid.

5 There's a lot of people who are working for the
6 mine right now are not here. I would like -- I wish
7 they can vision. Because we have the Nunavut
8 Agreement, I thought we were going to get something.
9 Like, it's like we're moving backwards. I don't like
10 this. Why -- why did we make a Nunavut -- like,
11 because they have a heavy burden to carry, the mining
12 company, something that I cannot even carry. Like,
13 government staff who won't carry the -- carry it in
14 their back. KIA, they can't carry it in their back of
15 what Meadowbank -- AEM, I wish I could carry a heavy
16 load because we're included within.

17 And we hear garbage -- the -- we -- the
18 intervenors coming from the government and from federal
19 government I would want to ask, like, Haven't you
20 helped us with our garbage? Like, there's a lot of
21 garbage that you left. I seen them. Living in Baker
22 Lake, near the lake, there was a lot of garbage that
23 was left around those lakes that were just left. But I
24 saw the mining camp, not one -- like, they have
25 environmentalist, and there was four that were helping.
26 I -- if you want to see, you can go -- I can take you

1 what they did -- show you what they did. Like, there's
2 a lot -- there's no garbage. They're -- the only ones
3 that were left are some equipment, and the -- we've
4 been trying to get the Hamlet, and Hamlet has been
5 working on -- working hard towards where are we? Like,
6 when we disburse to the ground, where does it flow? It
7 flows to our rivers, our water. What have you done?

8 But looking at the mining companies, they want to
9 help. Look, they've been here only -- I think they
10 came here 2008, and government and federal government
11 has been here for many, many years, and it's
12 embarrassing being a Canadian. It's embarrassing. I
13 think government too -- and we're told we have -- we
14 are beneficiaries of Nunavut. We don't get nothing.
15 Like, it's like a big wall. And we're trying to pass
16 this, and we can't pass it because you don't want to
17 hear from us.

18 I'm very impressed with Agnico wanting to be here.
19 Like I said, us -- the communities need to support. So
20 that -- I feel that Agnico has benefitted a lot of -- I
21 would love to see government and federal government
22 benefit us too.

23 The last word I want to say that the compensation
24 is talked about. If you don't understand what
25 compensation is, the mining companies -- I wouldn't
26 want to get compensated. I would rather get it from

1 the federal government and from the government of
2 Nunavut. They should be the ones helping us,
3 compensating us. I don't think we'll ever see any kind
4 of benefit because you're looking after this. You --
5 even though you're working for Inuit, are you helping
6 the Inuit, the communities? I don't think you're
7 helping. You're only benefitting for yourself.
8 Outside, we can't even see outside.

9 I don't know how -- I think I would like to see
10 good vision. And there are some who are board members
11 who want to help who I could say that Whale Tail
12 expansion -- I want to see that it continue, be
13 approved. There's a lot of -- 300 that could be
14 working. Like, government will not support them. What
15 I'm saying -- we're going to be asked what's going to
16 happen.

17 Like, as Inuit, we are impacted. And you are
18 talking about caribou, and when the mining is closed
19 due to caribou passing, we are trying to put food on
20 our table. So I can -- I would like to see that --
21 like, people outside of our community should not make a
22 decision. It's us. There's a lot of us who are
23 listening. When are we going to be able to say, Please
24 do this. You do it. Like, we're -- there's a lot of
25 people that don't live on income anymore. We have the
26 strength. We do have. We're able.

1 The father is very proud. Like, in my mind, I
2 could see him. Daughter and son. I would -- I wish to
3 take my dad's knowledge and -- because our children
4 have to be well-educated today so that they can benefit
5 from it in the future. Yeah. It's after 5:00. We
6 have lots to say, lots to say.

7 I would like to be supported by you that the Whale
8 Tail expansion to be approved to go ahead. Where are
9 we -- where are our Inuit going if it's not? And we
10 don't want to go back to income support while there's
11 something that is able to help us out there. I
12 believe -- I believe that it will be approved, but it
13 looks -- like, what if this is not approved? How is --
14 how are the Baker Lake going to be looked after? Who's
15 going to look after us? It's -- aren't you afraid?
16 Like, when you're from a community, I'm urging because
17 I want our -- the young people to benefit. Are Nunavut
18 government looking at them? Like, you could learn from
19 us. Like, people sitting behind me have said, Once an
20 Inuit tries -- and tried to work and we can follow what
21 they want to become. 2008 to 2009, there's a career
22 path. We -- they said, Set that up. Nunavut
23 government still trying to -- try to look for funding.
24 Where are they going to get the money? It's so
25 embarrassing. The mining -- the investors outside are
26 supported. They want to stay. I really thank the

1 company.

2 And I'm talking too -- too long. Thank you, Madam
3 Chair, and I'm very proud maybe it's -- it may be
4 small, but -- but for me, it's huge. Just last week,
5 when we had the celebration, there was a lot of money
6 given to our community. Government and 'K' -- we're
7 still waiting for help from the government and KIA.
8 What's going to happen?

9 But we have mining company. We don't even -- we
10 just -- we'll welcome Agnico because they have
11 benefited Inuit and while we're still here. Like,
12 the -- we -- they are protected (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN)
13 and caribou, the federal government, territory
14 government, like, they have rules. Look at all the
15 population. You told the -- us Inuit not to hunt musk
16 ox, and lots of people died because they were starving.
17 We don't want to see that again. Like, we're not -- we
18 don't have wise -- wise -- wisdom like you. You talk
19 about IQ. Like -- like, we -- have you used the
20 word -- have you used that Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit? I
21 have used it. Just a bit. I'm not going to be proud
22 about this. I'm not going to be proud of my IQ
23 knowledge. This really hurts being an Inuk. We are
24 here. Like, they said through Inuit knowledge we are
25 here. We're not educated. We don't have -- our
26 ancestors, because of their knowledge, we are here

1 today, and we're going to continue. We're not going to
2 stop. Like, you have to listen to us, and it's only
3 what you want, not just what you want. If you can hear
4 our needs, maybe you can learn.

5 I just have another question. Why the caribou --
6 when there's a lot of caribou when the mines close, the
7 hunters -- the hunters should go -- be able to go
8 hunting. We have board members, we have HTO who can --
9 and I believe that because we vote -- or elect people
10 who we want to -- because it's -- I think we're getting
11 hungry, and I'm thirsty. I just wanted to bring this
12 to your attention.

13 I want you to recognize Baker Lake from nothing to
14 being benefitted even -- they even said the last --
15 last part I'll say. Inuit can be trained, and all
16 the -- we can become leaders too over there. If the
17 government has never said, If you become this, because
18 they're trying to protect it so much. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: It's now 5:00. There's a
20 couple of matters for this evening. The animation, as
21 well as some deferred responses, and I have 11 other
22 people on the list that would like to ask questions and
23 make comments. (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN)

24 _____

25 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 6:45 PM

26 _____

1 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 6:46 PM)

2 THE CHAIR: Good evening. We're going
3 to reconvene.

4 Legal counsel.

5 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
6 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact
7 Review Board.

8 Madam Chair, it's come to my attention for Agnico
9 Eagle that there may be responses that they are
10 required to give or answers that they would like to
11 give that might involve some of the other people who
12 have not previously given testimony in the public
13 hearing, and so to ensure that those people have been
14 properly sworn in, we'll now affirm those people so
15 that -- the additional witnesses -- so that they are
16 able to respond if the need arises.

17 So, Madam Chair, if I can get the witnesses to
18 state and spell their name for the record, please.

19 MR. FRANKE: Alastair Franke,
20 A-L-A-S-T-A-I-R F-R-A-N-K-E. Affirmed.

21 MR. SETTERINGTON: Michael Setterington,
22 M-I-C-H-A-E-L S-E-T-T-E-R-I-N-G-T-O-N.

23 MR. CHOUINARD: Luc Chouinard, L-U-C
24 C-H-O-U-I-N-A-R-D. Affirmed.

25 MR. STEVENS: Cam Stevens. I affirm.
26 ALASTAIR FRANKE, MICHAEL SETTERINGTON, LUC CHOUINARD,

1 CAM STEVENS, Affirmed

2 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair, Teresa
3 Meadows, legal counsel the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

4 Madam Chair, as you'll recall earlier today, we
5 had a discussion about the Government of Nunavut being
6 able to present the following animations with respect
7 to caribou movement, and so I'm assuming that there are
8 no objections from Agnico Eagle. We'll now call upon
9 Government of Nunavut to present this -- these
10 animations.

11 And I propose to mark these as electronic exhibits
12 in the public hearing, but my understanding is that
13 they are very large files, and so the Board may end up
14 just posting a link on the internet to where these
15 animations can be found in our exhibits folder. Thank
16 you, Madam Chair.

17 EXHIBIT 70 - Barren-ground Caribou Movement
18 Animations Around Meadowbank and Whale Tail
19 Infrastructure (English)

20 EXHIBIT 71 - Barren-ground Caribou Movement
21 Animations Around Meadowbank and Whale Tail
22 Infrastructure (Inuktitut)

23 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.
24 Presentation by the Government of Nunavut

25 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
26 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

1 So what we are going to show is a series of
2 animations that are based on data from collard caribou
3 from 2016 to 2019. The first is just going to show the
4 general movements of various herds of caribou
5 throughout the Kivalliq region. So it's just a general
6 illustration that will probably be of general interest.

7 The second animations are going to focus in on
8 the -- the road, so the -- the Meadowbank road. And
9 what they'll show is the movements of collard caribou
10 approaching the road and -- and crossing the road. And
11 Dr. Atkinson is going to actually describe the -- the
12 second group of -- of animations, but what the -- the
13 animations, based on the data, seem to show is that in
14 some years, caribou move very freely across the road.
15 They don't hesitate. They just move without hesitation
16 from their migration, just straight across. And in
17 other years, they hesitate. They stop. And some
18 avoid -- seem to avoid the road.

19 So this would seem to correlate to road closures
20 on the road. Now, this is not definitive. This is
21 not -- we're not absolutely sure, but there is
22 something -- there's something happening about the road
23 that seems to be in effect. But what it does show is
24 that we can manage this. "We" meaning everybody and
25 the proponent. If the road is properly managed, we
26 think that it would have very little, if any, impact on

1 migrating caribou. So it's kind of a positive that
2 there's a way to do this right, and that's what we have
3 to work towards. So I'll pass it over to Dr. Atkinson
4 to walk us through it. Thank you.

5 MR. ATKINSON: Stephen Atkinson on behalf of
6 the Government of Nunavut.

7 So what we are going to show you is the movements
8 of caribou between 2016 and 2019 up to the spring of
9 this year. Now, you'll be looking at the movement
10 paths on the map showing individual collars as they
11 move across the map. There will be variation from year
12 to year in how many collars there are on those maps.
13 That doesn't reflect the -- the size of the caribou
14 herds. It simply reflects that we have -- there are
15 differences in how many collars we have out each year.

16 Now, each collar is obviously worn by one -- one
17 caribou, but we -- we assume that it is that caribou is
18 likely accompanied by other uncollared caribou so that
19 the general movement of these collars provides an
20 overview or reflection of -- of what the -- the
21 different herds are doing at any point in time.

22 There's a lot going on in these animations, and it
23 is quite difficult in some of them to -- to see
24 everything in one -- one go. We'll only be playing
25 them once, but I would encourage people to -- if you
26 have the opportunity, to look at them again several

1 times for yourself so you can see for yourself what is
2 happening.

3 The animations, the maps will show you -- the
4 second set of maps we -- animations we show you will
5 show you the Meadowbank all-weather access road, and it
6 will also show you the Amaruq road when that road -- at
7 the time that road was built.

8 The maps will also show you what is going on on
9 the roads at the time the caribou are crossing it. So
10 you will see the road change colour. When the red
11 flashes red, it means the road at that time was closed.

12 When the road flashes yellow, it means the road
13 had restricted traffic on the road, so it was primarily
14 smaller vehicles, and when the road is not coloured,
15 the road is open.

16 The caribou collars, you'll see they make tracks
17 across the -- the maps called walk lines. These have
18 been added to allow you to sort of see their path. The
19 lines themselves will change colour depending on the
20 season. So the two -- the two colours to focus on are
21 brown for the fall migration, and the -- the tracks
22 will turn green when the animals -- when the caribou
23 have begun spring migration.

24 And then, finally, at the top of each map, you'll
25 see the date, and that date will change as the map --
26 as the animations play. So it will -- it will show you

1 which days the -- where the caribou were on a
2 particular day.

3 The caribou collars that we are going to show you
4 are for the following herds: The Lorillard, the Wager
5 Bay, the Ahiak, and the northern portion of the
6 Qamanirjuaq herd. These are the herds -- caribou herds
7 that are in the region surrounding the project. This
8 is just a map showing you the -- the ranges of those
9 herds. The -- the coloured lines outline the ranges of
10 these herds. The -- the shaded coloured areas outlines
11 what are considered to be the carving areas for these
12 respective herds. And in the centre of the map, there
13 is a rectangle with the Meadowbank Whale Tail project
14 on it.

15 So we're now going to play the -- the animation.
16 This is to show you all the collars that were out
17 starting in 2016. In a moment, you'll probably see a
18 large group of collars coming up from the bottom of the
19 screen which represents the Qamanirjuaq herd. Here
20 they come. We're now at two thousand -- June of 2016.
21 And if you look in the centre, you'll see that the
22 Whale Tail Meadowbank project is outlined, and there
23 are caribou moving up to the project. This is in
24 October of 2016.

25 Here we are back in -- here we are in spring of
26 2017 in April and May. Here comes the Qamanirjuaq

1 herd. And there it goes across the project. That was
2 the full migration of the Lorillard herd.

3 Now we're coming to the spring of 2018, and in the
4 centre of the screen, there will be a movement of
5 caribou across the Meadowbank Whale Tail project.

6 And now we're coming to the summer and fall of
7 2018. Again, in the centre, we have the caribou moving
8 across the project. And then, finally, as we come into
9 the spring of 2019, in the centre of the screen, you'll
10 see the spring migration coming across the project.

11 So now we are going to zoom in on the area
12 immediately around the project, and we're going to skip
13 to the spring of 2016, the migration. And in the --
14 sorry, the -- the fall of 2016. Now, in the fall of
15 2016, the Lorillard caribou did not cross the -- the
16 Meadowbank road to a portion of their winter range.
17 The Meadowbank road was closed for two days during that
18 fall period. In general, the road was -- was open to
19 traffic when the collard caribou approached it.

20 And as we play the animation, you can see that
21 several of the collard caribou appear to approach the
22 road and -- and be either stopped or parallel along the
23 side of it and then turn back around.

24 So we're now going to play this animation. So
25 right now we're in mid-July, and in the bottom corner,
26 you can see some of the collars moving towards the

1 project, moving towards the Meadowbank road. This is
2 now August. They have moved further east at this
3 point. And then in the fall, they approach the area
4 again.

5 Moving into September. Now the road was closed
6 right there where it flashed. This was in October.
7 Okay. And another road closure there in late October,
8 and I think that's the end of that one. We'll move to
9 the next one.

10 Now we're moving on to the -- the fall of 2017,
11 and here we have the caribou migrating east to west.
12 The Meadowbank road was closed for a prolonged period
13 of 12 days during the fall migration of 2017. All of
14 the collard caribou appear to reach the road while it
15 was closed, and what I would like to point out when
16 this animation plays is -- is in this particular case,
17 the collard caribou appear to cross the road in a
18 relatively direct way. There's -- there's no apparent
19 deflection.

20 So here we are in -- in October, mid-October, and
21 there are some -- some collard animals east of -- east
22 of the project. The project's road is now closed, the
23 Meadowbank road and the Amaruq road, and here are the
24 caribou migrating towards the road, and you can see
25 that they've -- they've all successfully crossed and
26 are headed west.

1 Now we're moving to the spring of 2018. In this
2 animation, the caribou -- the collars are migrating
3 east to west from the left to the right to the map.
4 And what we note in this animation is that before and
5 after encountering the roads, the tracks of the collard
6 caribou are moving in relatively straight lines east to
7 west. We noticed that the -- the road the -- the --
8 the roads in this time were -- were flashing on and off
9 red, meaning they were opening and closing, but not --
10 the road was not closed -- the roads weren't closed for
11 long periods of time.

12 We also note that a significant portion of the
13 collard caribou in this animation encounter the roads,
14 the different roads of the project when the road was
15 open, and we noticed that if you look at some of the
16 collar tracks, you'll see that some of the collars,
17 when they get to the road, they start to parallel along
18 the edge of the road before they cross, or they stop
19 and come -- and turn around. Others do cross, though.

20 So here we are in early April, and there are a few
21 collars approaching the road. It is closed here. You
22 can see one that just went down the road a little bit
23 now; another one that went down and one that went up.
24 And at this point, there are some new collars who are
25 put onto caribou, and so we have a lot more
26 information. Again, you can see the road is opening

1 and closing, and we have collars that are moving north
2 and south along the road alignment along side it and
3 others that are crossing it.

4 And you can see by the -- the tracks that are made
5 on the map that there are a lot of tracks on the west
6 side of the -- the roads that go north-south along the
7 road itself, along the side of it. So there's fairly
8 heavy movement up and down the side of the road as
9 opposed to across it. So, again, this suggests that --
10 at least visually suggests that the caribou are
11 responding to something associated with the road. We
12 don't know what that is, whether it is traffic, people,
13 the road structure, or something else, but there seems
14 to be a response.

15 And the -- the next animation is the fall of 2018.
16 Again, here we have caribou moving from west to east.
17 And a few things to note, the -- the tracks of the
18 collars, the collared caribou seem to concentrate on
19 the -- the east side of the Meadowbank road. I think
20 Corey referred -- it was referred to earlier as
21 "milling".

22 Some of the them do cross it, but you can see the
23 caribou are -- are within about 25, 30 kilometres of --
24 of the Meadowbank road. That -- that line around the
25 road there is a 25-kilometre marker. Here we have
26 caribou that are crossing the road and others who have

1 sort of stayed behind, and we have some animals that
2 appear to be moving away from the road but heading back
3 east. And, again, we have some more animals that
4 are -- that have headed -- headed back east again
5 moving north and then coming back to the project.

6 Also note that the roads were closed for -- for
7 only a handful of days during this season in 2018.
8 There were no prolonged road closures.

9 And now we're into November. And, again, I would
10 note if you look at the -- the map, you can see the
11 lines that were made by the collars. You can see the
12 concentration of lines on the right side of the road as
13 opposed to the more direct lines that you have on the
14 left side, which is sort of migratory tracks. So,
15 again, certainly caribou were -- were aggregated on
16 the -- the east side of the road for sometime in the
17 fall before they eventually crossed it.

18 Now, we're going to the final animation. This is
19 the spring of 2019. This takes us up into June of this
20 year. And here we have the caribou moving from east to
21 west. In the spring of 2019, the Whale Tail road and
22 Meadowbank roads were closed for up to -- a period of
23 up to 27 days, so a prolonged period of closure. You
24 can see the roads are marked in red meaning they're
25 closed, and you can see the caribou approaching the
26 roads.

1 And in this particular case, there are -- you can
2 see there isn't much hesitation. Seemingly, the
3 caribou appear to move fairly smoothly through the
4 project, and most of the caribou that were wearing
5 collars, when they encountered the roads, they
6 encountered a road that was closed as opposed to one
7 that was open. I think this is the last collar. There
8 he goes. Yup.

9 So those are the animations. As I said, I'd
10 encourage people to -- if you have an opportunity, to
11 review them for yourselves. One of the pitfalls of
12 animations is that we can probably all see different
13 things when we look at them. So I think it's
14 worthwhile taking a second look at them.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
17 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

18 So this is not based upon a huge amount of collars
19 or a huge amount of data. It's not a definitive --
20 it's not giving us definitive answers, but it is
21 suggesting that the road does seem to be having some
22 effect on caribou.

23 And I'd also -- in our view, it shows that good
24 road management and traffic management on the road will
25 result in very minimal impacts, and that's the
26 direction we would like to see this go.

1 Thank you.

2 Nunavut Impact Review Board Questions the Government of
3 Nunavut

4 THE CHAIR: I have two questions for the
5 Government of Nunavut, and one to the Hunters and
6 Trappers Organization.

7 Can the Government of Nunavut comment on whether
8 it's satisfied that Agnico Eagle fully considered all
9 relevant available research studies and other
10 information in their assessment of the potential
11 impacts to caribou?

12 And my second question, both to the Government of
13 Nunavut and Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers
14 Organization, is there any way to understand from the
15 gatehouse data when hunting off the road occurred and
16 to see if there's a correlation to the movement near
17 the road -- the movement of caribou near the road?

18 Government of Nunavut.

19 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
20 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

21 We believe that Agnico Eagle did review and use,
22 for the most part, all the best available information
23 that was available for the project, and we did our best
24 to provide every bit of information we had that they
25 might require. We did identify in our technical
26 submission for the technical portion that this

1 analysis -- this type of analysis should've been done,
2 but in the end, we ended up tackling that piece
3 ourselves.

4 On your second point -- question about the -- the
5 gatehouse information and was hunting taking place,
6 that's an excellent question because we don't know the
7 reason why caribou might be avoiding the road,
8 whether -- as Mr. Atkinson said, whether it's hunting
9 on the road, traffic on the road, the design of the
10 road, or some combination of all of those things. And
11 we don't access the gatehouse information on who was
12 hunting on the road at the time. So, perhaps, the
13 Hunters and Trappers Organization might be able to help
14 with that.

15 THE CHAIR: Baker Lake HTO.

16 MR. AKSAWNEE: Richard Aksawnee, HTO.

17 As far as hunters' information at the gatehouse,
18 we don't have that information. Agnico Eagle would
19 have that information as all the hunters are signing in
20 and signing back out. Once they use the road when
21 Meadowbank first opened up, I remember the Hunters and
22 Trappers Organization used to hand out, upon request,
23 the road passes.

24 That's how we monitored how many hunters were on
25 the road on any given year, but it -- I think that
26 lasted for about three to four years. Just the

1 resources to paper, all the work that needed to be done
2 to do that -- that type of work and trying to look at
3 other day-to-day operation, we -- our office decided
4 that we -- we should -- we -- we stopped handing out
5 these road passes, but that's what we started off with,
6 was hunters would come to the Hunters and Trappers
7 office to pick up a road pass before they were actually
8 allowed on the Agnico road.

9 Watching these animations, there's -- there's a
10 lot of effect on the road. It's not only Agnico
11 Eagle's part in that one. It's what I say at every
12 hearing. It's us hunters as well that play a big, big
13 role, as well as predation. I don't know if that
14 answers your question.

15 Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you for those responses.

17 Guy.

18 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you. Guy Alikut, member
19 for NIRB.

20 My question is directing to Nunavut government.
21 Looking at the -- coming from the east, they seem to go
22 through that. Maybe -- maybe they smell something.
23 Maybe ten -- like, they smell ten miles, and -- and
24 they know -- and they probably know around there. They
25 start gathering over there. Maybe the leader of the
26 herd can be the deed [sic]. Like, if there are 50,

1 they usually have one leader. If they don't pass --
2 and then if the -- they're not afraid to pass even if
3 they are being -- people are shooting at them for
4 hunting.

5 There's different ways coming from that area --
6 coming from the west. Maybe have you ever considered
7 or -- like, where they come from? The HTO, have you
8 asked the hunters why they are going through that
9 direction? I'm wondering: Have you ever asked the
10 hunters, harvesters, especially our Elders who have the
11 knowledge of hunting? If you can answer me on that,
12 thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

14 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
15 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

16 This is really new analyses that we're just
17 getting done now, and it's still preliminary, so it's
18 still very early. And we have in the past done many
19 traditional knowledge studies, interviews with Elders
20 over different projects. So that's something that
21 we'll definitely look at.

22 In this case, we're looking forward to having the
23 discussion about this with the Hunters and Trappers
24 Organization, the Kivalliq Inuit Association, and
25 Agnico Eagle through the terrestrial advisory group
26 that's established for the project and -- and

1 continuing to develop these analyses as we get more
2 information. Thank you.

3 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you for -- Guy Alikut,
4 board of director for NIRB.

5 When you said there was questions -- like, they --
6 Elders know. Up to the road is -- was built, I
7 think -- you need to ask how the people feel, the
8 hunters, like, not just guessing game. They know the
9 wind. They know -- like, you can -- they can -- you
10 can get answers from them. Hire a staff who will ask
11 the hunters, harvesters.

12 THE CHAIR: Phillip.

13 MR. KADLUN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

14 Phillip Kadlun, Nunavut Impact Review Board.

15 (LOST AUDIO FEED - OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN). I have
16 heard -- different number of closure. Maybe the
17 Government of Nunavut and/or Agnico Eagle can answer my
18 question. My question is that those numbers that you
19 quote, 12 days, 34 days, or -- I'm wondering whether
20 those days were consecutive or -- or different --
21 different days apart during the time of caribou
22 migration.

23 (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), Madam Chair.

24 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

25 MR. ATKINSON: Stephen Atkinson on behalf of
26 the Government of Nunavut.

1 I'll endeavour to provide an answer, and then,
2 perhaps, pass the mic to somebody from Agnico.

3 In these animations, we utilized information
4 provided by Agnico Eagle on the road closure dates. If
5 you recall from some of the animations, there were
6 periods of prolonged road closure where, for example,
7 in the fall of 2017, the Meadowbank road was closed for
8 12 days straight, and that was one of the years -- that
9 was the year the caribou seemed to move quite
10 seamlessly through the project.

11 In the spring of 2019, there was a closure, I
12 think, up to 27 days on the Whale Tail and -- and --
13 and some of the Meadowbank road, and, again, that was
14 the year that the caribou seemed to kind of move
15 through the project quite -- quite well.

16 In the fall of 2018 and spring 2018, there were --
17 there were -- there were no long periods of road
18 closure like that. There were a few days in the fall
19 of 2018, and I can't recall how many in the spring of
20 2018. But if you remember the animation at that time,
21 the road was flashing red and -- on and off red,
22 indicating it was open/close, open/close. So rather
23 than a long period, it was more of a sort of on and off
24 situation.

25 Thank you.

26 THE CHAIR: Catherine.

1 MS. EMRICK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

2 Catherine Emrick, NIRB Board member.

3 A question for GN. Are there caribou protection
4 measures, commitments made by Agnico Eagle Mines that
5 you believe could be better or more fully implemented?

6 Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

8 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
9 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

10 In our final written submission, we had a proposal
11 for a certain type of caribou protection measure. In
12 the past couple of days, past three days of hearings,
13 we have discussed this in great detail with Agnico
14 Eagle, and, today, we came to an agreement on an --
15 what we see as an improvement from what is currently in
16 place.

17 So we are going to be submitting that. We -- we
18 literally just finalized it a couple of hours ago. So
19 we'll be submitting that into the record as our final
20 submission, and it's supported by Agnico Eagle. I hope
21 that helps. Thank you.

22 MS. EMRICK: Thank you.

23 Thank you, Madam Chair.

24 THE CHAIR: Baker Lake HTO.

25 MR. AKSAWNEE: (LOST AUDIO FEED - OTHER
26 LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Not in response to this last

1 question but the previous one where Phillip questioned
2 the GN about how many consecutive days of road closure
3 there was during migration, when we started -- when we
4 first hired our HTO monitor or Hunters and Trappers
5 Organization monitor on the road, our monitors involved
6 right from Day 1 of the monitoring of the closure
7 during migration. At the time, back in 2017, that's
8 when we -- we didn't have a monitor during the fall
9 migration, but we had a board member joining in on the
10 monitor -- monitoring phase, and it took about two --
11 two to three weeks consecutive. Like, it was -- I
12 think it was almost three weeks consecutively the road
13 was closed.

14 So I just wanted to bring that to your attention,
15 and I forgot to mention, when they first came up here
16 on what kind of effects this -- these collard caribou
17 data, information, animations. Us hunters, we know --
18 we're starting to notice a lot of musk ox as well. So
19 musk ox and caribou do not intertwine with each other.
20 They're constantly fighting for the same vegetation to
21 eat. We're seeing a very high abundance of musk ox,
22 and they're fighting for their territory. Like, I just
23 wanted to bring that up for your clarification.

24 Thank you, Madam Chair.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you for those responses.

26 Back to the community roundtable. Next we have

1 Eva Voisey.

2 Community Roundtable

3 MS. VOISEY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

4 That -- regarding that caribou migration, I wanted
5 to ask in regards to that because Inuit used to tell me
6 here at Meadowbank -- near Meadowbank they would stop
7 them from crossing. I'm wondering if this is true
8 because we usually come, and we get all the dry
9 caribou. We come here -- when we come at this time of
10 the year, we usually -- like, when you ask the -- the
11 summer didn't make any dry meat because there was no
12 caribou, and some would even ask -- they even told us,
13 You should bring caribou. Like, I know Baker Lake used
14 to have -- used to have abundance of caribou. Like,
15 but, today, we don't see that.

16 I want to get a clarification on, like, just
17 hearing. I'm just hearing. I don't live in Baker
18 Lake, but I have heard that the mining companies did
19 not let the caribous -- sometimes it's that -- that's
20 what they used to do, like, because they don't want to
21 close down the roads. I only heard of that. If I'm
22 mistaken, forgive me.

23 And, also, in Baker Lake, I want to support Baker
24 Lake. They have done a lot, and because people -- it's
25 the -- the community is very close to the mining camp.
26 Like, you are meeting over there, and they're working

1 at the new Whale Tail and right on the spot where
2 people go hunting. That's the hunting ground for the
3 hunters, harvesters.

4 I know you have supported in a lot of way by
5 giving employment to locals. Like -- and you have
6 festivals, but this is affecting. Like -- like, not --
7 this -- this is not very much that you support the
8 community. I just want to support the community of
9 Baker Lake. If they were to close it, we wanted --

10 There was a question. What's going to happen to
11 the road? We -- you -- are we going to keep that road
12 even after you are closed? Like, we're just here.
13 We're not going to be using that road. Only people
14 from Baker Lake will be affected.

15 I just wanted to support them because there was a
16 question about the road once the mine closes in 2025.
17 Are you going to reclaim that road that you built from
18 here to -- up there? I would want Agnico to ask the
19 community of Baker Lake what you want the road to --
20 what you want them to do with the road. Baker Lake can
21 make their own decision, but I just wanted to support
22 Baker Lake. If Baker Lake wants to or if they don't
23 want to, it's up to them. I just want to support them.

24 That in Rankin, that we have mining, nickel mine.
25 What was it? Utilidor. They have utilidor. It was
26 built. Up to today, they still have utilidor. This is

1 what the mining paid to Rankin Inlet. Like, they --
2 they did build a utilidor.

3 That's something that they left for the community,
4 every road. There's a road in every -- near the
5 houses. It will be nice to see because this is a
6 really big lake. If Baker Lake can -- they can get
7 utilidor and they get our water from Nipissak Lake in
8 Rankin Inlet, which is not very -- it has been going on
9 for 60 years. And when they built new buildings,
10 they -- right way, they get utilidor.

11 Like, in Baker, we would use less water -- of
12 water trucks, and we wouldn't have so much to look
13 forward to infrastructure. The water -- water trucks.
14 This is something I would want to see for Baker Lake,
15 and how long it would take to -- I have no clue how
16 long it would take for you to build a utilidor for the
17 community of Baker Lake.

18 Thank you, Madam Chair.

19 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

20 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

21 Thank you for the question. Jamie Quesnel, Agnico
22 Eagle.

23 Just with the caribou, we feel we're -- we have
24 the controls in place to allow the migration to occur.
25 We're not perfect. We're -- we're working together to
26 improve, but we feel we're -- we're doing our best to

1 allow that to occur.

2 Dealing with the all-weather access road from
3 Baker Lake to Meadowbank, based on our interim closure
4 plan that's been approved by multiple parties, that
5 road will be reclaimed. All the bridges would be
6 removed. But, typically, based on the regulation, we
7 would have to provide a final closure plan one year
8 before closure that would be -- it would have to go
9 through approval. But right now, the road would be
10 reclaimed. Bridges would be removed.

11 Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Would any of the registered
13 interveners like to respond?

14 Seeing none, Amos Voisey.

15 MR. VOISEY: Thank you, Madam Chair. Amos
16 Voisey of Whale Cove.

17 Actually, Agnico Eagle already answered the
18 question. So I'm just going to stay quiet. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

20 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
21 Quesnel.

22 Thank you for your comment.

23 THE CHAIR: Tommy Ubluriak.

24 MR. UBLURIAK: I just wanted to get some
25 clarification with Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit and
26 traditional knowledge. We're speaking to caribou

1 migration. During the wind in the summer, they know
2 exactly which migration route to use. The Elders and
3 through their traditional knowledge, we -- the younger
4 people have been told they have hoofs. So the hoofs in
5 between, they have like a -- like a 'V' shape, and they
6 use that as a marker to migrate. That's what I learned
7 from my father and the knowledge I gained from my
8 father.

9 And they usually go in the direction of where the
10 sun is shining, and then they begin to migrate south
11 with the sun on their back, and that's the knowledge
12 that the caribou themselves have. They use those --
13 the sun as a -- almost like a gauge as to which
14 migrate -- which way to migrate, and we have been told
15 never to shoot the first herd -- from the first herd,
16 and that was a rule, an unwritten rule, that we gained
17 knowledge from our -- our fathers.

18 And it seems like they're getting a little bit
19 more tamer when they're approaching. They will go from
20 east -- go from east. They -- and if there's airplanes
21 that are -- that are close by, they will tend to be
22 disturbed and move away. They look for good grazing
23 areas, especially in the summertime, and they are very
24 disturbed by the many mosquitoes.

25 I learned from watching my father. We saw -- we
26 were observing a caribou for four days, and we -- while

1 we were observing the caribou, the caribou just flat
2 out and -- and died. We didn't know what the reason
3 was; perhaps, it was lacking water. And we went to it,
4 and it was -- it wasn't -- it had no fat on it. It was
5 almost skeletal. Probably, it died from age. There
6 are -- the bull caribou tend to go near where there's
7 water and along the shorelines near -- they -- they --
8 they know different things just like humans.

9 Thank you. That's for all now, Madam Chair.

10 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

11 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
12 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

13 Thank you for your comments.

14 THE CHAIR: Would any of the registered
15 interveners like to respond?

16 Seeing none, Phillipa Iksiraq.

17 MS. IKSIRAQ: Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 I don't really have too many comments to make.
19 Yesterday, today, and the topic and the discussion of
20 caribou, I have a very brief comment to make. As
21 Inuit, we live on country food, and sometimes it was
22 very difficult at times, and then we would go fishing
23 if the caribou weren't around. We survived solely --
24 mainly on caribou. I heard some very strong comments
25 made, and I will try to do the same.

26 When we don't eat caribou for a certain amount of

1 time, we tend to get more unhealthy, and I am very
2 pleased when people bring us caribou meat. I was
3 raised by a leader, and he knew a lot about the
4 environment, and I was told never to say things against
5 other people, to be a good wife. Sometimes we hear
6 of -- of things -- or from people that are -- that
7 don't follow good behaviour. So we have to be good to
8 one another.

9 We were watching an animation as to where the
10 caribou migrate during spring and fall seasons in the
11 different years. When we were young, we used to walk,
12 and we used to see that caribou migrate. They never --
13 we never noticed any caribou migrating back to where
14 they came from, and some -- from what I understand,
15 today, there are roads being built.

16 The caribou I see are having different behaviour.
17 We see some caribou tending to go back, but I want to
18 say that I'm very pleased with our economy, especially
19 up here. Because in the past, we were dying of famine,
20 and we -- it was very difficult at -- in those times.
21 There are caribou crossings, natural caribou crossings.

22 I wonder if it's sometimes difficult for caribou
23 to cross because of the -- the -- the slope that's --
24 that are -- that are there and being built. And
25 caribou tend to get weaker if there's no water bodies
26 for them to drink from. It's one of the very essential

1 things that we need to survive. Water is very
2 essential. We need to ensure that there are no impacts
3 to them. We need to ensure that there are no --
4 there's no additional impacts to any of the water
5 bodies, including nitrogen dioxide.

6 When the winds are -- when the prevailing winds --
7 we can see sometimes at times the water is impacted
8 by -- by some impact from the mine. I am becoming
9 [sic] at a stage in my life where I am very -- where I
10 find it very difficult to concen -- like, to -- to --
11 to think and to get thoughts going in my mind. I am
12 very sorry that I forgot things that I wrote down. I
13 left them at home.

14 I wanted to ask the mining company, Agnico Eagle,
15 and -- that there are -- are -- that the company has
16 built sloped areas where the caribou can cross -- and
17 easier and more at a lower level. How many crossings
18 have -- has the company made up to today? I'd like
19 that information.

20 The caribou crossings -- the second question to --
21 to -- to that -- a follow-up question to that, I'm
22 going to either ask it in the form of a question or
23 just make a comment. When you -- once you return the
24 treated water and if there are any chemicals that
25 may -- that -- that may go into the receiving waters,
26 will the fish be returned? Inuit -- through Inuit

1 traditional knowledge, we would not -- we would be --
2 we would be told never to fish there again should a
3 lake be impacted in any way.

4 It -- it's going to cause -- people are going to
5 be -- will tend -- will not tend to go fishing there
6 should -- should lake be impacted. And once you return
7 the fish back into the -- to the lakes or to a lake --
8 some of the nitrogen dioxide, yes, and there are
9 chemicals that are in the environment. It's not very
10 good for wildlife. It's not good for vegetation,
11 wildlife, and to humans.

12 I am not really sure who to make this comment to
13 and questions to -- who to direct them to. I -- I only
14 know how to voice my concerns about hunting, and I hear
15 news from the people that work at the mine site about
16 what's happening there. We used to spend time to go
17 to -- we -- we -- we -- we'd go to meetings, and
18 sometimes it was very difficult to analyze some of the
19 information that we were being given and receiving.

20 It would be very good if we could, perhaps, get
21 better one-on-one information or as a smaller group
22 because there's some of us that don't use computers,
23 perhaps, by way of disseminating -- disseminating
24 information by way of newsletter because it would be
25 easier for those that don't use computers. I will stop
26 here for now.

1 Thank you, Madam Chair.

2 THE CHAIR: (AUDIO FEED LOST - OTHER
3 LANGUAGE SPOKEN) not everyone can have access to
4 electronic information, and make that a reminder to
5 interveners and proponents as well about getting
6 information to communities.

7 Agnico Eagle.

8 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair, and
9 thank you for the questions. Jamie Quesnel, Agnico
10 Eagle.

11 Dealing with the -- the slopes on the road, we do
12 have areas on -- on the roads that are sloped. Where
13 the migration occurs on the -- on the roads from the
14 Meadowbank to Whale Tail, we have about 50 locations
15 where it's sloped 4 to 1, so it's -- it's a flatter
16 slope. And we are still in discussions with the
17 Kivalliq Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut,
18 the Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers to look at new
19 areas.

20 Dealing with your -- your comment regarding the --
21 or our treated water. We go through a very vigorous
22 process to get the approval. There's a lot of studies
23 that are done related to -- related to us discharging
24 the water to the environment. When we discharge the
25 lake, there are tests in that lake related to water,
26 fish, sediments at the bottom of the lake. So the fish

1 are there where we are discharging our treated water
2 to.

3 So I assure you that the water meets the
4 requirements based on the regulations that we have to
5 provide the information to different boards and
6 different government agencies.

7 Before I turn it over to -- to Michel and also
8 Courtney, based on the economy, this is something that
9 we wanted to ensure and -- and hopefully get the
10 approval to add another four years of mining to provide
11 the training and employment for -- for people in this
12 area and to ensure we provide additional opportunities
13 for jobs and keep the economy going. As you stated,
14 you're very pleased about the economy, and we are
15 pleased about it also.

16 So, Michel, if you don't mind talking about the --
17 the NO2.

18 MR. GROLEAU: Michel Groleau, Agnico Eagle.

19 Thank you for your question. Thanks Madam
20 board -- Madam Chair.

21 Related to the nitrogen dioxide, I think we -- we
22 have a lot of discussion this week about this subject.
23 We're having different opinion between Environment
24 Canada, Health Canada, and Agnico Eagle related to the
25 way we're going to monitor nitrogen dioxide. However,
26 each parties agrees on the impact on the health related

1 to nitrogen dioxide, and it's a low risk to the
2 population and the people that are going to go harvest
3 in that area, and I would invite Health Canada to speak
4 of that effect, if possible. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Would any of the registered
6 interveners like to respond?

7 Health Canada.

8 MR. PARTRIDGE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Paul
9 Partridge from Health Canada.

10 Thank you very much for -- for raising that.

11 Thank you, Phillipa. Some very important things
12 that you have raised. I think it is important for us
13 to consider a range of things with this project.

14 And on the topic of nitrogen dioxide, I think
15 there's a lot of information that's been shared over
16 this week. We have certainly benefitted from the
17 information, the assessment that Agnico Eagle's
18 provided in their risk assessment and, certainly, the
19 additional clarification and discussion on the topic
20 today.

21 Health Canada has reviewed that information and
22 has put forward what it thinks is a reasonable
23 recommendation for the Board's consideration of
24 continuous monitoring for NO₂. We haven't suggested
25 anything else beyond that and recognize the value of --
26 of traditional land use and harvesting as a subsistent

1 thing, and we -- we would not have any concerns with --
2 with that aspect of -- of the project at all based on
3 the information from Agnico Eagle's risk assessment.

4 So it really does come down to Health Canada and
5 Environment Canada -- well, Health Canada requesting
6 the Board's consideration of continuous monitoring for
7 NO2 so we can compare apples to apples. So to the end,
8 Nunavut Ambient Air Quality Standards as well as the
9 Canadian Ambient Quality Standards, with that actual
10 information, as opposed to modeling information from --
11 from data that's available.

12 So I hope that addresses that specific concern
13 for -- for you, and I know it has been raised as a
14 topic from a number of other people around the table.
15 Certainly, NO2 is -- is something to be considered, and
16 the -- the company has provided consideration to NO2,
17 as has been shared by a number of the experts related
18 to their modeling of the information for NO2 in the
19 atmosphere around the project area as well as their
20 assessment of potential risks from exposure to NO2.

21 Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
23 registered interveners like to respond?

24 Seeing none, Tapisa Tattunee.

25 MS. TATTUNIEE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

26 My question is about employment. You stated in

1 your presentations that there will be 99 Inuit
2 employees if the expansion does go on. If -- how many
3 employees will you have overall, like comparing Inuit
4 and non-Inuit? Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

6 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
7 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

8 Right now with the Meadowbank complex, we have
9 850 employees and 600 contractors. So for the
10 Meadowbank complex, 1,450, and 30 percent are Inuit
11 employees.

12 THE CHAIR: Tapisa.

13 MS. TATTUNIEE: Thank you.

14 Would you be able to tell us, like, their job
15 titles, or is that too much to ask?

16 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

17 MS. SQUIRES: Courtney Squires, Agnico
18 Eagle.

19 It would take quite a long time to go through all
20 of the job titles that are outlined for Inuit or held
21 by Inuit currently at the project, although that's
22 information that we can provide. For the expansion
23 project, the jobs are typically in the semiskilled,
24 skilled categories, so tradespeople and heavy equipment
25 operators.

26 THE CHAIR: Tapisa.

1 MS. TATTUNIEE: Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
3 registered interveners like to respond?

4 Seeing none, it's 8:00. So let's take a 10-minute
5 break. After the break, (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN).
6 (ADJOURNMENT)

7 THE CHAIR: We will begin our hearing once
8 again.

9 Basil Kayavinik is next on the list. Is he still
10 here?

11 MR. KAYAVINIK: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm
12 just going to say what I feel. I'm wondering -- first
13 of all, can I say whatever I want? Because tomorrow I
14 won't be here.

15 THE CHAIR: You can say whatever.

16 MR. KAYAVINIK: Thank you, Madam Chair. My
17 name is Basil Kayavinik. I'm a Baker Lake resident,
18 and I -- I was living in Arviat for a while, but been
19 back to Baker for eight years. I'm not too sure -- I
20 had a wife from -- Theresa was her name, Katuk
21 [phonetic]. Alakut [phoentic] was her Inuktitut name,
22 but when I married her, her name was Theresa Katuk.
23 Back in 2030 [sic], she passed away, died of cancer. I
24 just wanted to say that.

25 I'm very happy to be here -- here to hear the
26 hearing. On Monday and yesterday, I wasn't here,

1 though. Today I'm finally able to come here and listen
2 to the hearing. Couple days ago -- yesterday, I came
3 back. I have a cabin -- not too far from Baker Lake, I
4 do have a cabin, and tomorrow I'll be heading back to
5 my cabin.

6 The question that I have -- I'm just going to say
7 what I feel. As Inuit -- are very quiet -- like, we
8 don't speak out very much. When the white people --
9 like, we hear the white people speaking, and it's like
10 they're -- like, Inuit are too quiet. I just wanted to
11 say that.

12 This summer, we seen a lot of vessels, one that
13 was -- like, the -- I saw a very big vessel that was
14 just parked down there, and there was barges that were
15 coming back and forth. And when the vessels -- like,
16 the seals and the marine mammals start -- whales --
17 like, we can see them. I went down towards the salted
18 area this summer; I never saw any seals. The -- I
19 don't know if people from Chester and Rankin seen them,
20 but from Uvayuk [phonetic], they are closest to
21 Chester. I don't know how many of us have gone to that
22 area from Baker Lake. We go hunting to the end of the
23 lake and further down. And earlier I was hearing about
24 the caribou that are walking. Like, you were telling
25 us they stay. It's not only the caribou that say in
26 one place. They're -- you have to consider also the

1 grizzlies, wolverine, wolves, foxes are the ones that
2 have four legs, and they -- they come, especially the
3 grizzly bear, polar bears, any kind of land animals.
4 Like, they -- we are increasing danger when they come
5 to us, and sometimes they'll sneak on us. It's scary.

6 For example, I can -- I had dogs in Arviat, and I
7 was a dog musher, and when I was going to go -- I was
8 feeding my dogs, like, axing the meat, the -- my
9 dogs -- there were ten dogs that I had; the four were
10 barking. I didn't know what they were barking at. I
11 didn't know what they were barking at, but the three
12 continued bark -- the one was the closest. I even
13 thought -- I even started wondering if it was going to
14 attack me, the dog. The dog that I was trying to feed
15 was growling, and the sound of that dog changed, and
16 when I looked backwards, not once a polar bear has -- I
17 have encountered a polar bear like -- polar bears are
18 not scared at all. Like, we have to keep an eye for us
19 that go out hunting anywhere.

20 I wanted to say what I felt, and the mining
21 companies -- I have a question to Agnico in regards to
22 the -- the haul trucks and for us that have the
23 Honda -- like, I think it would be better if the haul
24 trucks can stop before -- because the people driving
25 Honda have to, like -- like, if a Honda tips over, we
26 can get up with two or three people. The haul truck,

1 if they are to fell (sic), like, you can't put them
2 back up because they're too heavy.

3 I have seen on TV -- you probably seen that down
4 south when the big trucks tip over, this is just the
5 example that I'm talking about. If that one who was
6 trying to get back on -- I wanted to say something
7 about that.

8 I want to stay longer to hear the hearing, but I
9 love being outland. This is a -- I don't want to lose
10 my tradition. For us that have Hondas -- I have a
11 Honda too, but I would rather be walking because I like
12 walking.

13 When I first started driving Honda, and if I go
14 pretty far to hunt, it would take me days. I don't
15 know how many days. I'm sore, and I'm -- now I can't
16 even barely move around. I wanted to mention that.
17 It's just a comment to you all. Thank you very much
18 for allowing me to speak.

19 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

20 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
21 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

22 Thank you for your comments. Just with the haul
23 trucks, just for clarification, there's no haul trucks
24 on the all-weather access road between Baker and
25 Meadowbank. And from Kilometre 85 in, it is -- it's a
26 private area, so all the haul trucks are not

1 interacting with -- with light vehicles. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
3 registered intervenors like to respond?

4 Seeing none, Guy.

5 Nunavut Impact Review Board Questions Government of
6 Nunavut

7 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you. Guy Alikut, Board
8 of director for NIRB.

9 The animation that the Nunavut Government showed
10 to us -- I have a question I wanted to ask. I missed
11 that. But I wanted to ask the government -- I wanted
12 to ask the Nunavut Government how the caribou that are
13 collared -- some pass and some go different ways, like,
14 there was lots that -- and there was a few that I saw
15 on the -- how do you know -- how do you know if they're
16 abundance or if there's only five or if there's one
17 that has a collar goes with only -- how do you know?
18 That's my question.

19 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

20 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
21 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

22 For each individual collar, we don't know for sure
23 if it's by itself or if it's with a small group -- a
24 small group of other caribous or a very large group.
25 So for each one, we really don't know for sure.

26 But we know based on Inuit traditional knowledge

1 and scientific knowledge that caribou in spring and
2 fall migrations mostly travel in groups, so sometimes
3 small groups, sometimes medium groups, sometimes large
4 groups. So with only one collar, we don't know. So
5 that's why it's important for these studies to put out
6 a number of collars. So we know that -- if we put out
7 more collars, we know that the chances of all of the
8 animals being alone is very low. So on average, we
9 know that if we see several collars doing the same
10 behaviour, we can be quite certain that it is not
11 individuals; it's larger groups of caribou. Thank you.

12 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you. Board of director
13 for NIRB.

14 And the other -- thank you for clarifying some.
15 But the ones that we saw with lots of herd, looking at
16 that, I couldn't really believe it because it could
17 be -- it's that -- it could just be put in there.
18 Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

20 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
21 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

22 I didn't really get the question through the --
23 through the translation.

24 MR. ALIKUT: Guy Alikut. Let me -- so
25 you're not for certain that when you put, like, 2,000
26 here and small group there -- you don't know -- you

1 don't know 100 percent. You're not knowing 100
2 percent; is that correct? Like, you're just guessing.
3 If there were two collars, you think there were
4 thousand animal; one collar, who knows? Maybe 7 or 8?
5 So you -- you think that way too? Like, you're just
6 guessing, sort of? Did you understand what I'm saying?

7 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

8 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
9 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

10 No, we're not just guessing. Science is not a
11 100 percent certainty. It's a -- it's a -- a science
12 of -- it's a science of probabilities. But we do know
13 a lot, both based on science and Inuit knowledge, about
14 caribou behaviour and caribou behaviour in groups and
15 during migrations. So that's what I mean by -- when we
16 put out a number of collars, we can be very reasonably
17 certain that it's groups of caribou travelling.

18 This has also been field checked by aerial
19 surveys, so using aircraft to observe a collared
20 caribou and to see: Is it alone or is it in groups?
21 So this -- this technology has been tested over a
22 number of decades, and it's been field checked using
23 other methodology like air -- aircraft observations to
24 see: Is it just one, or is it a group? So that
25 combined years of testing and knowledge leaves us with
26 a very high confidence that when we see multiple

1 collars, we're seeing not individuals, but we're seeing
2 groups of caribou. Thank you.

3 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you.

4 That was -- to what you're saying, the IQ about
5 the Elders. Did you talk to the Elders? Did you --
6 you're -- the people -- the Elders that you asked or
7 just by hearing it? Do you say -- when you talk about
8 IQ, are we only talking about the word "IQ" without
9 contacting the Elders? Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

11 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
12 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

13 We have done quite a number of interviews with
14 Elders and hunters over many years, and that collective
15 knowledge is feeding into our knowledge. As well, for
16 every single research project that we do, we consult
17 with local Hunters and Trappers Organization --
18 Organizations in all the affected communities. And,
19 additionally, with very rare exceptions, we make sure
20 that representatives from the Hunters and Trappers
21 Organizations participate in the research projects with
22 our -- with our researchers. So we have made many
23 efforts and make sure that we get that input into --
24 that Inuit input into the science. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Uriash.

26 MR. PUQIQNAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 Uriash Puqignak, NIRB Board member.

2 Looking at the map, like, with the animation, the
3 collared caribous near Baker Lake between -- between
4 Baker Lake and Meadowbank, we seen that, and to the
5 west, they travel, and between Baker going down by the
6 shore, and they have leaders. This is what we saw near
7 Meadowbank, the caribou walking. Like, we seen these.
8 Like, all of them coming from the west of Meadowbank
9 and caribous walking. Being that Meadowbank and the
10 Whale Tail in between the one that we've been -- the
11 one you've been proposing, and we would see caribous
12 going around that area and to Meadowbank and to that
13 place called "Amaruq". They would go past, and then it
14 would finish the animation of caribou.

15 The question I have: Do you have only researching
16 areas only on behalf of the mining company, or do
17 you -- do you go further outside of the mining camp?
18 Do you look at those two?

19 The question I have is because, like, the caribou
20 herd that are going down to the shore -- and I live
21 near -- in Goa Haven, and the land migration during the
22 spring, they start going to Goa Haven area. The
23 caribou herd -- looking at the map, like, is it only --
24 if it's approved, Whale Tail, do you only have areas
25 where -- like, that are collared that go around
26 Meadowbank and Whale Tail, are those the only ones that

1 you look at, or can you go past those areas to monitor?

2 Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

4 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
5 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

6 We have research data, including collar data, for
7 all parts of Nunavut. In some areas, we have more than
8 others due to the nature of research. So we have --
9 but we do have some data for all parts of Nunavut for
10 all caribou herds.

11 But for this analysis, this was strictly done for
12 the Whale Tail Expansion Project. So this one that
13 we -- we put on the screen was -- we took our data for
14 this area and did the analysis just to prepare for
15 this -- this NIRB public hearing. So that type of
16 analysis, we don't have it prepared for all of Nunavut.
17 We really did it for this -- for this hearing. Thank
18 you.

19 THE CHAIR: Shawn Attungala.

20 Questions for Agnico Eagle Mines Limited by Community
21 Representatives

22 MR. ATTUNGALA: Thank you, Madam Chair and
23 Agnico Eagle, the people that came to Baker Lake for
24 the NIRB hearing.

25 My question is going to be about just -- the
26 question has been around for, I believe, a few years

1 now, that vehicles and ATVs that drive up the mine
2 road, they leave a big trail or tail of dust and that
3 that dust either blows to the east or the west from up
4 the road, and I would like to know why no dust
5 suppressant -- suppressant is being used on the road.

6 And if Agnico Eagle would answer that question.
7 Or is it because the dust suppressant is not good for
8 the environment, animals, or marine animals, or is
9 there a regulation why dust suppressant can't be used
10 on the mine road?

11 THE CHAIR: Is that the end of your --

12 MR. ATTUNGALA: Yeah. It's my question here,
13 yeah.

14 THE CHAIR: -- question?

15 Agnico Eagle.

16 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
17 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

18 Yeah. With the all-weather access roads, we do
19 use dust suppressant, about -- I think it was about
20 three years ago. We started a long time ago, but three
21 years ago we did a pilot with information from the
22 community regarding that question about dust and dust
23 suppressants. We went to different locations on the
24 all-weather access road. We did a pilot with input
25 from the community and also with the Baker Lake Hunters
26 and Trappers Organization, tried different products.

1 We agreed on locations, agreed on the product. And
2 since that time, we've been applying the dust
3 suppressant on the all-weather access road, which we
4 do -- also for this application, the Whale Tail
5 Expansion Project, for the haul road, we do provide a
6 dust suppressant on that road also, plus water trucks
7 that we have on our haul roads. Closer to the pit in
8 the ring roads around the pits and the areas around the
9 mine site, we do have water trucks for controlling
10 dust. Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
12 registered intervenors like to respond?

13 Seeing none, Conna Katokra.

14 MS. KATOKRA: Thank you, Madam [sic]. I am
15 from Naujaat. I have a question to Agnico Eagle. I'm
16 here on behalf of the -- our Hamlet. I used to work at
17 the -- at Meadowbank. We are away for two years [sic]
18 and home for two weeks. As a mother, it's very
19 difficult to be away from our families as a --
20 especially as a mother, especially when there are --
21 when Calm Air cancels or -- due to weather or because
22 of the airstrip condition. Sometimes we are stranded
23 for two days. And then we would finally get home, and
24 then even before the -- prior to the two weeks over, we
25 would have to go back to work at -- to the mine.

26 I'll use example for -- as Naujaat and Coral, they

1 would stay overnight in Rankin. I wonder if there
2 could be better arrangements made. There are charters
3 that are available to some communities, but we're
4 usually on a sched flight. Sometimes we're home for
5 only eight days, and then I would have to go back to
6 work to the mine site. It's very -- it was very
7 difficult as a mother. I wonder if there could be
8 better arrangements made. I wonder if that would be
9 arranged -- could be arranged through the Government of
10 Nunavut or by the company.

11 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

12 MS. SQUIRES: Thank you, Madam Chair.

13 Courtney Squires for Agnico Eagle.

14 Thank you very much for the feedback. I
15 understand the issue that you're vocalizing, as Naujaat
16 and Coral don't have the Kivalliq charter route that's
17 accessed by the other Kivalliq communities. It's --
18 it's something that we would have to -- to -- to look
19 into further, but we just thank you for bringing that
20 feedback to our attention so that we can consider it
21 for the future.

22 And I also just want to clarify for -- for
23 everyone the work rotation schedule, which is two weeks
24 in, so two weeks at site, and then two weeks at home in
25 your -- your home community. I hope that answers your
26 question. Thanks.

1 THE CHAIR: Do you have any further
2 questions?

3 MS. KATOKRA: No. That's all for now.
4 Thank you, Madam Chair.

5 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
6 registered intervenors like to respond?

7 Seeing none, Harry Aggark.

8 MR. AGGARK: Thank you, Madam Chair. I had
9 numerous questions to ask, but they were all pretty
10 much answered.

11 I just have one, perhaps, to get a clarification.
12 On Sunday, I went to -- up to the mine site, to
13 Meadowbank. There was talk of the mine closure while
14 we were up there by one of the staff members that -- of
15 Agnico Eagle.

16 The tailings pond would be diked in some parts.
17 First of all, I think tailings ponds are toxic. It
18 seems like there is a lot of suspended solids in -- in
19 it like rocks. I wonder if there's a permeable lining
20 underneath the tailings pond.

21 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

22 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank
23 you, Harry, for the question. Jamie Quesnel, Agnico
24 Eagle.

25 We do not have a liner in -- in the tailings
26 facility. Right now we're depositing the tailings in

1 the -- in the pits that are not operating right now.
2 We're starting in the Bay Goose pit.

3 When we were at the mine site on Sunday in the
4 tailings facility that was there from Day 1 of the
5 operation and just -- we finished depositing in that
6 location just a couple of months ago, the plan is to
7 cap it with rock. It's called a "thermal cap". And
8 the concept is to freeze the tailings into a large ice
9 cube to incorporate the -- the permafrost and -- and
10 the -- the Arctic weather. So that's the design for
11 the closure of that facility.

12 And we -- we did see the progressive reclamation
13 on the north cell, and we'll finish that first, and
14 then we'll proceed with the -- covering the subcell
15 with more rock for closure. So that's the approved
16 closure method that we have for the facility. So --
17 but we will continue to deposit tailings in the pits
18 that are not operational. Thank you.

19 MR. AGGARK: Thank you. I'm going to add
20 to -- a little bit to my question.

21 See -- it seems like they're so close to the
22 surface, and during spring thaw, the snow and -- and --
23 and terrain, it may thaw out. I wonder why the pits
24 are so -- they're -- they're quite steep. I wonder if
25 perhaps if you could use those pits as a tailings ponds
26 instead and use them -- they would probably last or

1 freeze -- freeze over for at least 150 years or more.

2 Have you considered that?

3 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

4 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank
5 you, Harry, for that follow-up question. Jamie
6 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

7 Yes. It's -- it's a great idea, and that's --
8 we -- we're doing that right now, and we'd like to do
9 that in the future, to utilize an existing footprint to
10 deposit our tailings. We try to minimize our
11 footprint, and using pits that are no longer being used
12 for -- for -- for operation needs -- it only makes
13 sense to put material back into it. So we received
14 that approval earlier this year, so we're continuing
15 with that.

16 Dealing with your comment about the -- our closure
17 strategy for the -- we call it "aerial deposition"
18 'cause it's on -- on the -- on land. That's been
19 incorporated into the design for -- for runoff,
20 evaporation, climate change, all those things. So
21 the -- the thermal cover, which is upwards to 4 metres,
22 it's designed to take and count all those factors, the
23 slope related to rainfall, snow melt. But I agree with
24 you; putting tailings in our pits is a great idea.
25 Thank you.

26 MR. AGGARK: Thank you.

1 Perhaps to add to that, my last question or
2 comment -- I think it was either yesterday or the day
3 before, the transportation corridor for shipping, there
4 were studies done. I don't feel like I should make a
5 comment, but I just wanted to -- to be made aware. The
6 Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers Association [sic] and
7 the Chesterfield Hunters and Trappers Association were
8 in talks about twenty -- from 2019 to 2020. We wanted
9 to see if that was a possibility to have that
10 transportation corridor because sometimes the
11 government takes a while to do -- to conduct studies
12 due to lack of resources. So up to today, I think
13 Arctic Connection was going to do a study -- a
14 feasibility study. We were going to start the study
15 together in end of July to August.

16 I think we're going to continue with the community
17 roundtable session. I don't really have any comments
18 towards caribou. We don't have any caribou in
19 Chesterfield in -- at the moment. We will probably
20 voice our concerns to mammals during -- and perhaps
21 during our -- towards our closing remarks. I will -- I
22 will -- I will probably get some more information from
23 other parties as we go along with this hearing. Thank
24 you.

25 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

26 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie

1 Quesnel. Thank you for -- for the comment. Thanks.

2 THE CHAIR: It's -- the night is coming
3 close to an end. We have a numerous number of people
4 who want to voice their concerns. We're going to
5 continue with this community session -- roundtable
6 session, so we'll continue tomorrow. I believe there
7 are still some deferred responses from intervenors and
8 the proponent. We'll start with those in the morning
9 when we reconvene at 9.

10 I want to remind the community members and
11 representatives you will have to get a
12 representatives -- representative from your community
13 to see who will be your --

14 Tomorrow we're going to start closing remarks
15 after continue -- after we continue the community
16 roundtable, we will move on to closing remarks from
17 community representatives. Please select one person
18 from your community to speak on behalf of your group
19 and share your comments, whatever you would like to
20 share with the Board before we conclude the hearing.

21 Have a good evening. We will continue the
22 community roundtable session tomorrow at 9.

23 _____
24 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 9:00 AM, AUGUST 29, 2019

25 _____
26

1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPT:

2

3 We, Christy Longacre and Andres Vidal, certify
4 that the foregoing pages are a complete and accurate
5 transcript of the proceedings, taken down by us in
6 shorthand and transcribed from our shorthand notes to
7 the best of our skill and ability.

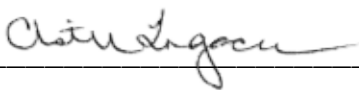
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9 this 9th day of September 2019.

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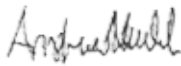
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