

From: [Erin Reimer](#)
To: [Marie-Pier Marcil](#)
Cc: ryan.vanengen@agnicoeagle.com; [Sophia Granchinho](#); [Kelli Gillard](#)
Subject: 03MN107/124588 and 16MN056/124683 NIRB Reminder to Agnico Eagle RE 2018 Annual Report
Date: Friday, March 1, 2019 8:14:00 AM

Dear Marie-Pier,

As a reminder, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle) is required to report annually to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) on activities undertaken the previous year with respect to the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project (NIRB File No. 03MN107), the Whale Tail Pit Project (16MN056) and the Amaruq Exploration Project (11EN010) with the consolidated report to be submitted to the Board by March 31st. The annual report generally meets the requirements from various licences/permits/land leases/compensation agreements with the different regulatory authorities and we are requesting confirmation that the consolidated annual report will be submitted by March 31, 2019 or if additional time would be required. Further, by way of correspondence on November 7, 2018 the NIRB issued recommendations to assist Agnico Eagle in achieving compliance with the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project Certificate No. 004, Amendment 2 (NIRB File No. 03MN107) and the Whale Tail Pit Project Certificate No. 008 (NIRB File No. 16MN056). While the majority of these recommendations were directed to the Proponent, the NIRB also directed several requests to Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) in order to clarify existing compliance issues identified in the NIRB's 2017-2018 Annual Monitoring Report for the projects.

On December 14, 2018 the NIRB received Agnico Eagle's response to the Board's 2018 recommendations, and the NIRB also received responses from ECCC (December 6, 2018), CIRNAC and NRCan (December 14, 2018), and DFO (December 17, 2018). In review of the responses received from the above parties, the NIRB is providing additional guidance on those items that may require further discussion or additional clarification in support of the NIRB's monitoring of the projects. This is to ensure that the NIRB has all the information necessary to adequately discharge its mandate with respect to provisions within Section 12.7 of the *Nunavut Agreement* and s. 135 of the *NuPPAA* as they pertain to both the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project and the Whale Tail Pit Project.

Agnico Eagle is requested to review the responses of the above parties as well as the below guidance, and use these suggestions to inform its 2018 Annual Report submission for the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project and Whale Tail Pit Project. All documents and correspondences related to the projects can be access online via the NIRB's public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/124588 (03MN107) or www.nirb.ca/project/124683 (16MN056).

Meadowbank Gold Mine Project

1. Spill Management – Condition 26

We would like to acknowledge Agnico Eagle's response and look forward to further information to be provided in its Annual Report as per **Recommendation 2**: "The Board requests that, within future annual reporting, Agnico Eagle present the number of

reportable and non-reportable spills (from 2011 onward) in a table or graph for ease of review.”

2. Participation in Surveys – Terms and Conditions 51 and 54

While we acknowledge discussion in Agnico Eagle’s response regarding alternative studies such as a community led program and discussions held with ARTIConnexion and ELOKA, it does not clearly state an action plan regarding Creel and HHS Survey development. Agnico Eagle states they"started planning the 2019 HHS....pre-existing HHS would be re-started in time for Caribou migration", however there is no clear indication of timelines, measures for success and contingency planning. We would like to remind Agnico Eagle of

Recommendation 5: “The Board requests that Agnico Eagle provide an action plan regarding development of the Creel Surveys and the Hunter Harvest Surveys, with a clear indication of timelines, measures for success and contingency planning. The submission should highlight any identified limitations on the effectiveness of studies currently employed at the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project with a discussion of the feasibility of alternative studies and mechanisms designed to ensure that a gap in available knowledge is not developing.” and request that further discussion is provided in its 2018 Annual Report.

3. Suppression of Surface Dust – Term and Condition 74

We would refer Agnico Eagle to review ECCC’s response which identifies gaps in available data, inconsistencies in annual reports, and exceedances of TSP and dustfall guidelines. We would encourage Agnico Eagle to follow ECCC’s recommendations regarding dustfall and air quality monitoring methods to better determine if FEIS predictions are being exceeded. Agnico Eagle could provide the requested information, or a clear indication of how they will meet the requirements of the term and condition in their 2018 Annual Report.

4. Appendix D, the Annual Report and the PEAMP

We would like to remind Agnico Eagle that although effects of the project on ecosystemic and socio-economic environments are measured via monitoring programs, the trend analysis and comparison to FEIS predictions should be provided in the PEAMP for ease of review. An update to PEAMP is encouraged to be provided in the 2018 Annual Report as per the Board’s **Recommendation 12:** “The Board requires that Agnico Eagle provide a comprehensive update on the post-environmental assessment monitoring program for the Project. This must include a discussion that references the baseline and previous years’ monitoring data and identifies any trends for each valued ecosystem component where an effect has been observed. The update must identify where original impact predictions can no longer be supported based on project experience to date and include an analysis of the effectiveness of management and mitigation strategies employed. The update must also provide a summary of lessons learned from the Project which can be used to improve future performance at this and other mining developments in Nunavut.”

Whale Tail Pit Project

1. Update to existing Dust Management and Monitoring Plan – Term and Condition 2

We would refer Agnico Eagle to ECCC’s response regarding plan components and updates to

its Air Quality and Dustfall Management Plan, and to include these revisions in the submission with the 2018 Annual Report.

2. Site-specific Permafrost Monitoring, Mapping and Thermal Analysis –Term and Condition 10

We would refer Agnico Eagle to review responses from CIRNAC and NRCan regarding site-specific permafrost monitoring, mapping and thermal analysis. Information addressing identified deficiencies is suggested to be incorporated into the Groundwater Monitoring Plan and included as part of the 2018 Annual Report.

The NIRB looks forward to receiving Agnico Eagle's 2018 Annual Report for the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project and Whale Tail Pit Project on or before March 31st, 2019.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification regarding the Board's monitoring of these projects, please contact the undersigned or Sophia Granchinho, Manager, Impact Assessment at (867) 857-4829 or sgranchinho@nirb.ca.

Regards,

Erin Reimer

Technical Advisor I

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