

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

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9 G. Alikut Panel Member

10 C. Emrick Panel Member

11 U. Puqiqnak Panel Member

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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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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
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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
22	C. de la Mare	Environmental Specialist
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. Settingington	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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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
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1 FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

2 M. D'Aguiar Senior Biologist

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4 Regulatory Reviews

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8 P. Partridge Regional Environmental

9 Assessment Specialist

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19 M. Angoshadluk Language Translator

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

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

23

24 _____
(PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 9:02 AM)

25 THE CHAIR: Opening prayer.

26 Opening Prayer

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Phillipa.

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

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

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

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

26 For all speakers, whenever you are speaking,

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

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

11 Legal counsel.

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

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

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

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

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

4 So Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

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

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

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

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

21 Legal counsel.

22 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

25 If I can have the witnesses state and spell your
26 name for the record, please.

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

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

5 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you.

6 Do the witnesses wish to be sworn or affirmed?

7 MR. PINKSEN: Affirmed.

8 MR. ATKINSON: Affirmed.

9 STEVE PINKSEN, STEPHEN ATKINSON, Affirmed

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

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

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

24 EXHIBIT 63 - Hard Copy PowerPoint
25 presentation of the Government of Nunavut on
26 Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's Whale Tail Pit

1 Expansion Project (French/Inuktitut)

2 EXHIBIT 64 - Executive Summary of Technical

3 Review Comments, Government of Nunavut

4 (English)

5 EXHIBIT 65 - Executive Summary of Technical

6 Review Comments, Government of Nunavut

7 (Inuktitut)

8 EXHIBIT 66 - Executive Summary of Technical

9 Review Comments, Government of Nunavut

10 (French)

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

13 Presentation by the Government of Nunavut

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

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

24 The Government of Nunavut conducts impact
25 statement reviews in a balanced manner. We strive to
26 ensure our priorities as they relate to the

1 biophysical. Socioeconomic and cultural environments
2 are equally considered and assessed during the review
3 process.

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

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

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

1 statements and effects monitoring plans. The various
2 principals of Inuit Qaujimaqatunqangit should be fully
3 considered.

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

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

24 A primary goal in the proponent's terrestrial
25 environment management plan is to address the haul
26 road's impacts to migrating caribou. We have raised

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

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

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

25 Having reviewed the proposed alternative, we still
26 have concerns that there may be no real reduction in

1 traffic during sensitive periods. Agnico Eagle has
2 committed to providing further information on this
3 issue to the terrestrial advisory group for their
4 October meeting. The Government of Nunavut is
5 satisfied to continue this discussion at that time.

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

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

25 Previously, the proponent made a commitment during
26 the technical session to provide a plan for the

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

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

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

24 Our next issue is haul road management. The Whale
25 Tail Pit haul road is a private road, and public use is
26 prohibited. However, the Government of Nunavut is

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

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

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

23 Agnico Eagle proposes an update to Project
24 Certificate 008, Permit Condition 51, which is to
25 develop a workforce transition plan and implementation
26 plan which will be included in the conceptual

1 socioeconomic closure plan. The Government of Nunavut
2 agrees and considers the issue to be resolved.

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

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

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

1 this recommendation.

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

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

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

24 Further, we look forward to working with the
25 proponent, Hunters and Trappers Organization, and the
26 Kivalliq Inuit Association to bring further

1 improvements to caribou monitoring and caribou
2 protection measures to minimize project impacts on
3 caribou.

4 Thank you very much.

5 THE CHAIR: Questions to the Government of
6 Nunavut from Kivalliq Inuit Association.

7 Kivalliq Inuit Association Questions the Government of
8 Nunavut

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

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

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

24 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

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

6 Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: KIA.

8 MR. POOLE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

15 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

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

1 THE CHAIR: Legal counsel.

2 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

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

9 THE CHAIR: KIA.

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

12 No further questions at this time.

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

15 Baker Lake HTO.

16 MR. BERNAUER: Thank you, Madam Chair.

17 Warren Bernauer for the Baker Lake HTO.

18 We have no questions at this time.

19 THE CHAIR: CIRNAC.

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

23 No questions.

24 THE CHAIR: Environment Canada.

25 MS. PINTO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

26 Melissa Pinto, Environment and Climate Change Canada.

1 We have no questions.

2 THE CHAIR: DFO Canada.

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

5 We have no questions. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Health Canada.

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

9 We have no questions.

10 THE CHAIR: NRCan.

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

13 No questions.

14 THE CHAIR: AEM.

15 Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Questions the Government of
16 Nunavut

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 society and for meaningful employment.

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

9 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

10 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
11 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

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

20 Thank you.

21 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

22 MR. BERGNER: (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

23 Thank you.

24 My second question relates to the next two slides
25 of your presentation. On Slide 5, you mention
26 parnautiit, the mineral exploration and mining

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

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

15 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

17 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

20 No further questions.

21 THE CHAIR: NIRB staff.

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

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

26 Thank you very much for the presentation. We do

1 have a couple of more general -- a more general
2 question and a couple more specific questions.

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

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

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

21 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

22 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

25 So I'll just describe the process how we -- how we
26 approach our participation in these projects. We have

1 an interdepartmental group called the
2 sustainable advisory -- sustainable development
3 advisory group which is made up of representatives
4 of -- a suite of Government of Nunavut departments.

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

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

25 So I hope that comes some weight towards answering
26 your question. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: NIRB staff.

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

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

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

19 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

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

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

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

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

23 THE CHAIR: NIRB staff.

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

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

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

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

16 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

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

26 We have had some discussions with the HTO about

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

12 THE CHAIR: NIRB Board staff.

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

15 Again, thank you for that response.

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

26 So I'll pose the question first to the Government

1 of Nunavut, but with the Board's indulgence, we'd also
2 look for Crown-Indigenous Relations to have an
3 opportunity to respond.

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

16 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

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

1 Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: CIRNAC.

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

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

12 THE CHAIR: NIRB staff.

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

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

17 THE CHAIR: NIRB Board.

18 Guy.

19 Nunavut Impact Review Board Questions the Government of
20 Nunavut

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

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

1 visual idea where caribou movements are and where
2 caribou are.

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

9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

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

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

1 THE CHAIR: Phillip.

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

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

13 Thank you, Madam Chair.

14 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

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

24 So in -- this normal circumstances, that's the
25 response structure for emergencies out on the land, but
26 I -- I guess I would refer to the proponent, but I

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

6 THE CHAIR: Phillip.

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

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

12 Thank you, Madam Chair.

13 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

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

22 With all the infrastructure we have at the
23 Meadowbank operations and the Whale Tail operations,
24 including roads for access, we would make that
25 available. We're part of the -- the fabric here.
26 We're guests in this region, but we will support in any

1 way we can for any unforeseen circumstance that -- that
2 may occur to hunters or a community member.

3 Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Phillip.

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

7 That's all the questions I have.

8 THE CHAIR: Uriash.

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

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

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

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

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

16 Thank you, Madam Chair.

17 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

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

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

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

13 Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: Uriash.

15 MR. PUQIQNAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 Uriash, board of director for NIRB.

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

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

26 Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 (ADJOURNMENT)

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

3 Legal counsel.

4 Discussion

5 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

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

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

24 Madam Chair, it's my understanding they have
25 printed out copies of this and circulated it amongst
26 the participants here, and I propose to mark the hard

1 copy text as the next exhibit in this public hearing.

2 So thank you, Madam Chair.

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

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

8 Kivalliq Inuit Association.

9 Potential Terms and Conditions Tabled by Kivalliq Inuit
10 Association

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

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

1 the monitoring and mitigation on -- for caribou for the
2 project.

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

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

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

1 project. So this term and condition is an attempt to
2 address that. And it reads that: (as read)

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

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

1 Madam Chair.

2 THE CHAIR: Any questions to the Kivalliq

3 Inuit Association? Any further questions for KIA?

4 Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers?

5 Agnico Eagle?

6 MS. KOWBEL: No questions, Madam Chair.

7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Any questions from NIRB staff?

9 Any questions from NIRB Board?

10 Okay. Moving on, legal counsel.

11 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 Teresa Meadows, legal counsel for the Nunavut Impact

13 Review Board.

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

19 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

20 Follow-up Discussion Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Air
21 Quality Monitoring

22 MS. TURMEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Manon

23 Turmel, Agnico Eagle Mines.

24 The Agnico Eagle team was reflecting on some of
25 the questions from Board members about NO2 and health
26 risks. We want to make sure that those questions were

1 fully answered. I'm just going to call our risk
2 assessment expert Andrea Amendola to provide some
3 follow-up information.

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

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

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

25 I have a bachelor's degree in biomedical
26 toxicology, and I've worked at Golder Associates for

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

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

25 So to begin, I want to emphasize that my
26 conclusion from my assessment is that people at and

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

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

20 Adults and even those with breathing conditions
21 like asthma or also for heavy smokers, they have a
22 higher tolerance to NO2 than children. So they would
23 need to be exposed to more NO2 than children to have
24 the same response. So we assume that -- the most
25 sensitive people in the project area for the purpose of
26 the assessment, even if it's not very likely that those

1 people would be in the project area.

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

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

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

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

26 Mr. Asher appeared on behalf of Environment Canada

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

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

16 Environment Canada appears to be supportive of the use
17 of the current passive NO2 air quality monitoring.

18 Quoting: (as read)

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

1 Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

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

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

17 Kivalliq Inuit Association.

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

21 THE CHAIR: Questions from NIRB staff?

22 Questions from NIRB Board?

23 Catherine.

24 Nunavut Impact Review Board Questions Agnico Eagle
25 Mines Limited

26 MS. EMRICK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 Catherine Emrick, NIRB Board member.

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

10 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

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

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

22 (ADJOURNMENT)

23 THE CHAIR: Let us reconvene.

24 Before they show us the animation -- or the --
25 Baker Lake MLA and the speaker for Nunavut from the --
26 Simeon is here. If you have something to say, you are

1 more than welcome.

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

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

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

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

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

22 Welcome to Baker Lake. And we're always
23 welcoming, and it's good to see that Inuit are being
24 involved with it because we do have Nunavut Land Claim
25 Agreement, and we are from -- and the staff who are
26 here and the Agnico Eagle Mines, I could say on behalf

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

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

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

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

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

26 If you don't have questions but would like to

1 provide a statement for the Board's consideration,
2 please also speak with our staff. This will assist us
3 in making sure everyone who wishes to speak gets a
4 chance to do so.

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

8 Roll Call

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

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

20 MS. TATTUNIEE: Tapisa Tattunee from Arviat.

21 MS. KOMAKJUAK: Agnes Komakjuak from Arviat.

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

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

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

7 Eli.

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

17 MR. KRAKO: Jimmy Krako, Hamlet.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 MR. NAPAYOK ELL: Jackie Napayok Ell. I'm

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

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

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

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

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, and welcome.

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

24 The registered intervenors are all standing by for
25 questions as well, so community representatives and the
26 general public are encouraged to provide any questions

1 or comments they might have for these parties as well.
2 I will ask that our legal counsel mark the exhibits so
3 we can begin the presentations.

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Madam Chair. My

1 name is Michel Groleau from Agnico Eagle.

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

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

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

26 So first I'll describe the Whale Tail Expansion

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

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

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

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

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

25 This slide is presenting the Meadowbank mine. It
26 have [sic] been operating for ten years and is

1 authorized to continue operating.

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 This slide is presenting the infrastructure or

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

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

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

24 This slide provide more description related to the
25 development of the underground mine of the expansion
26 project which will consist of long-hole mining with cut

1 and fill in flat areas. The existing ramp will be the
2 main connection to the surface. Waste rock produce
3 from the underground will be return underground as
4 backfill, and no underground waste rock will be store
5 at the surface of the mine at the end of operation.

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

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

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

1 application two years ago.

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

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

15 This slide show the schedule of the Whale Tail
16 Expansion Project. So from 2019 to '20, we're planning
17 to continue operating the Whale Tail Pit as approved
18 while we are reviewing the expansion project and the
19 Type A water licence. We're anticipating receiving our
20 permit licence and authorization to operate around
21 July 2020. From 2020 to 2022, we'll begin operation of
22 the expanded Whale Tail Pit, IVR pit stripping, and to
23 construct the infrastructure. From 2020 to 25th [sic],
24 we'll operate the Whale Tail Pit Expansion Project, if
25 project deems approved, and active closure will start
26 in 2026. So we'll start backfilling the pits with

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

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

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

15 MR. GROLEAU: Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 (VIDEO PLAYED)

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

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

24 So here we're flying above the tundra. This
25 portion of the video is showing the baseline status of
26 the site, so before operation. We got the Whale Tail

1 Lake around here. This will be the area where the dike
2 will be built.

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

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

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

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

22 So for the expansion project, similar
23 infrastructure, the dike that -- the Whale Tail dike,
24 the Mammoth dike I was speaking of, the waste rock
25 storage facility, the Whale Tail Pit over here, and the
26 IVR pit will be just behind. And we got the IVR waste

1 rock storage facility over here. So the underground
2 mine is located between those two.

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

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

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

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

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

26 THE CHAIR: Okay. It's now 12:00. So

1 we'll break for lunch 'til 1:15 and then reconvene at
2 1:15 with the same presentation.

3

4 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 1:15 PM

5

6 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 1:16 PM)

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

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

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

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

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

23 Our approach is characterized by effective two-way
24 communication, consultation, and partnering. Our
25 responsible management system is an integrated
26 framework for the management of health and safety

1 environments and social performance.

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

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

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

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

23 Since 2016, there have been almost 90 project
24 consultations and engagement for the Meadowbank Whale
25 Tail-approved project and the Whale Tail expansion
26 project. The main community concerns that were

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

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

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

14 MS. TURMEL: Thank you, Candace.

15 Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle.

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

24 Throughout the Nunavut Impact Review Board review
25 process for the Whale Tail expansion project, we have
26 received a total of 156 information requests from

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 Finally, Elders wanted to prevent negative changes

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

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

14 Okay. Thank you for pointing that out.

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

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

25 There is also the Wager Bay herd to the northeast,
26 which also has a small interaction with the project

1 and, finally the Lorillard herd, which crosses the road
2 in spring and fall and are the focus of our assessment
3 and management.

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

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

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

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

25 In accordance to our existing project certificate
26 that was delivered by the Nunavut Impact Review Board

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

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

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

1 have updated our terrestrial ecosystem management plan
2 numerous times.

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 As per our existing project certificate, seasonal
23 caribou group size thresholds were developed. For each
24 season where caribou might interact with the site or
25 road, group size thresholds were developed. For
26 example, during spring, the group size threshold is 12.

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

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

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

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

23 What this means: We must provide daily
24 notification site-wide to all employees. This is to
25 ensure a heightened level of awareness site-wide,
26 inform employees that caribou could be encountered, and

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

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

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

24 The highest level of monitoring and mitigation for
25 us is Level 3. If a caribou group larger than the
26 group size threshold are observed within 1.5 kilometre

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

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

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

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

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

25 Hopefully this helps you understand a little bit
26 better the mitigation and monitoring completed to

1 protect caribou at our site. I will now let Michel go
2 over the next slides with you.

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

5 Thank you, Manon for the presentation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 So we're having three new plan, as Manon was
25 mentioning, to manage and -- and monitor our site.
26 Those three plan are the conceptual Whale Tail Pit

1 expansion offsetting plan, the land farm design and
2 management plan, and the incinerator and composter
3 waste management plan.

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

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

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

25 This figure presents a monitoring location
26 included in that air quality and dust fall monitoring

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

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

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

13 MS. SQUIRES: Thank you, Michel.

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

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

25 A full-time equivalent represents the equivalent
26 of one person working full-time hours, so that's

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

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

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

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

1 maximize opportunities for the greatest number of
2 Inuit.

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

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

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

26 As mining is a historically male-dominated

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

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

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

26 The other main mechanism for socioeconomic

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

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

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

24 As part of the approved Whale Tail project, Agnico
25 Eagle was requested to develop a conceptual
26 socioeconomic closure plan. Agnico Eagle decided to

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

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

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

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

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

23 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Courtney.

24 Thank you, Madam Chair.

25 Thank you and hello to the community
26 representatives. My name's Jamie Quesnel with Agnico

1 Eagle.

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

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

24 Any shut down of the Whale Tail haul road will --
25 or the all-weather access road creates a very serious
26 challenge for Agnico Eagle, but, primarily, with the

1 Whale Tail haul road, the ore that has to be extracted
2 from the project, the Whale Tail project, cannot be
3 transported 65 kilometres down the haul road to the
4 mill at Meadowbank.

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

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

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

1 higher, reducing the profitability of the Whale Tail
2 project.

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

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

24 Agnico Eagle has worked really hard to avoid
25 having a gap in employment between the end of the
26 mining operations at Meadowbank and the start of the

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

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

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

21 The Board feels strongly that Nunavummiut
22 should not feel they are left without making
23 the choice between sacrificing caribou
24 populations for the sake of their economic
25 futures. While the Board recognizes that
26 there's some give and take required to allow

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

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

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

24 And in closing, Agnico Eagle would like to thank
25 the Nunavut Impact Review Board for the opportunity to
26 present our plan for the expanded Whale Tail project

1 here this week and especially today to the community
2 representatives. We thank all the community members,
3 the Elders, the Kivalliq Inuit association, the Baker
4 Lake Hunter and Trapper Organization, the Government of
5 Nunavut, and members of the federal family.

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

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

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

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

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

8 Thank you.

9 Community Roundtable

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

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

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

24 MR. KIMMALIARDJUK: My name is Eli Kimmaliardjuk.
25 I have a question. I don't know how to phrase it. The
26 Elders wanted -- the NIRB wanted to send an Elder to

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

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

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

21 And on the road, you have flags. They are moving
22 by the wind. You know the flags that are placed on the
23 road, the caribou knows, and he hears and because they
24 have that trail -- like, since they get near that area,
25 if they see the flag, they'll just stop. And then I
26 have never been up there, but I'm pretty sure you will

1 have these flags. I haven't been really in that area,
2 and I have not seen that area, but once the caribou
3 sees and hears the flag movement, they stop. Like,
4 some of them will just go ahead and -- because they
5 already know that there's a flag moving the -- it's
6 moved by the wind. They hear that noise. I haven't
7 heard, like, what you plan to do with those, and only
8 those.

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

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

1 wanted to mention the main knowledge that I have.

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

8 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

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

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

26 THE CHAIR: For the interveners in the

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

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

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

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

24 I think there is probably some that I didn't
25 understand, but I have a question about the kilometre.
26 How many kilometres will be? I'm pretty sure it's a

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

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

11 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

12 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

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

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

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

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

14 THE CHAIR: Tommy Ubluriak.

15 MR. UBLURIAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

24 Our parents, our grandparents, we practically grew
25 up on country food. Forever we've been asking, like,
26 Are we still going to continue eating off the country

1 food? Like, our animals have four legs. They're
2 walking on ground, and there are some birds that are
3 flying and marine animals. Us Inuit, this is our -- we
4 eat raw meat. Like, this is our diet.

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

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

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

26 But, today, they hear work going out -- going on

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

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

8 Thank you, Madam Chair.

9 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

10 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

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

17 Seeing none, Eva Elytook.

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

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

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

9 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

10 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

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

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

1 around our site, our proposed site expansion.

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

8 Thank you.

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

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

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

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

25 THE CHAIR: Any response from Environment
26 and Climate Change Canada?

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

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

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

13 THE CHAIR: Martha Hickes.

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

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

26 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

1 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 With the road design and the road slopes, we've
25 had discussions with the proponent. Also, we have had
26 some Elders come with the Hunters and Trappers

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

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

7 Next on my list, we have Angela Cook.

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

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

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

23 And when they make a road that's going to make the
24 caribou going so far, we've got to have access to that
25 too. So there's got to be room for us to try to
26 survive (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), and I want to know if

1 anybody's going to make a thorough fair for us to get
2 through there so that we can get out of their way and
3 go do our business too. We've got kids to feed.

4 (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

5 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

6 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6 1994, I started being with HTO, and I'm still a
7 hunter. Like, I'm -- I don't probably help much, but
8 sometimes it's very, very heavy, like, especially when
9 you are talking about my homeland, that very spot where
10 you're going to be working. The -- the road is going
11 up to where we used to live. We didn't have one single
12 road. We didn't have a road up there. Like, this is
13 where we would be walking during the summer, dog
14 teaming during the winter. This is what we did up
15 there, fishing, hunting.

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

23 And KI wasn't around, government wasn't -- the --
24 only government and the social worker, those were the
25 only two that were in our time that time. We're being
26 controlled. We are controlled by a lot of -- this is

1 very heavy to see it for myself. Like, this is very
2 heavy for me.

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

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

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

1 mid-winter, I don't know if I can go.

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

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

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

26 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

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

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

8 Seeing none, Timothy Evviuk.

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

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

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

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

1 difference of the caribou. It's from -- we -- we know
2 what herd they're from. We can -- we're -- we know.

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

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

17 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

18 MS. TURMEL: Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle.

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

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

26 THE CHAIR: Any comments from any of the

1 registered interveners?

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

7 (ADJOURNMENT)

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

10 Agnico Eagle.

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

23 There has been some work that was proposed for
24 Baker Lake. We met with the Baker Lake HTO in May, and
25 there was interest expressed in having a similar
26 program here at Baker Lake. That program has not yet

1 been approved or established for Baker Lake.

2 Thank you, Madam Chair.

3 THE CHAIR: Lucassie Nakoolak.

4 MR. NAKOOLAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

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

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

21 If I could make a comment -- a suggestion to --
22 there was comments made to nitrogen dioxide and
23 polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and petroleum
24 hydrocarbons. Yes, there was -- there was -- the
25 company was saying there's very little risk to human
26 health and to wildlife. I totally did not -- I was not

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

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

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

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

21 Inuit knowledge should be included more. From
22 today, we are finding out that Inuit are getting -- are
23 getting more and more weary, and we were told that if a
24 polar bear is hunted -- by our ancestors, we are told
25 various things on how -- how to make sure that the
26 animals are not being disturbed.

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

12 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

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

26 Dealing with the -- dealing with the potable water

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

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

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

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

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

1 So it's -- it -- it wouldn't be a -- a very big concern
2 there. Thank you.

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

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

13 KIA?

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

16 I -- I heard the comment in regard to the waters
17 that's being -- if you will be monitoring the waters
18 over the basin. I started that program in 2002 in
19 Baker Lake before actually mining start. That program
20 started very small program as a water sampling program.
21 When I took over the position in KIA, there was no
22 baseline data to make informal [sic] decisions at the
23 time. And one of the issues that -- that we had at
24 that time was mining for us in terms of resources it's
25 not about the -- the rock itself. It's about having a
26 good management plan to enable to mine without putting

1 contaminants in the water system.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 results also, we -- we're happy with it. Thank you.

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

4 Seeing none, Mary Tuktujuk.

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

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

17 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

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

1 diluted by the wind very rapidly as it moves away from
2 the project.

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

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

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

23 But we also want to take measurements to make sure
24 that when the model was used for the predictions, that
25 the predictions were safe enough that they were
26 accurate. And so to do this, we also measure at the

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

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

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

15 Seeing none, Jackie Napayok.

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

22 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

25 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank
26 you for your question. Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

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

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

22 THE CHAIR: Jackie Napayok.

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

26 You put the chemicals into the tailings pond.

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

4 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

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

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

1 because if there was to -- that to be put in that lake,
2 we -- they would be facing danger. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

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

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

14 Seeing none, Paula Kigjugalik Hughson.

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

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

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

26 Dear Nunavut Impact Review Board. Thank you

1 for the opportunity to ask some questions for
2 clarification and to better understand the
3 Whale tip [sic] -- Pit Expansion Project
4 owned and managed by Agnico Eagle Mines.

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 Question 4: Are there scientific studies to
26 correlate air traffic with caribou disturbance from

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 Question 4: If these chemicals enter the systems

1 of mammals or water bodies, whether it be -- or water
2 bodies, whether it be water tables, streams, lakes,
3 overflow from spring melt runoff, what is the plan and
4 who is in charge?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 Question: What measures does AEM have in place to

1 minimize the above-mentioned cumulative effects on
2 mammals, fish, water, and air?

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

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

1 disassociate people from the land that is in their
2 backyard. This has been said many times at different
3 meetings before this project.

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

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

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

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

24 I am not aware of AEM asking the community of
25 Baker Lake what they would like for a legacy project.
26 I understand Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreements have

1 been signed for both these projects for Inuit, but as a
2 Hamlet, we serve all people in our community.
3 Infrastructure is greatly needed as our community
4 grows.

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

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

23 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

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

5 Your computer just died.

6 Just one second.

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

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

25 And dealing with the scientific studies to
26 correlate traffic, I'll turn that over to Corey.

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

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

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

25 So those are good questions and things that we
26 have accounted for, and I hope that answers your

1 question.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 there's reasonable terms and conditions to -- to manage
2 these activities.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 MR. GROLEAU: Yeah.

25 MR. QUESNEL: Okay.

26 MR. GROLEAU: Michel Groleau, Agnico Eagle.

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

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

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

22 MR. QUESNEL: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 Other than the \$1 million, as you mentioned, that

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

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

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

26 Regarding your point about legacy infrastructure.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 We also have in the lease a provision that says

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

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

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

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

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

1 date.

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

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

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

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

25 Seeing none, it's almost 5:00, and we're going to
26 break for supper soon. And there are -- I have

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 they would work in places to try and support -- because
2 they wanted their husbands and -- to go out hunting.
3 They didn't get paid.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 The father is very proud. Like, in my mind, I

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23

24 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 6:45 PM

25

26 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 6:46 PM)

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

3 Legal counsel.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 So what we are going to show is a series of

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 happening.

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

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

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

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

23 And then, finally, at the top of each map, you'll
24 see the date, and that date will change as the map --
25 as the animations play. So it will -- it will show you
26 which days the -- where the caribou were on a

1 particular day.

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

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

24 Here we are back in -- here we are in spring of
25 2017 in April and May. Here comes the Qamanirjuaq
26 herd. And there it goes across the project. That was

1 the full migration of the Lorillard herd.

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

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

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

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

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

1 now August. They have moved further east at this
2 point. And then in the fall, they approach the area
3 again.

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

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

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

26 Now we're moving to the spring of 2018. In this

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

11 We also note that a significant portion of the
12 collared caribou in this animation encounter the roads,
13 the different roads of the project when the road was
14 open, and we noticed that if you look at some of the
15 collar tracks, you'll see that some of the collars,
16 when they get to the road, they start to parallel along
17 the edge of the road before they cross, or they stop
18 and come -- and turn around. Others do cross, though.

19 So here we are in early April, and there are a few
20 collars approaching the road. It is closed here. You
21 can see one that just went down the road a little bit
22 now; another one that went down and one that went up.
23 And at this point, there are some new collars who are
24 put onto caribou, and so we have a lot more
25 information. Again, you can see the road is opening
26 and closing, and we have collars that are moving north

1 and south along the road alignment along side it and
2 others that are crossing it.

3 And you can see by the -- the tracks that are made
4 on the map that there are a lot of tracks on the west
5 side of the -- the roads that go north-south along the
6 road itself, along the side of it. So there's fairly
7 heavy movement up and down the side of the road as
8 opposed to across it. So, again, this suggests that --
9 at least visually suggests that the caribou are
10 responding to something associated with the road. We
11 don't know what that is, whether it is traffic, people,
12 the road structure, or something else, but there seems
13 to be a response.

14 And the -- the next animation is the fall of 2018.
15 Again, here we have caribou moving from west to east.
16 And a few things to note, the -- the tracks of the
17 collars, the collared caribou seem to concentrate on
18 the -- the east side of the Meadowbank road. I think
19 Corey referred -- it was referred to earlier as
20 "milling".

21 Some of the them do cross it, but you can see the
22 caribou are -- are within about 25, 30 kilometres of --
23 of the Meadowbank road. That -- that line around the
24 road there is a 25-kilometre marker. Here we have
25 caribou that are crossing the road and others who have
26 sort of stayed behind, and we have some animals that

1 appear to be moving away from the road but heading back
2 east. And, again, we have some more animals that
3 are -- that have headed -- headed back east again
4 moving north and then coming back to the project.

5 Also note that the roads were closed for -- for
6 only a handful of days during this season in 2018.
7 There were no prolonged road closures.

8 And now we're into November. And, again, I would
9 note if you look at the -- the map, you can see the
10 lines that were made by the collars. You can see the
11 concentration of lines on the right side of the road as
12 opposed to the more direct lines that you have on the
13 left side, which is sort of migratory tracks. So,
14 again, certainly caribou were -- were aggregated on
15 the -- the east side of the road for sometime in the
16 fall before they eventually crossed it.

17 Now, we're going to the final animation. This is
18 the spring of 2019. This takes us up into June of this
19 year. And here we have the caribou moving from east to
20 west. In the spring of 2019, the Whale Tail road and
21 Meadowbank roads were closed for up to -- a period of
22 up to 27 days, so a prolonged period of closure. You
23 can see the roads are marked in red meaning they're
24 closed, and you can see the caribou approaching the
25 roads.

26 And in this particular case, there are -- you can

1 see there isn't much hesitation. Seemingly, the
2 caribou appear to move fairly smoothly through the
3 project, and most of the caribou that were wearing
4 collars, when they encountered the roads, they
5 encountered a road that was closed as opposed to one
6 that was open. I think this is the last collar. There
7 he goes. Yup.

8 So those are the animations. As I said, I'd
9 encourage people to -- if you have an opportunity, to
10 review them for yourselves. One of the pitfalls of
11 animations is that we can probably all see different
12 things when we look at them. So I think it's
13 worthwhile taking a second look at them.

14 Thank you.

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

17 So this is not based upon a huge amount of collars
18 or a huge amount of data. It's not a definitive --
19 it's not giving us definitive answers, but it is
20 suggesting that the road does seem to be having some
21 effect on caribou.

22 And I'd also -- in our view, it shows that good
23 road management and traffic management on the road will
24 result in very minimal impacts, and that's the
25 direction we would like to see this go.

26 Thank you.

1 Nunavut Impact Review Board Questions the Government of
2 Nunavut

3 THE CHAIR: I have two questions for the
4 Government of Nunavut, and one to the Hunters and
5 Trappers Organization.

6 Can the Government of Nunavut comment on whether
7 it's satisfied that Agnico Eagle fully considered all
8 relevant available research studies and other
9 information in their assessment of the potential
10 impacts to caribou?

11 And my second question, both to the Government of
12 Nunavut and Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers
13 Organization, is there any way to understand from the
14 gatehouse data when hunting off the road occurred and
15 to see if there's a correlation to the movement near
16 the road -- the movement of caribou near the road?

17 Government of Nunavut.

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

20 We believe that Agnico Eagle did review and use,
21 for the most part, all the best available information
22 that was available for the project, and we did our best
23 to provide every bit of information we had that they
24 might require. We did identify in our technical
25 submission for the technical portion that this
26 analysis -- this type of analysis should've been done,

1 but in the end, we ended up tackling that piece
2 ourselves.

3 On your second point -- question about the -- the
4 gatehouse information and was hunting taking place,
5 that's an excellent question because we don't know the
6 reason why caribou might be avoiding the road,
7 whether -- as Mr. Atkinson said, whether it's hunting
8 on the road, traffic on the road, the design of the
9 road, or some combination of all of those things. And
10 we don't access the gatehouse information on who was
11 hunting on the road at the time. So, perhaps, the
12 Hunters and Trappers Organization might be able to help
13 with that.

14 THE CHAIR: Baker Lake HTO.

15 MR. AKSAWNEE: Richard Aksawnee, HTO.

16 As far as hunters' information at the gatehouse,
17 we don't have that information. Agnico Eagle would
18 have that information as all the hunters are signing in
19 and signing back out. Once they use the road when
20 Meadowbank first opened up, I remember the Hunters and
21 Trappers Organization used to hand out, upon request,
22 the road passes.

23 That's how we monitored how many hunters were on
24 the road on any given year, but it -- I think that
25 lasted for about three to four years. Just the
26 resources to paper, all the work that needed to be done

1 to do that -- that type of work and trying to look at
2 other day-to-day operation, we -- our office decided
3 that we -- we should -- we -- we stopped handing out
4 these road passes, but that's what we started off with,
5 was hunters would come to the Hunters and Trappers
6 office to pick up a road pass before they were actually
7 allowed on the Agnico road.

8 Watching these animations, there's -- there's a
9 lot of effect on the road. It's not only Agnico
10 Eagle's part in that one. It's what I say at every
11 hearing. It's us hunters as well that play a big, big
12 role, as well as predation. I don't know if that
13 answers your question.

14 Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you for those responses.

16 Guy.

17 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you. Guy Alikut, member
18 for NIRB.

19 My question is directing to Nunavut government.
20 Looking at the -- coming from the east, they seem to go
21 through that. Maybe -- maybe they smell something.
22 Maybe ten -- like, they smell ten miles, and -- and
23 they know -- and they probably know around there. They
24 start gathering over there. Maybe the leader of the
25 herd can be the deed [sic]. Like, if there are 50,
26 they usually have one leader. If they don't pass --

1 and then if the -- they're not afraid to pass even if
2 they are being -- people are shooting at them for
3 hunting.

4 There's different ways coming from that area --
5 coming from the west. Maybe have you ever considered
6 or -- like, where they come from? The HTO, have you
7 asked the hunters why they are going through that
8 direction? I'm wondering: Have you ever asked the
9 hunters, harvesters, especially our Elders who have the
10 knowledge of hunting? If you can answer me on that,
11 thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

15 This is really new analyses that we're just
16 getting done now, and it's still preliminary, so it's
17 still very early. And we have in the past done many
18 traditional knowledge studies, interviews with Elders
19 over different projects. So that's something that
20 we'll definitely look at.

21 In this case, we're looking forward to having the
22 discussion about this with the Hunters and Trappers
23 Organization, the Kivalliq Inuit Association, and
24 Agnico Eagle through the terrestrial advisory group
25 that's established for the project and -- and
26 continuing to develop these analyses as we get more

1 information. Thank you.

2 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you for -- Guy Alikut,
3 board of director for NIRB.

4 When you said there was questions -- like, they --
5 Elders know. Up to the road is -- was built, I
6 think -- you need to ask how the people feel, the
7 hunters, like, not just guessing game. They know the
8 wind. They know -- like, you can -- they can -- you
9 can get answers from them. Hire a staff who will ask
10 the hunters, harvesters.

11 THE CHAIR: Phillip.

12 MR. KADLUN: Thank you, Madam Chair.
13 Phillip Kadlun, Nunavut Impact Review Board.

14 (LOST AUDIO FEED - OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN). I have
15 heard -- different number of closure. Maybe the
16 Government of Nunavut and/or Agnico Eagle can answer my
17 question. My question is that those numbers that you
18 quote, 12 days, 34 days, or -- I'm wondering whether
19 those days were consecutive or -- or different --
20 different days apart during the time of caribou
21 migration.

22 (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN), Madam Chair.

23 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

24 MR. ATKINSON: Stephen Atkinson on behalf of
25 the Government of Nunavut.

26 I'll endeavour to provide an answer, and then,

1 perhaps, pass the mic to somebody from Agnico.

2 In these animations, we utilized information
3 provided by Agnico Eagle on the road closure dates. If
4 you recall from some of the animations, there were
5 periods of prolonged road closure where, for example,
6 in the fall of 2017, the Meadowbank road was closed for
7 12 days straight, and that was one of the years -- that
8 was the year the caribou seemed to move quite
9 seamlessly through the project.

10 In the spring of 2019, there was a closure, I
11 think, up to 27 days on the Whale Tail and -- and --
12 and some of the Meadowbank road, and, again, that was
13 the year that the caribou seemed to kind of move
14 through the project quite -- quite well.

15 In the fall of 2018 and spring 2018, there were --
16 there were -- there were no long periods of road
17 closure like that. There were a few days in the fall
18 of 2018, and I can't recall how many in the spring of
19 2018. But if you remember the animation at that time,
20 the road was flashing red and -- on and off red,
21 indicating it was open/close, open/close. So rather
22 than a long period, it was more of a sort of on and off
23 situation.

24 Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Catherine.

26 MS. EMRICK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 Catherine Emrick, NIRB Board member.

2 A question for GN. Are there caribou protection
3 measures, commitments made by Agnico Eagle Mines that
4 you believe could be better or more fully implemented?

5 Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

7 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
8 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

9 In our final written submission, we had a proposal
10 for a certain type of caribou protection measure. In
11 the past couple of days, past three days of hearings,
12 we have discussed this in great detail with Agnico
13 Eagle, and, today, we came to an agreement on an --
14 what we see as an improvement from what is currently in
15 place.

16 So we are going to be submitting that. We -- we
17 literally just finalized it a couple of hours ago. So
18 we'll be submitting that into the record as our final
19 submission, and it's supported by Agnico Eagle. I hope
20 that helps. Thank you.

21 MS. EMRICK: Thank you.

22 Thank you, Madam Chair.

23 THE CHAIR: Baker Lake HTO.

24 MR. AKSAWNEE: (LOST AUDIO FEED - OTHER
25 LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Not in response to this last
26 question but the previous one where Phillip questioned

1 the GN about how many consecutive days of road closure
2 there was during migration, when we started -- when we
3 first hired our HTO monitor or Hunters and Trappers
4 Organization monitor on the road, our monitors involved
5 right from Day 1 of the monitoring of the closure
6 during migration. At the time, back in 2017, that's
7 when we -- we didn't have a monitor during the fall
8 migration, but we had a board member joining in on the
9 monitor -- monitoring phase, and it took about two --
10 two to three weeks consecutive. Like, it was -- I
11 think it was almost three weeks consecutively the road
12 was closed.

13 So I just wanted to bring that to your attention,
14 and I forgot to mention, when they first came up here
15 on what kind of effects this -- these collared caribou
16 data, information, animations. Us hunters, we know --
17 we're starting to notice a lot of musk ox as well. So
18 musk ox and caribou do not intertwine with each other.
19 They're constantly fighting for the same vegetation to
20 eat. We're seeing a very high abundance of musk ox,
21 and they're fighting for their territory. Like, I just
22 wanted to bring that up for your clarification.

23 Thank you, Madam Chair.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you for those responses.

25 Back to the community roundtable. Next we have
26 Eva Voisey.

1 Community Roundtable

2 MS. VOISEY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

3 That -- regarding that caribou migration, I wanted
4 to ask in regards to that because Inuit used to tell me
5 here at Meadowbank -- near Meadowbank they would stop
6 them from crossing. I'm wondering if this is true
7 because we usually come, and we get all the dry
8 caribou. We come here -- when we come at this time of
9 the year, we usually -- like, when you ask the -- the
10 summer didn't make any dry meat because there was no
11 caribou, and some would even ask -- they even told us,
12 You should bring caribou. Like, I know Baker Lake used
13 to have -- used to have abundance of caribou. Like,
14 but, today, we don't see that.

15 I want to get a clarification on, like, just
16 hearing. I'm just hearing. I don't live in Baker
17 Lake, but I have heard that the mining companies did
18 not let the caribous -- sometimes it's that -- that's
19 what they used to do, like, because they don't want to
20 close down the roads. I only heard of that. If I'm
21 mistaken, forgive me.

22 And, also, in Baker Lake, I want to support Baker
23 Lake. They have done a lot, and because people -- it's
24 the -- the community is very close to the mining camp.
25 Like, you are meeting over there, and they're working
26 at the new Whale Tail and right on the spot where

1 people go hunting. That's the hunting ground for the
2 hunters, harvesters.

3 I know you have supported in a lot of way by
4 giving employment to locals. Like -- and you have
5 festivals, but this is affecting. Like -- like, not --
6 this -- this is not very much that you support the
7 community. I just want to support the community of
8 Baker Lake. If they were to close it, we wanted --

9 There was a question. What's going to happen to
10 the road? We -- you -- are we going to keep that road
11 even after you are closed? Like, we're just here.
12 We're not going to be using that road. Only people
13 from Baker Lake will be affected.

14 I just wanted to support them because there was a
15 question about the road once the mine closes in 2025.
16 Are you going to reclaim that road that you built from
17 here to -- up there? I would want Agnico to ask the
18 community of Baker Lake what you want the road to --
19 what you want them to do with the road. Baker Lake can
20 make their own decision, but I just wanted to support
21 Baker Lake. If Baker Lake wants to or if they don't
22 want to, it's up to them. I just want to support them.

23 That in Rankin, that we have mining, nickel mine.
24 What was it? Utilidor. They have utilidor. It was
25 built. Up to today, they still have utilidor. This is
26 what the mining paid to Rankin Inlet. Like, they --

1 they did build a utilidor.

2 That's something that they left for the community,
3 every road. There's a road in every -- near the
4 houses. It will be nice to see because this is a
5 really big lake. If Baker Lake can -- they can get
6 utilidor and they get our water from Nipissak Lake in
7 Rankin Inlet, which is not very -- it has been going on
8 for 60 years. And when they built new buildings,
9 they -- right way, they get utilidor.

10 Like, in Baker, we would use less water -- of
11 water trucks, and we wouldn't have so much to look
12 forward to infrastructure. The water -- water trucks.
13 This is something I would want to see for Baker Lake,
14 and how long it would take to -- I have no clue how
15 long it would take for you to build a utilidor for the
16 community of Baker Lake.

17 Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

19 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair.

20 Thank you for the question. Jamie Quesnel, Agnico
21 Eagle.

22 Just with the caribou, we feel we're -- we have
23 the controls in place to allow the migration to occur.
24 We're not perfect. We're -- we're working together to
25 improve, but we feel we're -- we're doing our best to
26 allow that to occur.

1 Dealing with the all-weather access road from
2 Baker Lake to Meadowbank, based on our interim closure
3 plan that's been approved by multiple parties, that
4 road will be reclaimed. All the bridges would be
5 removed. But, typically, based on the regulation, we
6 would have to provide a final closure plan one year
7 before closure that would be -- it would have to go
8 through approval. But right now, the road would be
9 reclaimed. Bridges would be removed.

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Would any of the registered
12 interveners like to respond?

13 Seeing none, Amos Voisey.

14 MR. VOISEY: Thank you, Madam Chair. Amos
15 Voisey of Whale Cove.

16 Actually, Agnico Eagle already answered the
17 question. So I'm just going to stay quiet. Thank you.

18 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

19 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
20 Quesnel.

21 Thank you for your comment.

22 THE CHAIR: Tommy Ubluriak.

23 MR. UBLURIAK: I just wanted to get some
24 clarification with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and
25 traditional knowledge. We're speaking to caribou
26 migration. During the wind in the summer, they know

1 exactly which migration route to use. The Elders and
2 through their traditional knowledge, we -- the younger
3 people have been told they have hoofs. So the hoofs in
4 between, they have like a -- like a 'V' shape, and they
5 use that as a marker to migrate. That's what I learned
6 from my father and the knowledge I gained from my
7 father.

8 And they usually go in the direction of where the
9 sun is shining, and then they begin to migrate south
10 with the sun on their back, and that's the knowledge
11 that the caribou themselves have. They use those --
12 the sun as a -- almost like a gauge as to which
13 migrate -- which way to migrate, and we have been told
14 never to shoot the first herd -- from the first herd,
15 and that was a rule, an unwritten rule, that we gained
16 knowledge from our -- our fathers.

17 And it seems like they're getting a little bit
18 more tamer when they're approaching. They will go from
19 east -- go from east. They -- and if there's airplanes
20 that are -- that are close by, they will tend to be
21 disturbed and move away. They look for good grazing
22 areas, especially in the summertime, and they are very
23 disturbed by the many mosquitoes.

24 I learned from watching my father. We saw -- we
25 were observing a caribou for four days, and we -- while
26 we were observing the caribou, the caribou just flat

1 out and -- and died. We didn't know what the reason
2 was; perhaps, it was lacking water. And we went to it,
3 and it was -- it wasn't -- it had no fat on it. It was
4 almost skeletal. Probably, it died from age. There
5 are -- the bull caribou tend to go near where there's
6 water and along the shorelines near -- they -- they --
7 they know different things just like humans.

8 Thank you. That's for all now, Madam Chair.

9 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

12 Thank you for your comments.

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

15 Seeing none, Phillipa Iksiraq.

16 MS. IKSIRAQ: Thank you, Madam Chair.

17 I don't really have too many comments to make.
18 Yesterday, today, and the topic and the discussion of
19 caribou, I have a very brief comment to make. As
20 Inuit, we live on country food, and sometimes it was
21 very difficult at times, and then we would go fishing
22 if the caribou weren't around. We survived solely --
23 mainly on caribou. I heard some very strong comments
24 made, and I will try to do the same.

25 When we don't eat caribou for a certain amount of
26 time, we tend to get more unhealthy, and I am very

1 pleased when people bring us caribou meat. I was
2 raised by a leader, and he knew a lot about the
3 environment, and I was told never to say things against
4 other people, to be a good wife. Sometimes we hear
5 of -- of things -- or from people that are -- that
6 don't follow good behaviour. So we have to be good to
7 one another.

8 We were watching an animation as to where the
9 caribou migrate during spring and fall seasons in the
10 different years. When we were young, we used to walk,
11 and we used to see that caribou migrate. They never --
12 we never noticed any caribou migrating back to where
13 they came from, and some -- from what I understand,
14 today, there are roads being built.

15 The caribou I see are having different behaviour.
16 We see some caribou tending to go back, but I want to
17 say that I'm very pleased with our economy, especially
18 up here. Because in the past, we were dying of famine,
19 and we -- it was very difficult at -- in those times.
20 There are caribou crossings, natural caribou crossings.

21 I wonder if it's sometimes difficult for caribou
22 to cross because of the -- the -- the slope that's --
23 that are -- that are there and being built. And
24 caribou tend to get weaker if there's no water bodies
25 for them to drink from. It's one of the very essential
26 things that we need to survive. Water is very

1 essential. We need to ensure that there are no impacts
2 to them. We need to ensure that there are no --
3 there's no additional impacts to any of the water
4 bodies, including nitrogen dioxide.

5 When the winds are -- when the prevailing winds --
6 we can see sometimes at times the water is impacted
7 by -- by some impact from the mine. I am becoming
8 [sic] at a stage in my life where I am very -- where I
9 find it very difficult to concen -- like, to -- to --
10 to think and to get thoughts going in my mind. I am
11 very sorry that I forgot things that I wrote down. I
12 left them at home.

13 I wanted to ask the mining company, Agnico Eagle,
14 and -- that there are -- are -- that the company has
15 built sloped areas where the caribou can cross -- and
16 easier and more at a lower level. How many crossings
17 have -- has the company made up to today? I'd like
18 that information.

19 The caribou crossings -- the second question to --
20 to -- to that -- a follow-up question to that, I'm
21 going to either ask it in the form of a question or
22 just make a comment. When you -- once you return the
23 treated water and if there are any chemicals that
24 may -- that -- that may go into the receiving waters,
25 will the fish be returned? Inuit -- through Inuit
26 traditional knowledge, we would not -- we would be --

1 we would be told never to fish there again should a
2 lake be impacted in any way.

3 It -- it's going to cause -- people are going to
4 be -- will tend -- will not tend to go fishing there
5 should -- should lake be impacted. And once you return
6 the fish back into the -- to the lakes or to a lake --
7 some of the nitrogen dioxide, yes, and there are
8 chemicals that are in the environment. It's not very
9 good for wildlife. It's not good for vegetation,
10 wildlife, and to humans.

11 I am not really sure who to make this comment to
12 and questions to -- who to direct them to. I -- I only
13 know how to voice my concerns about hunting, and I hear
14 news from the people that work at the mine site about
15 what's happening there. We used to spend time to go
16 to -- we -- we -- we -- we'd go to meetings, and
17 sometimes it was very difficult to analyze some of the
18 information that we were being given and receiving.

19 It would be very good if we could, perhaps, get
20 better one-on-one information or as a smaller group
21 because there's some of us that don't use computers,
22 perhaps, by way of disseminating -- disseminating
23 information by way of newsletter because it would be
24 easier for those that don't use computers. I will stop
25 here for now.

26 Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 THE CHAIR: (AUDIO FEED LOST - OTHER
2 LANGUAGE SPOKEN) not everyone can have access to
3 electronic information, and make that a reminder to
4 interveners and proponents as well about getting
5 information to communities.

6 Agnico Eagle.

7 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair, and
8 thank you for the questions. Jamie Quesnel, Agnico
9 Eagle.

10 Dealing with the -- the slopes on the road, we do
11 have areas on -- on the roads that are sloped. Where
12 the migration occurs on the -- on the roads from the
13 Meadowbank to Whale Tail, we have about 50 locations
14 where it's sloped 4 to 1, so it's -- it's a flatter
15 slope. And we are still in discussions with the
16 Kivalliq Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut,
17 the Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers to look at new
18 areas.

19 Dealing with your -- your comment regarding the --
20 or our treated water. We go through a very vigorous
21 process to get the approval. There's a lot of studies
22 that are done related to -- related to us discharging
23 the water to the environment. When we discharge the
24 lake, there are tests in that lake related to water,
25 fish, sediments at the bottom of the lake. So the fish
26 are there where we are discharging our treated water

1 to.

2 So I assure you that the water meets the
3 requirements based on the regulations that we have to
4 provide the information to different boards and
5 different government agencies.

6 Before I turn it over to -- to Michel and also
7 Courtney, based on the economy, this is something that
8 we wanted to ensure and -- and hopefully get the
9 approval to add another four years of mining to provide
10 the training and employment for -- for people in this
11 area and to ensure we provide additional opportunities
12 for jobs and keep the economy going. As you stated,
13 you're very pleased about the economy, and we are
14 pleased about it also.

15 So, Michel, if you don't mind talking about the --
16 the NO2.

17 MR. GROLEAU: Michel Groleau, Agnico Eagle.

18 Thank you for your question. Thanks Madam
19 board -- Madam Chair.

20 Related to the nitrogen dioxide, I think we -- we
21 have a lot of discussion this week about this subject.
22 We're having different opinion between Environment
23 Canada, Health Canada, and Agnico Eagle related to the
24 way we're going to monitor nitrogen dioxide. However,
25 each parties agrees on the impact on the health related
26 to nitrogen dioxide, and it's a low risk to the

1 population and the people that are going to go harvest
2 in that area, and I would invite Health Canada to speak
3 of that effect, if possible. Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Would any of the registered
5 interveners like to respond?

6 Health Canada.

7 MR. PARTRIDGE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Paul
8 Partridge from Health Canada.

9 Thank you very much for -- for raising that.

10 Thank you, Phillipa. Some very important things
11 that you have raised. I think it is important for us
12 to consider a range of things with this project.

13 And on the topic of nitrogen dioxide, I think
14 there's a lot of information that's been shared over
15 this week. We have certainly benefitted from the
16 information, the assessment that Agnico Eagle's
17 provided in their risk assessment and, certainly, the
18 additional clarification and discussion on the topic
19 today.

20 Health Canada has reviewed that information and
21 has put forward what it thinks is a reasonable
22 recommendation for the Board's consideration of
23 continuous monitoring for NO₂. We haven't suggested
24 anything else beyond that and recognize the value of --
25 of traditional land use and harvesting as a subsistent
26 thing, and we -- we would not have any concerns with --

1 with that aspect of -- of the project at all based on
2 the information from Agnico Eagle's risk assessment.

3 So it really does come down to Health Canada and
4 Environment Canada -- well, Health Canada requesting
5 the Board's consideration of continuous monitoring for
6 NO2 so we can compare apples to apples. So to the end,
7 Nunavut Ambient Air Quality Standards as well as the
8 Canadian Ambient Quality Standards, with that actual
9 information, as opposed to modeling information from --
10 from data that's available.

11 So I hope that addresses that specific concern
12 for -- for you, and I know it has been raised as a
13 topic from a number of other people around the table.
14 Certainly, NO2 is -- is something to be considered, and
15 the -- the company has provided consideration to NO2,
16 as has been shared by a number of the experts related
17 to their modeling of the information for NO2 in the
18 atmosphere around the project area as well as their
19 assessment of potential risks from exposure to NO2.

20 Thank you.

21 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
22 registered interveners like to respond?

23 Seeing none, Tapisa Tattunee.

24 MS. TATTUNIEE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

25 My question is about employment. You stated in
26 your presentations that there will be 99 Inuit

1 employees if the expansion does go on. If -- how many
2 employees will you have overall, like comparing Inuit
3 and non-Inuit? Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

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

7 Right now with the Meadowbank complex, we have
8 850 employees and 600 contractors. So for the
9 Meadowbank complex, 1,450, and 30 percent are Inuit
10 employees.

11 THE CHAIR: Tapisa.

12 MS. TATTUNIEE: Thank you.

13 Would you be able to tell us, like, their job
14 titles, or is that too much to ask?

15 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

16 MS. SQUIRES: Courtney Squires, Agnico
17 Eagle.

18 It would take quite a long time to go through all
19 of the job titles that are outlined for Inuit or held
20 by Inuit currently at the project, although that's
21 information that we can provide. For the expansion
22 project, the jobs are typically in the semiskilled,
23 skilled categories, so tradespeople and heavy equipment
24 operators.

25 THE CHAIR: Tapisa.

26 MS. TATTUNIEE: Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
2 registered interveners like to respond?

3 Seeing none, it's 8:00. So let's take a 10-minute
4 break. After the break, (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN).
5 (ADJOURNMENT)

6 THE CHAIR: We will begin our hearing once
7 again.

8 Basil Kayavinik is next on the list. Is he still
9 here?

10 MR. KAYAVINIK: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm
11 just going to say what I feel. I'm wondering -- first
12 of all, can I say whatever I want? Because tomorrow I
13 won't be here.

14 THE CHAIR: You can say whatever.

15 MR. KAYAVINIK: Thank you, Madam Chair. My
16 name is Basil Kayavinik. I'm a Baker Lake resident,
17 and I -- I was living in Arviat for a while, but been
18 back to Baker for eight years. I'm not too sure -- I
19 had a wife from -- Theresa was her name, Katuk
20 [phonetic]. Alakut [phoentic] was her Inuktitut name,
21 but when I married her, her name was Theresa Katuk.
22 Back in 2030 [sic], she passed away, died of cancer. I
23 just wanted to say that.

24 I'm very happy to be here -- here to hear the
25 hearing. On Monday and yesterday, I wasn't here,
26 though. Today I'm finally able to come here and listen

1 to the hearing. Couple days ago -- yesterday, I came
2 back. I have a cabin -- not too far from Baker Lake, I
3 do have a cabin, and tomorrow I'll be heading back to
4 my cabin.

5 The question that I have -- I'm just going to say
6 what I feel. As Inuit -- are very quiet -- like, we
7 don't speak out very much. When the white people --
8 like, we hear the white people speaking, and it's like
9 they're -- like, Inuit are too quiet. I just wanted to
10 say that.

11 This summer, we seen a lot of vessels, one that
12 was -- like, the -- I saw a very big vessel that was
13 just parked down there, and there was barges that were
14 coming back and forth. And when the vessels -- like,
15 the seals and the marine mammals start -- whales --
16 like, we can see them. I went down towards the salted
17 area this summer; I never saw any seals. The -- I
18 don't know if people from Chester and Rankin seen them,
19 but from Uvayuk [phonetic], they are closest to
20 Chester. I don't know how many of us have gone to that
21 area from Baker Lake. We go hunting to the end of the
22 lake and further down. And earlier I was hearing about
23 the caribou that are walking. Like, you were telling
24 us they stay. It's not only the caribou that stay in
25 one place. They're -- you have to consider also the
26 grizzlies, wolverine, wolves, foxes are the ones that

1 have four legs, and they -- they come, especially the
2 grizzly bear, polar bears, any kind of land animals.
3 Like, they -- we are increasing danger when they come
4 to us, and sometimes they'll sneak on us. It's scary.

5 For example, I can -- I had dogs in Arviat, and I
6 was a dog musher, and when I was going to go -- I was
7 feeding my dogs, like, axing the meat, the -- my
8 dogs -- there were ten dogs that I had; the four were
9 barking. I didn't know what they were barking at. I
10 didn't know what they were barking at, but the three
11 continued bark -- the one was the closest. I even
12 thought -- I even started wondering if it was going to
13 attack me, the dog. The dog that I was trying to feed
14 was growling, and the sound of that dog changed, and
15 when I looked backwards, not once a polar bear has -- I
16 have encountered a polar bear like -- polar bears are
17 not scared at all. Like, we have to keep an eye for us
18 that go out hunting anywhere.

19 I wanted to say what I felt, and the mining
20 companies -- I have a question to Agnico in regards to
21 the -- the haul trucks and for us that have the
22 Honda -- like, I think it would be better if the haul
23 trucks can stop before -- because the people driving
24 Honda have to, like -- like, if a Honda tips over, we
25 can get up with two or three people. The haul truck,
26 if they are to fell (sic), like, you can't put them

1 back up because they're too heavy.

2 I have seen on TV -- you probably seen that down
3 south when the big trucks tip over, this is just the
4 example that I'm talking about. If that one who was
5 trying to get back on -- I wanted to say something
6 about that.

7 I want to stay longer to hear the hearing, but I
8 love being outland. This is a -- I don't want to lose
9 my tradition. For us that have Hondas -- I have a
10 Honda too, but I would rather be walking because I like
11 walking.

12 When I first started driving Honda, and if I go
13 pretty far to hunt, it would take me days. I don't
14 know how many days. I'm sore, and I'm -- now I can't
15 even barely move around. I wanted to mention that.
16 It's just a comment to you all. Thank you very much
17 for allowing me to speak.

18 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

19 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
20 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

21 Thank you for your comments. Just with the haul
22 trucks, just for clarification, there's no haul trucks
23 on the all-weather access road between Baker and
24 Meadowbank. And from Kilometre 85 in, it is -- it's a
25 private area, so all the haul trucks are not
26 interacting with -- with light vehicles. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Would any of the other
2 registered intervenors like to respond?

3 Seeing none, Guy.

4 Nunavut Impact Review Board Questions Government of
5 Nunavut

6 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you. Guy Alikut, Board
7 of director for NIRB.

8 The animation that the Nunavut Government showed
9 to us -- I have a question I wanted to ask. I missed
10 that. But I wanted to ask the government -- I wanted
11 to ask the Nunavut Government how the caribou that are
12 collared -- some pass and some go different ways, like,
13 there was lots that -- and there was a few that I saw
14 on the -- how do you know -- how do you know if they're
15 abundance or if there's only five or if there's one
16 that has a collar goes with only -- how do you know?
17 That's my question.

18 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

21 For each individual collar, we don't know for sure
22 if it's by itself or if it's with a small group -- a
23 small group of other caribous or a very large group.
24 So for each one, we really don't know for sure.

25 But we know based on Inuit traditional knowledge
26 and scientific knowledge that caribou in spring and

1 fall migrations mostly travel in groups, so sometimes
2 small groups, sometimes medium groups, sometimes large
3 groups. So with only one collar, we don't know. So
4 that's why it's important for these studies to put out
5 a number of collars. So we know that -- if we put out
6 more collars, we know that the chances of all of the
7 animals being alone is very low. So on average, we
8 know that if we see several collars doing the same
9 behaviour, we can be quite certain that it is not
10 individuals; it's larger groups of caribou. Thank you.

11 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you. Board of director
12 for NIRB.

13 And the other -- thank you for clarifying some.
14 But the ones that we saw with lots of herd, looking at
15 that, I couldn't really believe it because it could
16 be -- it's that -- it could just be put in there.
17 Thank you.

18 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

21 I didn't really get the question through the --
22 through the translation.

23 MR. ALIKUT: Guy Alikut. Let me -- so
24 you're not for certain that when you put, like, 2,000
25 here and small group there -- you don't know -- you
26 don't know 100 percent. You're not knowing 100

1 percent; is that correct? Like, you're just guessing.
2 If there were two collars, you think there were
3 thousand animal; one collar, who knows? Maybe 7 or 8?
4 So you -- you think that way too? Like, you're just
5 guessing, sort of? Did you understand what I'm saying?

6 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

7 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
8 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

9 No, we're not just guessing. Science is not a
10 100 percent certainty. It's a -- it's a -- a science
11 of -- it's a science of probabilities. But we do know
12 a lot, both based on science and Inuit knowledge, about
13 caribou behaviour and caribou behaviour in groups and
14 during migrations. So that's what I mean by -- when we
15 put out a number of collars, we can be very reasonably
16 certain that it's groups of caribou travelling.

17 This has also been field checked by aerial
18 surveys, so using aircraft to observe a collared
19 caribou and to see: Is it alone or is it in groups?
20 So this -- this technology has been tested over a
21 number of decades, and it's been field checked using
22 other methodology like air -- aircraft observations to
23 see: Is it just one, or is it a group? So that
24 combined years of testing and knowledge leaves us with
25 a very high confidence that when we see multiple
26 collars, we're seeing not individuals, but we're seeing

1 groups of caribou. Thank you.

2 MR. ALIKUT: Thank you.

3 That was -- to what you're saying, the IQ about
4 the Elders. Did you talk to the Elders? Did you --
5 you're -- the people -- the Elders that you asked or
6 just by hearing it? Do you say -- when you talk about
7 IQ, are we only talking about the word "IQ" without
8 contacting the Elders? Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

10 MR. PINKSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve
11 Pinksen, Government of Nunavut.

12 We have done quite a number of interviews with
13 Elders and hunters over many years, and that collective
14 knowledge is feeding into our knowledge. As well, for
15 every single research project that we do, we consult
16 with local Hunters and Trappers Organization --
17 Organizations in all the affected communities. And,
18 additionally, with very rare exceptions, we make sure
19 that representatives from the Hunters and Trappers
20 Organizations participate in the research projects with
21 our -- with our researchers. So we have made many
22 efforts and make sure that we get that input into --
23 that Inuit input into the science. Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Uriash.

25 MR. PUQIQNAK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

26 Uriash Puqiqnak, NIRB Board member.

1 Looking at the map, like, with the animation, the
2 collared caribous near Baker Lake between -- between
3 Baker Lake and Meadowbank, we seen that, and to the
4 west, they travel, and between Baker going down by the
5 shore, and they have leaders. This is what we saw near
6 Meadowbank, the caribou walking. Like, we seen these.
7 Like, all of them coming from the west of Meadowbank
8 and caribous walking. Being that Meadowbank and the
9 Whale Tail in between the one that we've been -- the
10 one you've been proposing, and we would see caribous
11 going around that area and to Meadowbank and to that
12 place called "Amaruq". They would go past, and then it
13 would finish the animation of caribou.

14 The question I have: Do you have only researching
15 areas only on behalf of the mining company, or do
16 you -- do you go further outside of the mining camp?
17 Do you look at those two?

18 The question I have is because, like, the caribou
19 herd that are going down to the shore -- and I live
20 near -- in Gjoa Haven, and the land migration during
21 the spring, they start going to Gjoa Haven area. The
22 caribou herd -- looking at the map, like, is it only --
23 if it's approved, Whale Tail, do you only have areas
24 where -- like, that are collared that go around
25 Meadowbank and Whale Tail, are those the only ones that
26 you look at, or can you go past those areas to monitor?

1 Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Government of Nunavut.

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

5 We have research data, including collar data, for
6 all parts of Nunavut. In some areas, we have more than
7 others due to the nature of research. So we have --
8 but we do have some data for all parts of Nunavut for
9 all caribou herds.

10 But for this analysis, this was strictly done for
11 the Whale Tail Expansion Project. So this one that
12 we -- we put on the screen was -- we took our data for
13 this area and did the analysis just to prepare for
14 this -- this NIRB public hearing. So that type of
15 analysis, we don't have it prepared for all of Nunavut.
16 We really did it for this -- for this hearing. Thank
17 you.

18 THE CHAIR: Shawn Attungala.

19 Questions for Agnico Eagle Mines Limited by Community
20 Representatives

21 MR. ATTUNGALA: Thank you, Madam Chair and
22 Agnico Eagle, the people that came to Baker Lake for
23 the NIRB hearing.

24 My question is going to be about just -- the
25 question has been around for, I believe, a few years
26 now, that vehicles and ATVs that drive up the mine

1 road, they leave a big trail or tail of dust and that
2 that dust either blows to the east or the west from up
3 the road, and I would like to know why no dust
4 suppressant -- suppressant is being used on the road.

5 And if Agnico Eagle would answer that question.
6 Or is it because the dust suppressant is not good for
7 the environment, animals, or marine animals, or is
8 there a regulation why dust suppressant can't be used
9 on the mine road?

10 THE CHAIR: Is that the end of your --

11 MR. ATTUNGALA: Yeah. It's my question here,
12 yeah.

13 THE CHAIR: -- question?

14 Agnico Eagle.

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

17 Yeah. With the all-weather access roads, we do
18 use dust suppressant, about -- I think it was about
19 three years ago. We started a long time ago, but three
20 years ago we did a pilot with information from the
21 community regarding that question about dust and dust
22 suppressants. We went to different locations on the
23 all-weather access road. We did a pilot with input
24 from the community and also with the Baker Lake Hunters
25 and Trappers Organization, tried different products.
26 We agreed on locations, agreed on the product. And

1 since that time, we've been applying the dust
2 suppressant on the all-weather access road, which we
3 do -- also for this application, the Whale Tail
4 Expansion Project, for the haul road, we do provide a
5 dust suppressant on that road also, plus water trucks
6 that we have on our haul roads. Closer to the pit in
7 the ring roads around the pits and the areas around the
8 mine site, we do have water trucks for controlling
9 dust. Thank you.

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

12 Seeing none, Conna Katokra.

13 MS. KATOKRA: Thank you, Madam [sic]. I am
14 from Naujaat. I have a question to Agnico Eagle. I'm
15 here on behalf of the -- our Hamlet. I used to work at
16 the -- at Meadowbank. We are away for two years [sic]
17 and home for two weeks. As a mother, it's very
18 difficult to be away from our families as a --
19 especially as a mother, especially when there are --
20 when Calm Air cancels or -- due to weather or because
21 of the airstrip condition. Sometimes we are stranded
22 for two days. And then we would finally get home, and
23 then even before the -- prior to the two weeks over, we
24 would have to go back to work at -- to the mine.

25 I'll use example for -- as Naujaat and Coral, they
26 would stay overnight in Rankin. I wonder if there

1 could be better arrangements made. There are charters
2 that are available to some communities, but we're
3 usually on a sched flight. Sometimes we're home for
4 only eight days, and then I would have to go back to
5 work to the mine site. It's very -- it was very
6 difficult as a mother. I wonder if there could be
7 better arrangements made. I wonder if that would be
8 arranged -- could be arranged through the Government of
9 Nunavut or by the company.

10 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

11 MS. SQUIRES: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 Courtney Squires for Agnico Eagle.

13 Thank you very much for the feedback. I
14 understand the issue that you're vocalizing, as Naujaat
15 and Coral don't have the Kivalliq charter route that's
16 accessed by the other Kivalliq communities. It's --
17 it's something that we would have to -- to -- to look
18 into further, but we just thank you for bringing that
19 feedback to our attention so that we can consider it
20 for the future.

21 And I also just want to clarify for -- for
22 everyone the work rotation schedule, which is two weeks
23 in, so two weeks at site, and then two weeks at home in
24 your -- your home community. I hope that answers your
25 question. Thanks.

26 THE CHAIR: Do you have any further

1 questions?

2 MS. KATOKRA: No. That's all for now.

3 Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

6 Seeing none, Harry Aggark.

7 MR. AGGARK: Thank you, Madam Chair. I had
8 numerous questions to ask, but they were all pretty
9 much answered.

10 I just have one, perhaps, to get a clarification.
11 On Sunday, I went to -- up to the mine site, to
12 Meadowbank. There was talk of the mine closure while
13 we were up there by one of the staff members that -- of
14 Agnico Eagle.

15 The tailings pond would be diked in some parts.
16 First of all, I think tailings ponds are toxic. It
17 seems like there is a lot of suspended solids in -- in
18 it like rocks. I wonder if there's a permeable lining
19 underneath the tailings pond.

20 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

21 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank
22 you, Harry, for the question. Jamie Quesnel, Agnico
23 Eagle.

24 We do not have a liner in -- in the tailings
25 facility. Right now we're depositing the tailings in
26 the -- in the pits that are not operating right now.

1 We're starting in the Bay Goose pit.

2 When we were at the mine site on Sunday in the
3 tailings facility that was there from Day 1 of the
4 operation and just -- we finished depositing in that
5 location just a couple of months ago, the plan is to
6 cap it with rock. It's called a "thermal cap". And
7 the concept is to freeze the tailings into a large ice
8 cube to incorporate the -- the permafrost and -- and
9 the -- the Arctic weather. So that's the design for
10 the closure of that facility.

11 And we -- we did see the progressive reclamation
12 on the north cell, and we'll finish that first, and
13 then we'll proceed with the -- covering the subcell
14 with more rock for closure. So that's the approved
15 closure method that we have for the facility. So --
16 but we will continue to deposit tailings in the pits
17 that are not operational. Thank you.

18 MR. AGGARK: Thank you. I'm going to add
19 to -- a little bit to my question.

20 See -- it seems like they're so close to the
21 surface, and during spring thaw, the snow and -- and --
22 and terrain, it may thaw out. I wonder why the pits
23 are so -- they're -- they're quite steep. I wonder if
24 perhaps if you could use those pits as a tailings ponds
25 instead and use them -- they would probably last or
26 freeze -- freeze over for at least 150 years or more.

1 Have you considered that?

2 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

3 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank
4 you, Harry, for that follow-up question. Jamie
5 Quesnel, Agnico Eagle.

6 Yes. It's -- it's a great idea, and that's --
7 we -- we're doing that right now, and we'd like to do
8 that in the future, to utilize an existing footprint to
9 deposit our tailings. We try to minimize our
10 footprint, and using pits that are no longer being used
11 for -- for -- for operation needs -- it only makes
12 sense to put material back into it. So we received
13 that approval earlier this year, so we're continuing
14 with that.

15 Dealing with your comment about the -- our closure
16 strategy for the -- we call it "aerial deposition"
17 'cause it's on -- on the -- on land. That's been
18 incorporated into the design for -- for runoff,
19 evaporation, climate change, all those things. So
20 the -- the thermal cover, which is upwards to 4 metres,
21 it's designed to take and count all those factors, the
22 slope related to rainfall, snow melt. But I agree with
23 you; putting tailings in our pits is a great idea.
24 Thank you.

25 MR. AGGARK: Thank you.

26 Perhaps to add to that, my last question or

1 comment -- I think it was either yesterday or the day
2 before, the transportation corridor for shipping, there
3 were studies done. I don't feel like I should make a
4 comment, but I just wanted to -- to be made aware. The
5 Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers Association [sic] and
6 the Chesterfield Hunters and Trappers Association were
7 in talks about twenty -- from 2019 to 2020. We wanted
8 to see if that was a possibility to have that
9 transportation corridor because sometimes the
10 government takes a while to do -- to conduct studies
11 due to lack of resources. So up to today, I think
12 Arctic Connection was going to do a study -- a
13 feasibility study. We were going to start the study
14 together in end of July to August.

15 I think we're going to continue with the community
16 roundtable session. I don't really have any comments
17 towards caribou. We don't have any caribou in
18 Chesterfield in -- at the moment. We will probably
19 voice our concerns to mammals during -- and perhaps
20 during our -- towards our closing remarks. I will -- I
21 will -- I will probably get some more information from
22 other parties as we go along with this hearing. Thank
23 you.

24 THE CHAIR: Agnico Eagle.

25 MR. QUESNEL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Jamie
26 Quesnel. Thank you for -- for the comment. Thanks.

1 THE CHAIR: It's -- the night is coming
2 close to an end. We have a numerous number of people
3 who want to voice their concerns. We're going to
4 continue with this community session -- roundtable
5 session, so we'll continue tomorrow. I believe there
6 are still some deferred responses from intervenors and
7 the proponent. We'll start with those in the morning
8 when we reconvene at 9.

9 I want to remind the community members and
10 representatives you will have to get a
11 representatives -- representative from your community
12 to see who will be your --

13 Tomorrow we're going to start closing remarks
14 after continue -- after we continue the community
15 roundtable, we will move on to closing remarks from
16 community representatives. Please select one person
17 from your community to speak on behalf of your group
18 and share your comments, whatever you would like to
19 share with the Board before we conclude the hearing.

20 Have a good evening. We will continue the
21 community roundtable session tomorrow at 9.

22

23 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED UNTIL 9:00 AM, AUGUST 29, 2019

24

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.

8 Dated at the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta,
9 this 9th day of September 2019.

10

11

12

13

Christy Longacre



14

C. Longacre, RPR, CSR(A)

15

Official Court Reporter

16

17

18

19

Andres Vidal

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A. Vidal, CSR(A)

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Official Court Reporter

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