

NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

WHALE TAIL PIT EXPANSION PROJECT PROPOSAL

NIRB FILE NUMBER 16MN056

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HEARING

VOLUME 3

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Baker Lake, Nunavut

August 28, 2019

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

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4 August 28, 2019 Morning Session

5

6 NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

7 K. Kaluraq Chair of Hearing

8 P. Kadlun Vice-Chair

9 G. Alikut Panel Member

10 C. Emrick Panel Member

11 U. Puqignak Panel Member

12

13 NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD STAFF

14 T. Meadows Legal Counsel

15 R. Barry Executive Director

16 T. Arko Director of Technical Services

17 S. Granchinho Manager, Impact Assessment

18 E. Reimer Technical Advisor I

19 L. Atatahak Secretary/Receptionist

20 A. Omilgoitok Environmental Administrator

21 B. Beattie Environmental Technologist

22

23 INTERVENORS

24

25 AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED

26 C. Kowbel Legal Advisor

1	K. Bergner	Legal Advisor
2	J. Quesnel	Regional Manager, Permitting
3		and Regulatory Affairs
4	P. Lapointe	Superintendent Permitting and
5		Regulatory Affairs
6	M. Groleau	General Supervisor, Permitting
7		and Regulatory Affairs
8	M. Turmel	Permitting Lead, Nunavut
9	C. Kennedy	Technical Specialist
10	C. Squires	Senior Coordinator
11	C. Ramcharan	General Supervisor Community
12		Relations
13	R. Allard	General Supervisor Interim
14	S. Leclair	Community Affairs
15		Superintendent
16	L. Chouinard	General Manager Meadowbank
17	M. Beaucage	Nunavut Senior Community
18		Coordinator
19	G. Côté	General Supervisor
20	B. Boucher	Superintendent, Human
21		Resources
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. Setteringington	Senior Terrestrial Biologist
8		(EDI)
9	A. Franke	Principal Investigator (Arctic
10		Raptors Project)
11	G. Sharam	Technical Director (ERM)
12		
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
21		
22	GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT	
23	E. Stockley	Legal Counsel
24	S. Pinksen	Deputy Minister
25	E. Taylor	Project Manager Socioeconomic
26		Monitoring



1	D. Haney	Project Manager Impact
2		Assessment
3	B. Pirie	Project Manager Research and
4		Monitoring
5	A. Robinson	Acting Director Environmental
6		Protection Division
7	Dr. S. Atkinson	Technical Wildlife Consultant
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11		Management
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14	S. Qazi	Senior Environmental
15		Assessment Specialist
16	R. Tookoome	Social Policy Officer
17	J. Walsh	Senior Environmental Policy
18		Analyst
19	T. Brown	Senior Technical Advisor for
20		Arcadis
21	S. Gruda-Dolbec	Department of Justice
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25		Assessment Coordinator
26	B. Asher	Senior Air Quality Analyst

## 1 FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

2 M. D'Aguiar Senior Biologist

3 M. Janowicz Regional Manager for

4 Regulatory Reviews

5 B. Tracz Biologist

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## 7 HEALTH CANADA

8 P. Partridge Regional Environmental

9 Assessment Specialist

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## 12 NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA

13 P. Unger Senior Environmental

14 Assessment Officer

15 J. Quinn Senior Environmental Advisor

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## 17 INTERPRETERS/TRANSLATORS

18 J. Tucktoo Language Translator

19 M. Angoshadluk Language Translator

20

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 Qaujimajatuqangit 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 Unit 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   tranquillize the animals just to put a collar. Not only  
3   here, but this has happened in Nunavut, tranquillizing  
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 tranquillize 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   tranquillizing and collaring the wildlife?

16          Thank you, Madam Chair.

17   THE CHAIR:                   Government of Nunavut.

18   MR. PINKSEN:                 Thank you, Madam Chair. Steve  
19   Pinkson, 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 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 NO<sub>2</sub>, 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 Qaujimajatuqangit 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 equivalents.

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 polycyclic aromatic  
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 Qaujimagatugangit? 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 Setterington,  
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 Qaujimagatuqangit 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 NO<sub>2</sub>. 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 say 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.

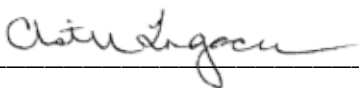
8 Dated at the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta,  
9 this 9th day of September 2019.

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14 C. Longacre, RPR, CSR(A)

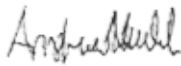
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