



**NIRB File No.: 11MN034**  
NWB File No.: 2AM-MEL1631  
NPC File No.: 149337

June 30, 2020

To: Meliadine Distribution List

*Sent via email*

**Re: Reconsideration Process regarding NIRB's assessment of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's "Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment" Project Proposal**

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Dear Parties:

On June 9, 2020 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) provided notice to parties and the Responsible Minister initiating a formal reconsideration of the terms and conditions of Project Certificate No. 006 in light of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (Agnico Eagle) "Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment, Rankin Inlet, Meliadine Gold Mine, Nunavut" Project Proposal, a proposed amendment to the approved Meliadine Gold Mine Project (NIRB File No. 11MN034). The NIRB also indicated that it would be engaging further with interested parties to facilitate additional discussion of the appropriate process for the assessment.

Through comments received thus far, several parties have indicated additional factors that would affect their ability to participate effectively in a reconsideration process, as a result of the numerous constraints, stresses and strains on resources that the responses to the COVID-19 pandemic are imposing on potentially affected communities and individuals. While the Board has discretion for determining the process for conducting a reconsideration, the Board would like to better understand how best parties may be able to participate to consider procedural fairness.

The NIRB notes that the Proponent has provided suggested process timelines within its June 19, 2020 correspondence (enclosed) for the Board's consideration. The Proponent also notes that it is available to work with Intervenor to provide technical and other support required for parties' participation.

In addition, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada has committed participant funding for this assessment<sup>1</sup> and the NIRB continues to coordinate with those implementing the funding process to consider the time necessary for the application and awarding of these funds.

The Board is providing further opportunity for interested parties to provide information on their ability to participate in the NIRB's assessment of the Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment Proposal considering the above noted submission by Agnico Eagle and additional participant funding resource. Parties are therefore invited to comment on the following aspects:

- a) Process and timeline considerations that will affect the party's ability to participate in the reconsideration process, specifically in regards to the timing suggested by Agnico Eagle, and how agencies are continuing to maintain operations through the current pandemic.
- b) While the Board's assessment processes include a mix of written, verbal, and in-person communication, the NIRB would like to understand if parties have a preference for or judge their ability to participate effectively in potential alternatives to in-person public meetings, such as teleconferences or virtual hearings.
- c) Any additional practicalities of the Board conducting its assessment during the current pandemic, including capacity or resource limitations that would inhibit the parties' ability to participate to the extent they require.

The NIRB requests that parties submit comments directly to the NIRB via email at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) or through the online public registry at [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca) by **July 10, 2020**.

Following receipt of parties' feedback, the Board expects to be providing further guidance and process timelines in respect to next steps in the NIRB's assessment of Agnico Eagle's "Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment" Project Proposal.

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, please contact the undersigned directly at [tarko@nirb.ca](mailto:tarko@nirb.ca) or Erin Reimer, Technical Advisor I at [ereimer@nirb.ca](mailto:ereimer@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Tara Arko  
Director, Technical Services  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (1) Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Letter to Nunavut Impact Review Board, Re: Notice and Guidance Regarding the Nunavut Impact Review Board's Processing of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's "Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment, Rankin Inlet, Meliadine Gold Mine, Nunavut" Project Proposal; Guidance for Impact Statement Addendum Regarding Agnico

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<sup>1</sup> Public Registry ID: 330555, 330556, 330557

Eagle Mines Limited's "Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment, Rankin Inlet, Meliadine Gold Mine, Nunavut" Project Proposal. June 19, 2020.

cc: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited  
Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited  
Michel Groleau, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited  
Stephanie Autut, Nunavut Water Board  
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board  
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.  
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association  
Natalie O'Grady, Government of Nunavut  
Amy Robinson, Government of Nunavut  
Saba Qazi, Northern Projects Management Office  
Adrian Paradis, Northern Projects Management Office  
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  
John Olyslager, Environment and Climate Change Canada  
Daniel Coombs, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Anita Gudmundson, Transport Canada