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October 23, 2020

Brad Armstrong, Q.C.
Lawson Lundell LLP
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Vancouver, BC V6C 3L2

Sent via email: barmstrong@lawsonlundell.com

Re: Clarification from the Nunavut Impact Review Board Regarding Participation of Public Members During the Upcoming Technical Meeting and Community Roundtable for Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's "Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment" Project Proposal

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

This correspondence constitutes the response of the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) to the correspondence of Mr. Armstrong,¹ legal counsel for Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle, or Proponent) posted on the Board's public registry on October 21, 2020. In this correspondence, it is our understanding that counsel sought to clarify the role of public participants during the upcoming Technical Meeting and Community Roundtable associated with the Board's reconsideration of Agnico Eagle's Meliadine Gold Mine Project as modified by the "Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment Project Proposal" (the Proposal). Specifically, counsel stated the following: "*We wish to clarify that, under Part 18 of the NIRB Rules of Procedure, technical meetings are limited to Parties as defined in Part 1, Rule 2.1.*"

The Board does not agree with this summary statement. The Board agrees that the discussion and resolution of issues raised by technical experts is the focus of the Technical Meeting, however, this does not mean that participation of members of the public is excluded from this meeting. As the Board has done previously in respect of past assessments, if technical review comments are submitted in writing, or questions are raised by members of the public in advance of, or during the in-person Technical Meeting, the Board allows for participation by such

¹ Public Registry ID: 331812



interested members of the public in the discussion of technical issues during the Technical Meeting.

This approach is consistent with the Board's obligation under the *Nunavut Agreement* to promote public awareness and public participation in our processes. The Board's detailed procedural guidance for the upcoming meetings will be issued shortly. In the interim, if you have any questions regarding the NIRB's assessment of the Proposal, please contact Erin Reimer, Technical Advisor I, at ereimer@nirb.ca or Tara Arko, Director, Technical Services, at tarko@nirb.ca or (867) 983-4611.

Sincerely,



Karen D. Costello
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Meliadine Distribution List
Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
Michel Groleau, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
Hannah Uniuqsaraq/Bert Dean, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
Natalie O'Grady, Government of Nunavut
Alexandre Chaikine, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Margaret Fairbairn, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Daniel Coombs, Fisheries and Oceans Canada