



301-5204 50th Avenue
Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 1E2

June 22, 2021

Your file Votre référence

11MN034

Our file Notre référence

11-HCAA-CA7-00014

Subject: 210401-11MN034 Meliadine Gold Mine Project- 2020 Annual Report

Dear Emily Koide,

The Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program (the Program) of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) received your request for comments on April 6, 2021. DFO has reviewed the above 2020 Annual Report in regards to its mandate, i.e. the management, protection and conservation of fish and their habitats. The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invites parties to respond to the following topics:

1. Effects monitoring
 - Whether the conclusions reached by Agnico Eagle Mines in the 2020 Annual Report are valid; and
 - Any areas of significance requiring further supporting information or any changes to the monitoring program which may be required
2. Compliance monitoring
 - Provide a summary of any compliance monitoring and/or site inspections undertaken in association with the Project, including specifically;
 - Identify the terms and conditions from the Project Certificate which have been incorporated into any permits, certificates, licences or other approvals issued for the Project, where applicable;
 - A summary of any inspections conducted during the 2020 reporting period, and the results of these inspections; and
 - A summary of Agnico Eagle's compliance status with regards to authorizations that have been issued for the Project.

Specifically, DFO has reviewed the 2020 Annual Report Section 7.6 and related appendix (2020 Blast monitoring report) and Appendix 15 – 2020 Reportable Spills .

DFO provides the following comments for the NIRBs consideration

1. Effects Monitoring

DFO is generally agreeable with Agnico Eagle's reporting and has no comments or concerns to provide at this time related to effects monitoring.

2. Compliance Monitoring

No compliance monitoring or site visits were conducted by DFO in 2020.

Terms and Condition numbers 31, 33 and 34 were incorporated under DFO's review of the 2020 Annual Report. The 2020 Blasting Monitoring Memorandum was reviewed under Term and Condition 33, "The Proponent shall meet or exceed the guidelines set by Fisheries and Oceans Canada for blasting threshold and implement practical and effective measures to ensure that residue and by-products of blasting do not negatively affect fish and fish habitat." The proponent was under DFO's Limits for both Peak Particle Velocity and Peak Sound Pressure and as such abided to Term and Condition 33. DFO also acknowledges that the proponent has installed permanent monitoring stations that allow the seismograph to be directly anchored into the bedrock to improve vibration monitoring practices and data accuracy.

The proponent is in compliance with the terms and conditions that pertain to DFO's mandate. DFO will continue to work with the proponent to ensure compliance.

If you have any questions with the content of this letter, please contact Edyta Ratajczyk by email at edyta.ratajczyk@dfo-mpo.gc.ca. Please refer to the file number referenced above when corresponding with the Program.

Yours sincerely,



José Audet-Lecouffe
Senior Biologist
Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

CC:

Alasdair Beattie, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Edyta Ratajczyk, Fisheries and Oceans Canada