

 Fisheries and Oceans Canada / Pêches et Océans Canada

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's "Saline Effluent Discharge to the Marine Environment" Project

**Presentation to the
Nunavut Impact Review Board**
Public Hearings, Rankin Inlet, NU
June 14-17, 2021



Overview of Presentation

1. Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program's
Mandate
2. Final Comment Submission and
Recommendations
3. Conclusions
4. Questions and Comments

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DFO - Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program Mandate

The **mandate** of the Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program is to conserve and protect fish and fish habitat.

Sub-Section 34.4 (1) of the Fisheries Act states that:
"No person shall carry on any work, undertaking or activity, other than fishing, that results in the death of fish."

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DFO - Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program Mandate (continued)

The **mandate** of the Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program is to conserve and protect fish and fish habitat.

Sub-Section 35 (1) of the Fisheries Act states that,
"No person shall carry on any work, undertaking or activity that results in the harmful alterations, disruption or destruction of fish habitat."

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Final Written Submission & Recommendations

Fisheries and Oceans Canada's provided two Technical Comments:

1. Waterline Installation

- DFO indicated the preference of installation of fish-friendly waterline crossing.

2. Construction/Installation of Discharge Waterline and Diffuser

- DFO requested that the proponent provide a Request for Review for the proposed waterline installation into Melvin Bay.

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Waterline Installation

- AEM indicated to have the waterline run directly under and secured to existing bridges
 - Avoiding disturbance to fish and fish habitat
- Crossings not supported by bridges, AEM proposed to bridge the waterline using concrete blocks as anchor points on the bank

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Waterline Installation - Recommendations

DFO considers this issue resolved and encourages AEM to engage with DFO to avoid disturbance to fish and fish habitat.

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Construction/Installation of Discharge Waterline and Diffuser

- DFO requested that AEM submit a Request for Review (RFR) for the proposed work
 - November 20, 2020- AEM submitted their RFR to DFO.
- AEM confirmed that Horizontal Directional Drilling will be used to install the new waterline.
- DFO is currently reviewing the Request For Review and views Horizontal Directional Drilling as low-impact to fish and fish habitat.

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Construction/Installation of Discharge Waterline and Diffuser- Recommendations

- DFO considers this issue resolved.
- DFO is currently reviewing the Request for Review and will continue to work with AEM throughout the regulatory review process.

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Conclusion

Fisheries and Oceans Canada considers both technical comments resolved

Fisheries and Oceans Canada will continue to work with the AEM and partners, including potentially impacted communities, to ensure that:

- Concerns related to Waterline Installation and Construction/Installation of Discharge Waterline and Diffuser are addressed; and,
- Appropriate mitigation measures, follow-up, and monitoring programs are implemented

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