COVER LETTER



NIRB File No.: 11MN034

July 30, 2021

The Honourable Dan Vandal, P.C., M.P. Minister of Northern Affairs Government of Canada House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email and courier: dan.vandal@parl.gc.ca

Re: Reconsideration Report and Recommendations of the Nunavut Impact Review Board Regarding a Significant Modification to the Meliadine Gold Mine Project as Proposed by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited under the "Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment" Project Proposal

Dear Honourable Dan Vandal:

As set out in the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB or Board) Notice of Reconsideration sent to the relevant Minister(s) on June 9, 2020, in support of the Board's reconsideration of the Terms and Conditions of existing Project Certificate No. 006 under Article 12, Section 12.8.2 of the Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement) and s. 112 of the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (NuPPAA), the NIRB has undertaken an assessment of the "Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment" Proposal (Waterlines Proposal). As required by Article 12, Section 12.8.3 of the *Nunavut Agreement* and s. 112(5) of *NuPPAA*, the NIRB is providing this Reconsideration Report and Recommendations to the Minister(s) for your consideration.

The enclosed Reconsideration Report and Recommendations summarizes the NIRB's assessment of the potential ecosystemic and socio-economic effects of the Waterlines Proposal, a proposed modification to the previously-approved Meliadine Gold Mine Project. Although the Board's assessment was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic, with modifications to Board processes, the Board was able to carry out the reconsideration, commencing in March 2020 and

concluding with a Public Hearing held in-person in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut on June 14-17, 2021, with audio and video links provided to participants unable to travel to Rankin Inlet. After due consideration of all written and oral submissions received by the Board, the Board's duly appointed decision-making Panel for the file has concluded that the Waterlines Proposal should be allowed to proceed and has recommended eleven (11) revisions and the addition of three (3) new Terms and Conditions to the Terms and Conditions of Project Certificate No. 006.

Translated versions of the Reconsideration Report and Recommendations are being prepared in Inuktitut and French and will be available as soon as possible.

Should you have questions or require clarification regarding this matter, please contact the NIRB's Executive Director, Karen Costello at (867) 983-4608 or kcostello@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

Kaviq Kaluraq Chairperson

Nunavut Impact Review Board

M. Kang Kalung

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, P.C., Minister of Environment and Climate Change cc:

The Honourable Bernadette Jordan, P.C., Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

The Honourable Omar Alghabra, P.C., Minister of Transport

The Honourable Mumilaaq Qaqqaq, MP for Nunavut

The Honourable Joe Savikataaq, Premier of Nunavut

Aluki Kotierk, President, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated

Kono Tattuinee, President, Kivalliq Inuit Association

Lootie Toomasie, Chairperson, Nunavut Water Board

Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

Michel Groleau, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

Meliadine Distribution List