



January 24, 2022

Michel Groleau  
Permitting and Regulatory Affairs Superintendent  
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited  
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Mirabel, Quebec J7N 1G9

Email: [michel.groleau@agnicoeagle.com](mailto:michel.groleau@agnicoeagle.com)

**RE: Draining/Dewatering of Ponds A40, B33, B33A, A9, A38, J6, J5, and J4; Meliadine Project; Water Licence No: 2AM-MEL1631**

Dear Mr. Groleau:

This correspondence is in response to the Notice of Activity submission provided to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) by Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle or Licensee) on November 26, 2021.

In its submission, Agnico Eagle notified the NWB that they intend to drain/dewater waterbodies A40, B33, B33A, A9, A38, J6, J5, and J4 located within the Meliadine Project's footprint and indicated that based on the existing parameters these waterbodies can be considered ponds and that draining/dewatering of these ponds can proceed in accordance with Part A, Item 1 of Water Licence No: 2AM-MEL1631 (Licence).

Additionally, Agnico Eagle indicated that they warranted a confirmation from the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) that there were no requirements to reconsider the Project Certificate associated with the Meliadine Project.

Upon receipt, the Notice of Activity was distributed for public review and comments with a deadline set at December 10, 2021 and later extended to December 17, 2021 at the request of the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO). On or before the deadline, the comments were received from the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KivIA), Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs

(CIRNA), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the DFO. In their submission, ECCC indicated that they had no comments. DFO recommended that Agnico Eagle submit a Request for Review or Application for Authorization so DFO can review the impacts of the proposed works, undertakings or activities in or near water.

Comments were addressed by Agnico Eagle on December 17, 2021, which was satisfactory as per CIRNA and KivIA respective confirmations dated December 22, 2021 and January 6, 2022. On January 18, 2022, DFO informed the Board that “Agnico Eagle [had] submitted a Request for Review under the Federal Fisheries Act directly to DFO and [DFO was] proceeding with direct discussions with them”<sup>1</sup>.

Copies of all documents received during public review can be accessed through the NWB’s Public Registry and FTP site using the following link:

<ftp://ftp.nwb-oen.ca/registry/2%20MINING%20MILLING/2A/2AM%20-%20Mining/2AM-MEL1631%20Agnico/3%20TECH/E%20WATER%20USE>

After completing the review of Agnico Eagle’s Notice of Activity and of all comments from the Interveners, the Board would like to acknowledge that Agnico Eagle’s planned draining/dewatering activities are generally in compliance with the Licence terms and conditions, and in particular with Part A, Item 1:

*The Licensee may conduct mining, milling and associated activities at the Meliadine Gold Project in the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut, located at the following general geographic coordinates [...] and including, in general, as follow [...] dewatering of Lakes A54, H17, H19 and H20, and draining of ponds.*

The NWB would like to remind the Licensee that all applicable management plans should be updated in order to address the comments and recommendations provided by the Interveners during the technical review. The Board expectation is that the Licensee will fully follow and implement all terms and conditions of the Licence associated with dewatering/draining activities.

The Board also recognizes that DFO and Agnico Eagle are currently engaged in direct discussions, separately from the NWB process.

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1 P. Harper (DFO) to R. Dwyer (NWB) E-mail, Re: Meliadine Mine, water licence 2AM-MEL1631, Notice of Activity –Draining/Dewatering of Ponds: New DFO file: 21-HCAA-02733, dated January 18, 2022.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Karén Kharatyan, Director of Technical Services, by e-mail to [karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca) or Sergey Kuflevskiy, Technical Advisor, at [sergey.kuflevskiy@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:sergey.kuflevskiy@nwb-oen.ca), at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

**NUNAVUT WATER BOARD**

Karén Kharatyan  
Director of Technical Services

Cc: Distribution List – Meliadine