



August 1, 2022

Kaviq Kaluraq
Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board
PO Box 1360
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Dear Kaviq Kaluraq:

Thank you for your correspondence of June 22, 2022 to the Minister of Northern Affairs, providing notice that the Nunavut Impact Review Board (the Board) is initiating a reconsideration of the terms and conditions of Project Certificate No. 006 in light of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (Agnico Eagle) "Meliadine Extension" project proposal (the Meliadine Extension Proposal), a proposed amendment to the approved Meliadine Gold Project.

I understand that after considering comments from interested parties, Indigenous organizations and regulatory authorities, the Board has determined that the Meliadine Extension Proposal warrants reconsideration of the existing project certificate under Article 12, Section 12.8.2(b) and (c) of the Nunavut Agreement and Section 112(1)(b) and (c) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (the Act).

In your correspondence, you invited the Minister to provide direction with respect to priorities and reasonable timelines associated with the Board's reconsideration of the terms and conditions of Project Certificate No. 006, any guidance related to key factors to be considered by the Board during the reconsideration, and the availability of participant funding.

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In terms of the priorities and timelines, the Minister is confident in the Board's ability to determine and undertake the reconsideration process for the Meliadine Extension Proposal within a reasonable timeframe, taking into consideration other ongoing review processes.

Having reviewed the feedback submitted by interested parties, Indigenous organizations and regulatory authorities, the Minister suggests that the Board focus on the following key issues during the reconsideration process:

- potential impacts to wildlife, with particular emphasis on impacts to caribou, given their importance to Indigenous groups; and
- potential impacts to Meliadine Lake, including the consideration of water discharge.

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada is pleased to be providing participant funding for this reconsideration process through the Northern Participant Funding Program. This funding is intended to help Indigenous Peoples and Northerners access the resources and expertise needed to participate meaningfully in impact assessments of major resource or infrastructure development projects in the North, and supports the Crown in ensuring its duty to consult is met. Correspondence was sent to the Board on July 4, 2022 from Program staff with the official notice and inviting any applications from interested parties.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these matters. We look forward to receiving the Board's report following the reconsideration process.

Sincerely,

Lou Spagnuolo
A/Assistant Deputy Minister
Northern Affairs Organization

c.c.: Jeff Labonté
John Moffet
Alexandra Dostal
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