



**NIRB File No.: 11MN034**  
NWB File No.: 2AM-MEL1631

September 23, 2022

To: Meliadine Distribution List

*Sent via email*

**Re: Notice of NIRB Technical Meeting, Community Roundtable and Pre-Hearing Conference for Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's "Meliadine Extension" Project Proposal Related to the Meliadine Gold Mine Project**

Dear Parties:

On August 5, 2022, the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB or Board) accepted the Final Environmental Impact Statement Addendum from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (Agnico Eagle or Proponent) for its "Meliadine Extension" Project Proposal (NIRB File 11MN034) and issued the process steps for the assessment. Please find enclosed the Notice of the Technical Meeting, Community Roundtable and Pre-hearing Conference being held as part of the Board's reconsideration of the terms and conditions of the Meliadine Gold Mine Project Certificate No. 006 in accordance with 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 with s. 112 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14 (*NuPPAA*).

#### TECHNICAL MEETING, COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE AND PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE

The Board has determined that an in-person Technical Meeting, Community Roundtable and Pre-hearing Conference will be held at the Recreation Hall in **Rankin Inlet** on **November 22-25, 2022**. The meeting will start with presentations and technical discussions followed by a Community Roundtable as part of the Pre-hearing Conference. Regulators and interested parties, are invited to attend to participate in discussions of technical issues. Community organizations from the Kivalliq Region and the Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene of northern Manitoba, are invited to have representatives attend to share comments and perspectives during the Community Roundtable. All sessions will be open to the public and community members will also be invited to sit at the table and share their perspectives during the Community Roundtable. Evening sessions will be held to

ensure interested members of the community are also afforded opportunity to participate outside of regular working hours.

The Board notes the following proposed timelines for the proceedings.

Location	Date	Time	Schedule
Rankin Inlet Recreation Hall	November 22, 2022	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Technical Meeting/ Presentations
	November 23, 2022	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Technical Meeting/ Presentations
	November 24, 2022	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Community Roundtable
		6:30 pm – 9:00 pm	
November 25, 2022	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Community Roundtable/ Pre-Hearing Conference	

**\* NOTE: The NIRB may extend timing of any scheduled sessions if required**

The meetings will proceed in accordance with the NIRB’s Rules of Procedure, dated September 3, 2009 (the Rules).<sup>1</sup> The following provides parties with a high-level summary of the general logistics associated with the Board’s assessment of the “Meliadine Extension” Project Proposal.

### **TECHNICAL MEETING**

The Technical Meeting will be conducted in-person in Rankin Inlet to facilitate discussions on technical matters related to the review of the Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Statement. The Technical Meeting will be facilitated by the NIRB staff, with participation by the Proponent, Responsible Authorities, and interested parties and will be kept as informal as possible with the objective of identifying, addressing, and/or resolving outstanding technical issues prior to the Pre-hearing Conference.

The Technical Meetings are a platform for Agnico Eagle and parties to discuss outstanding issues and attempt to find resolutions, therefore questions posed should focus on the parties’ key issues. The meeting will provide an opportunity for the Proponent to present a summary of its response to technical review comments, followed by discussion between the Proponent, Responsible Authorities, and interested parties that have provided technical review comments for consideration. Break-out sessions facilitated by NIRB staff may also be utilized to further discuss specific agenda items in smaller groups where necessary. Pre-determined restrictions on topics will not be imposed; however, discussion will be restricted to the scope of the current Project Proposal and not previously approved activities from the existing Meliadine Gold Mine Project. The facilitator will be responsible to gauge the progress in completing the agenda or recommending breakout sessions, if necessary, to maintain the schedule. Agnico Eagle will be responsible for tracking the commitments made to parties in resolving issues, submitting updated versions to the NIRB and parties regularly, and parties will be required to verify that the commitment is satisfactory to them.

<sup>1</sup> NIRB *Rules of Procedure* (September 3, 2009).

The Board reminds Agnico Eagle that the onus is on the Proponent to supply the information required to support the assessment process. Agnico Eagle is encouraged to meet directly with parties in advance of the planned Technical Meeting as necessary to advance the discussion and resolution of technical issues with the understanding that outcomes of these discussions are to be documented and reported back to the NIRB to inform the public record. If adequate information is not provided in accordance with agreed upon timelines, the assessment cannot move forward in accordance with the anticipated process and timelines proposed by the NIRB, which may result in delays in proceeding to a Public Hearing.

### **COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE**

The purpose of the Community Roundtable is to provide the opportunity for representatives from communities identified as potentially impacted by the Project Proposal to be at the table to discuss and participate in the Board's assessment. The NIRB will be inviting up to three (3) representatives from each of the potentially affected communities in the Kivalliq region (Arviat, Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour, Nauyaat, Rankin Inlet, and Whale Cove) as well as two (2) representatives from the Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene to attend the Community Roundtable in-person. The NIRB will be providing an update to the community organizations to provide their nominations and prepare for the travel. The NIRB will be covering the costs of travel, accommodations and meals (through per-diems) for these community representatives travelling to Rankin Inlet. Additional information will be provided by the NIRB closer to the meeting dates to confirm logistics and support for the designated community representatives.

### **PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE**

The Pre-hearing Conference will focus on determining the specific steps and processes required to schedule the Public Hearing, specifically: timelines for the exchange of documents and information required by parties prior to the Public Hearing; finalization of issues for the Public Hearing; and details such as format, venue, timing or other matters related to the logistics for the Public Hearing. Parties will be required to identify which issues were resolved during the Technical Meeting and those issues which remain outstanding, and which issues parties will be continuing discussion at the Public Hearing. Based on the discussions at the Pre-hearing Conference, the format, dates, time and venues for the Public Hearing would be decided by the Board and the Board's direction would be communicated to all parties in the Board's Pre-hearing Conference Decision Report.

## MEETING LOGISTICS

Simultaneous English and Inuktitut interpretation will be provided to the extent practicable. Additional information on the agendas for these sessions, as well as details about the conduct of these meetings, will be issued in subsequent correspondence when logistical details have been confirmed. However, to ensure that the meetings are accessible to all parties, the NIRB requests the following information by **October 10, 2022**:

- Any requirement for alternative language interpretation for the Technical Meeting, Community Roundtable and/or Pre-hearing Conference; and

- Any requests for specialized audio equipment and/or specific logistical arrangements that may be required during the proceedings.

**SUMMARY OF KEY DATES**

In closing, the following is a summary of the important upcoming deadlines associated with the upcoming Technical Meeting, further steps and associated deadlines will be discussed as logistics are confirmed.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Process Step</b>
<b>September 23, 2022</b>	Agnico Eagle (and other parties) submits its response to Information Requests; NIRB initiates 30-day technical review period.
<b>October 10, 2022</b>	Parties indicate whether French or other language interpretation and/or special audio-visual equipment will be required at the meeting.
<b>October 24, 2022</b>	Parties submit technical review comments to the NIRB; NIRB forwards technical review comments to Proponent (and other parties).
<b>November 8, 2022</b>	Agnico Eagle (and other parties) files a response to technical review comments.
<b>November 22-25, 2022</b>	Technical Meeting, Community Roundtable and Pre-Hearing Conference (in-person in Rankin Inlet).
<b>December 22, 2022</b>	Pre-hearing Conference decision issued determining timing, format, and any associated logistics for the Public Hearing; Public Hearing announced.
<b>To be determined</b>	NIRB Public Hearing.

The NIRB thanks all parties for their continued active participation in the NIRB’s assessment of the “Meliadine Extension” Project Proposal. Should you have questions or require any additional clarification regarding the upcoming meetings, please contact Emily Koide at 867-983-4612 or [ekoide@nirb.ca](mailto:ekoide@nirb.ca). Inquiries related to the NIRB’s process should be directed to Tara Arko, Director of Technical Services at [tarko@nirb.ca](mailto:tarko@nirb.ca) or (867) 983-4611.

Sincerely,

Karen D. Costello  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Jamie Quesnel, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited  
Manon Turmel, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited  
Jennifer Range, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited