



AGNICO EAGLE

MELIADINE WATERLINE PROJECT

RANKIN INLET

This document gives information about the Waterline. In March 2022, Agnico Eagle received the final approval from the Nunavut Impact Review Board to proceed with its Waterline project. Construction started in 2022 and will be completed in 2026.



For any questions or to express a concern?

You can reach our community relations team at:

Nunavut.Community@agnicoeagle.com

Call our Rankin Inlet office: 867-645-2920

You can also express concerns using our Nunavut Community Complaints System – Tusaajugut

1-844-323-3002 (toll-free)

tusaajugut@agnicoeagle.com

WATERLINE PROJECT TIMELINE

● **March 2022: Approval**

● Agnico Eagle received final approval from the Nunavut Impact Review Board to move ahead with the Waterline Project.

● **2022–2026: Construction**

● Construction of the Waterline started in 2022 and is expected to be finished in 2026.

● **2026: Waterline Testing**

● Once construction is complete in 2026, Agnico Eagle will begin progressively testing the Waterline during the open water season.

- In 2026, tests will use non-saline water.
- Water will flow from the mine site to Melvin Bay.
- Early tests will check for leaks.
- If no leaks are found, water flow will slowly increase to test how the system works under different conditions.

● Testing with non-saline water will help protect the environment in case of a spill. All Waterline testing will be finished before October 2026.

● **2027: Saline Water Discharge**

● If 2026 testing is successful, discharge of saline water will begin in 2027 during open water season.

WATER MANAGEMENT AT MELIADINE – CONTEXT FOR THE WATERLINE PROJECT

As we continue mine development at Meliadine, old seawater that has naturally been trapped underground over time is being released. This water is captured, stored, and treated at site.

In 2018, Agnico Eagle went through the Nunavut Impact Review Board process for the Saline Diffuser Project which was approved in 2019. This project allowed Agnico Eagle to truck the treated saline water from Meliadine to Itivia in Rankin Inlet and then release it through a diffuser pipe into Melvin Bay once it has met the required water quality criteria.

In 2020, Agnico Eagle again went through the Nunavut Impact Review Board process to replace the trucking of treated saline water with waterlines and to increase the amount of water released to the marine environment. The project was intended to minimize traffic, reduce dust emissions alongside the AWAR and mitigate trucking impacts to the community.

The Waterline Project was approved in 2022.

ABOUT THE WATERLINE

The Waterline is 35 kilometers (km) long, running from Meliadine to Itivia along the All-Weather Access Road (AWAR) and by-pass road.

The Waterline is made of high-density polyethylene (HDPE), a type of plastic. This is the same material as the Hamlet's waterline at Nipisar Lake. There are two 16-inch pipes sitting on the land and running along the AWAR and by-pass road.

Before the Waterline*, between 800 – 1,600 cubic meters of water was released to Melvin Bay through trucking per day. Once the Waterline is in operation, up to 20,000 cubic meters of water will be released per day. On an average year, Agnico Eagle plans to discharge water between July and October.

Water will be stored at Meliadine and will be released into Melvin Bay during the summer months through the permanent diffuser pipe.

*Before 2022



BEFORE 2022



TO

WITH THE WATERLINE



800 - 1,600 CUBIC METERS (M³) PER DAY

UP TO 20,000 M³ PER DAY
(THIS IS 5.3M US GALLONS PER DAY)



► Location of the Saline Water Diffuser that will discharge water into Melvin Bay



HOW MUCH WATER IS THAT?

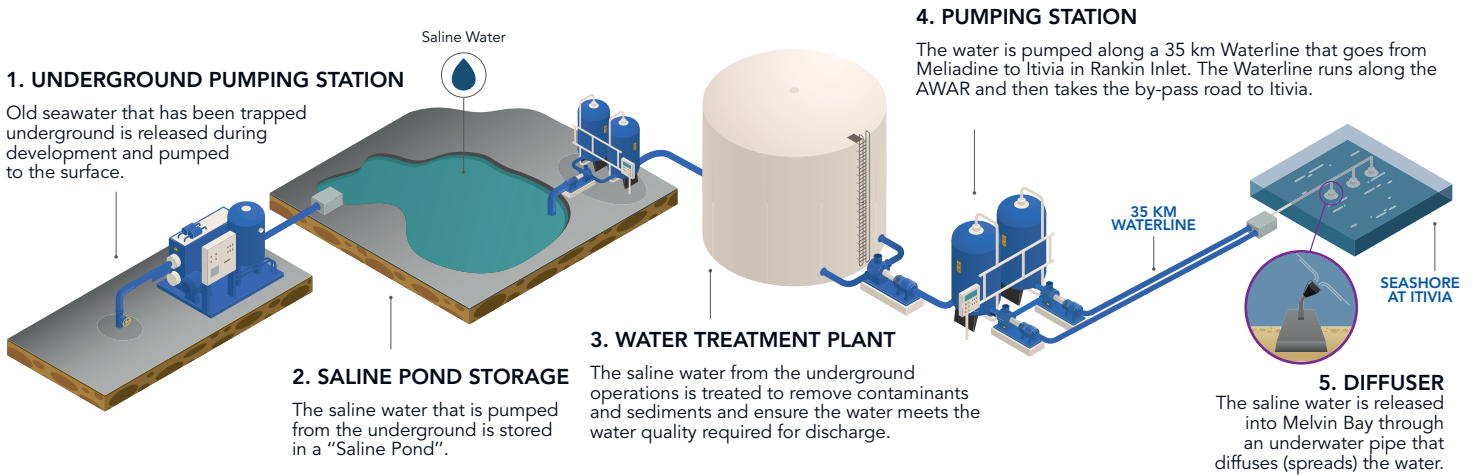
During discharge period, Agnico Eagle will release up to 20,000 m³ per day. As a comparison, the largest fuel tank at Itivia is 20,000 m³.

To transport this amount of water by truck would require 500 trucks per day, which is why the Waterline was proposed.

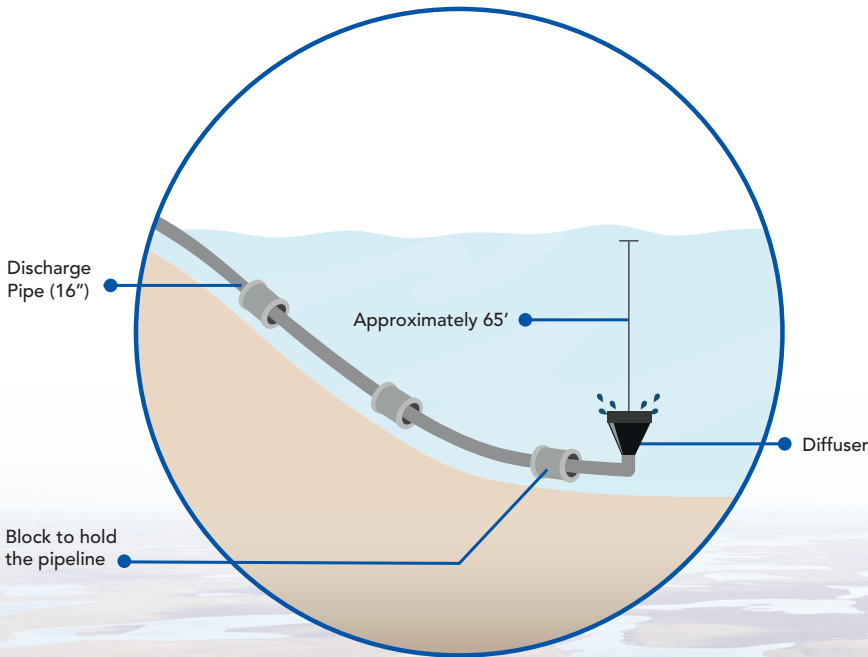
WHY THE MELIADINE WATERLINE PROJECT?

As mining at Meliadine progresses, the amount of saline water has increased to a level where a permanent solution makes sense. The Waterline allows water to be moved steadily and safely to the approved discharge area in Melvin Bay. It reduces traffic on the road, improves safety, and provides a simpler and more reliable way to manage water over the long term.

MELIADINE WATERLINE PROJECT FLOW



▲ FIGURE 2 : SALINE WATER DIFFUSER - DISCHARGE INTO MELVIN BAY



WILL THE WATER QUALITY BE AFFECTED? WILL IT BE MONITORED?

We will sample water prior to discharge and validate against Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent regulation (MDMER). Only water that meets those criteria will be discharged. Water will be released every day, up to the approved amount, during the open water season.

Modelling showed that the water will fully mix within a few meters from the diffuser once it is discharged into Melvin Bay and it will not contaminate the bay.

We will also conduct additional monitoring as per MDMER such as sampling around the diffuser location.

Note that the purpose of the MDMER is to reduce threats to fish and their habitat by improving the management of harmful substances in metal and diamond mining effluent.

You can find more information on their regulations by visiting the following website:
<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/>

Waterline Leak Detection System:

A fiber optic cable is installed along the Waterline. It works like an "ear" that listens for small vibrations along the Waterline. Once the system is set up and tested, it can tell the difference between normal vibrations from traffic (trucks or ATVs) and the unique vibration caused by a water leak. The site team responsible for water management will be alerted if a leak is detected.