

Project Description:

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle) is currently operating the Meliadine Gold Mine (Mine), located approximately 25 kilometres north of Rankin Inlet, and 80 km southwest of Chesterfield Inlet in the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut. Situated on the western shore of Hudson Bay, the Mine site is located on a peninsula between the east, south, and west basins of Meliadine Lake (63°1'23.8" N, 92°13'6.42"W), on Inuit Owned Lands.

The Mine Plan includes the development of the Tiriganiaq gold deposit, with two open pits (Tiriganiaq Pit 1 and Tiriganiaq Pit 2) and one Underground Mine. There are four phases to the development of the Mine; 4 years of construction (2015 to 2019), 9 years of Mine operation (2019 to 2027), 3 years of closure (2028 to 2030), and post-closure (2031 forwards).

Mining facilities in the Project Certificate (No. 006) and permitted Nunavut Water Board Type A Water Licence (No. 2AM-MEL1631, 2016) include a plant site and accommodation buildings, three ore stockpiles, a temporary overburden stockpile, a tailings storage facility, three waste rock storage facilities, a water management system that includes containment ponds, water diversion channels, retention dikes/berms, and a Water Treatment Plant.

On October 31, 2018, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) recommended to the minister that Project Certificate No.006 be amended with revisions to Terms and Conditions to include trucking of underground saline water and discharge into Melvin Bay by Rankin Inlet. In January 2019, the minister accepted NIRB's recommendation.

Agnico Eagle is proposing certain water management modifications for the purpose of accommodating saline groundwater volumes that will be encountered during mining. Specifically, Agnico Eagle proposes the following changes to the current saline effluent discharge components:

- convey water from the mine site to Melvin Bay using a waterline to be installed along the existing right-of-way of the existing AWAR and bypass roads, rather than the current trucking method (noting this was an option identified in the Project Final Environmental Impact Statement, 2014 (FEIS)), and;
- replace and update current discharge line and engineered diffuser (running from Itivia into Melvin Bay for marine discharge) using directional drilling method to reduce impacts of tides and ice on pipe and reduce visual impact.

The following components will remain similar to the Approved Project:

- if required, water treated for ammonia and Total Suspended Solids at site prior to transportation to Melvin Bay;
- existing saline water storage tank at the Itivia Fuel Storage Facility in Rankin Inlet

will continue to be used;

- water will be discharged during the open water season (i.e. June to October, identified in consultation with the HTO);
- water will be discharged in a controlled manner through a diffuser to minimize impact on the environment.
- water will be required to meet the Canadian federal end-of-pipe discharge criteria (Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations – or MDMER).