



# **AGNICO EAGLE**

## **MELIADINE DIVISION**

### Airstrip Use Management Plan

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November 2021

Version 1\_NIRB

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1_NIRB	November 2021	All	All	Updated to address Meliadine Extension application submission to NIRB for review and approval	Permitting Department

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**SECTION 1 • BACKGROUND**

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Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meliadine Division (Agnico Eagle) is the owner and operator of the Meliadine Gold Mine (Mine), located approximately 25 kilometres (km) north of Rankin Inlet, and 80 km southwest of Chesterfield Inlet in the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut. The NIRB Project Certificate, which includes approval to mine up to five deposits (Tiriganiaq, Pump, F Zone, Wesmeg, and Discovery), was issued on February 26, 2015. Type A Water Licence 2AM-MEL1631 was issued on May 19, 2016 allowing mining of the Tiriganiaq gold deposit, with two open pits (Tiriganiaq Pit 1 and Tiriganiaq Pit 2) and one underground mine. Commercial production commenced in 2019. The Rankin Inlet airstrip is currently used to access the mine site.

Since NIRB approval in 2015 and to extend the life of the mine, Agnico Eagle has continued to extend its knowledge of the deposits and orebodies by way of additional geological investigations. As a result, an improved project, collectively referred to as Meliadine Extension. This optimized project is also based on lower risk water retention structures, lower waste rock and tailings volumes generated, increased ore quantities mined and longer mine life.

In light of lessons learned following years of constructing and operating the Meliadine Mine, Agnico Eagle is proposing the development of an on-site airstrip as an option/alternative to the Rankin Inlet airstrip to support year-round access to site during operations, including regular scheduled crew changes, and some equipment and materials resupply. Agnico Eagle is not actively looking at building it in the short-term but as obtaining all required permits take time (i.e., years), this option/alternative has been included into the Meliadine Extension application. Agnico Eagle would like to have the flexibility to build it should conditions change and the need arise as it plans to be in Nunavut for a long time. In the meantime, the Rankin Inlet airstrip will continue to be used.

This Airstrip Use Management Plan has been designed to support road traffic management and air traffic at the Meliadine Mine from construction through post-closure. As part of Meliadine Extension, Agnico Eagle is proposing to construct an airstrip, access road and other necessary infrastructure for the operation of the airstrip. The conceptual design and the proposed location of the Meliadine Airstrip are shown on Figure 1 and Figure 2, respectively.

Figure 1: Meliadine Airstrip Conceptual Design

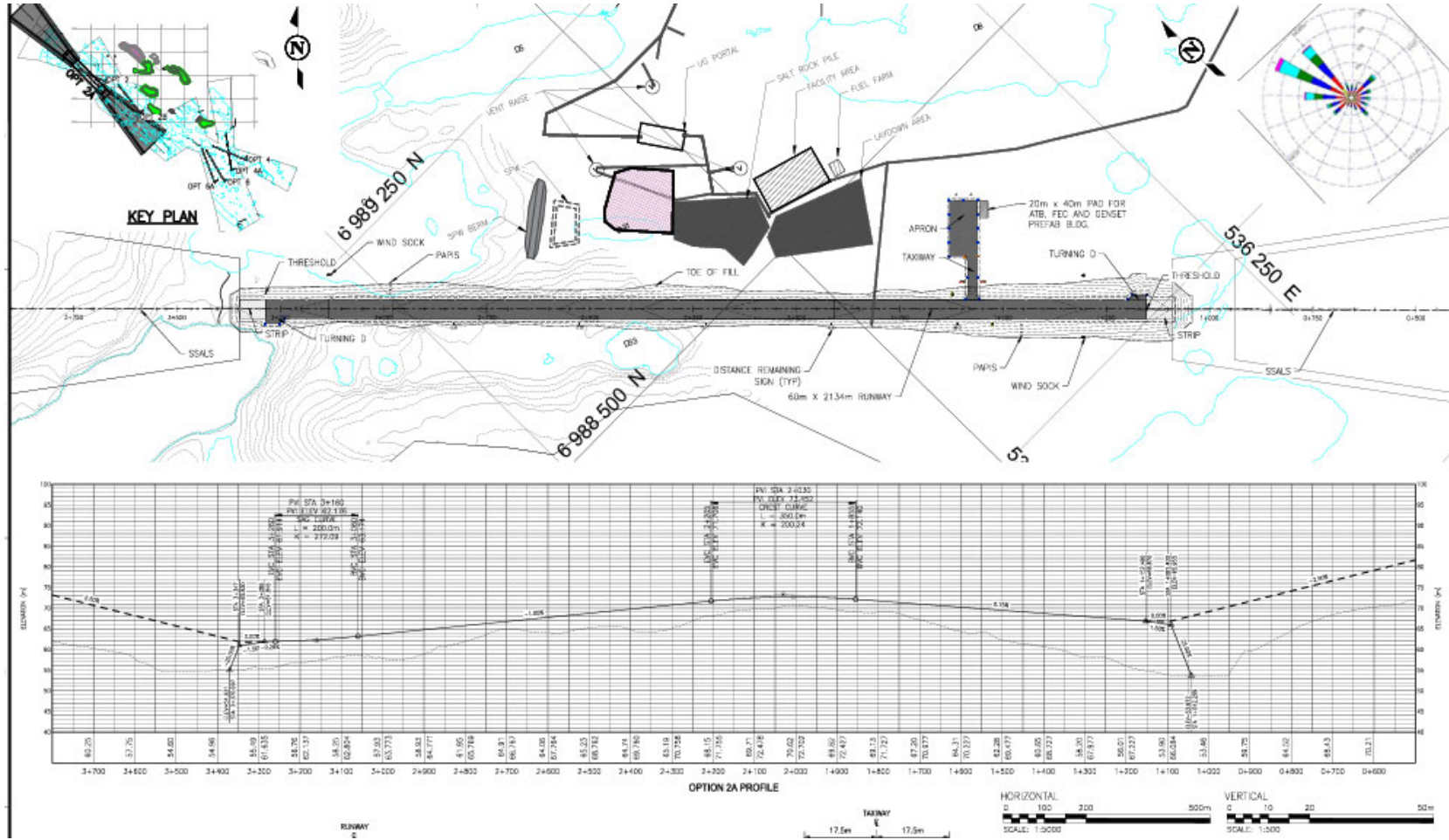
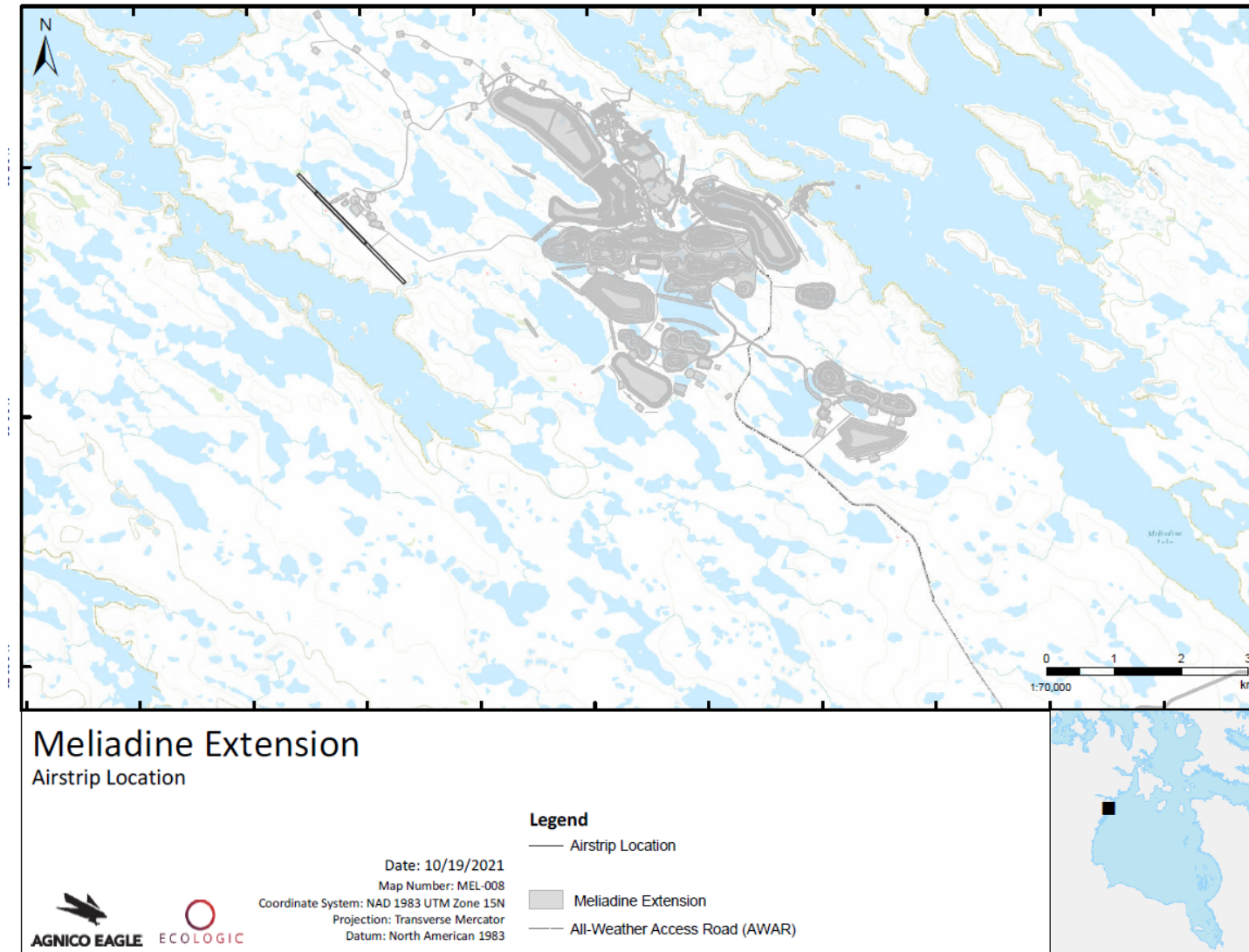


Figure 2: Location of the Meliadine Airstrip



## **SECTION 2 • REGULATORY SETTING**

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The proposed location for the Meliadine Airstrip is on Inuit Owned Lands (IOL) administered by the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA).

The airstrip is being constructed, inspected, operated, and maintained by Agnico Eagle. Consequently, Agnico Eagle has sole responsibility for the airstrip and will ensure it meets Transport Canada and NAV Canada requirements for safety and best management practices for use by fixed wing aircraft.

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**SECTION 3 • TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT DURING AIRSTRIP USE**

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The Meliadine Airstrip would be used for both personnel and freight flights to the Meliadine Mine. Agnico Eagle will educate all its employees and all its contractor's employees on airstrip safety rules during the safety induction training that occurs upon site arrival and will include an understanding of the protocols for use of the airstrip and work in proximity of the mine strip. The safety rules developed for the airstrip will apply to Agnico Eagle employees and Agnico Eagle contractor employees. The road leading to the airstrip will be closed for public use.

Mining activities will occur towards the end of the Meliadine at the Tiriganiaq-Wolf mining area, which is located in the vicinity of the airstrip. Safety protocols will be developed by Agnico Eagle when the activity in the area is increased to ensure a safe workspace. Agnico Eagle and contractor's that travel routinely at the Tiriganiaq-Wolf mining operation or in the area of the airstrip will be equipped with a radio set to the requisite frequency. Consequently, traffic on and around the airstrip will always have radio contact with security, and other Agnico Eagle and contractors. These standard communication systems will be used to report airstrip activity.



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**SECTION 4 • WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

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Wildlife is expected to occasionally be observed on or in close proximity to the airstrip. Caribou and other wildlife will have the right-of-way at all times. In case of encounters (e.g., small herds or aggregations of caribou), the environmental department will be in charge of managing the situation and, with the collaboration of the security department, will advise air traffic control.

The Terrestrial Environment Monitoring and Management Plan has been updated to include adaptive management, mitigation, monitoring, and stakeholder engagement for the protection of wildlife habitat, ungulates, predatory mammals, small mammals and birds during the construction, operation and closure of the Meliadine Mine and, consequently, of the Meliadine Airstrip. The monitoring and management program described in the Terrestrial Environment Monitoring and Management Plan will be implemented at the Meliadine Mine Airstrip, and regularly reviewed and updated per discussions with the Terrestrial Advisory Group which includes representatives from the Government of Nunavut, Kivalliq Inuit Association and the Kangiqliniq Hunters and Trappers Organization.