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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI

April 24, 2003

By Email and Regular Mail

The Honourable Robert D. Nault
Minister
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0H3

Subject: Licence NWB1POL0311
Closure and Reclamation of the Polaris Mine, Nunavut

Dear Mr. Minister,

Please find enclosed for your review and consideration Licence NWB1POL0311 duly approved by the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). This licence authorizes TeckCominco Limited to use water and dispose of waste in relation to the closure and reclamation of the Polaris Mine, Nunavut. Reasons for decision are also included with this letter.

This approval is granted by the NWB pursuant to section 13.7.1 of the *Agreement Between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada* (NLCA) and the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* (Act). We understand and respect your view to the effect that you are required to approve this licence pursuant to section 56 of the Act, despite the clear language of section 13.7.1 of the NLCA giving the full authority to the NWB to approve any use of water and disposal of waste into water in Nunavut, and the precedence of the NLCA over any legislation in case of inconsistency or conflict. In this context, we are respectfully asking you to take whatever steps you feel are appropriate consistent with the NLCA and the Act.

Sincerely yours,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Thomas Kudloo
Chair

Enclosure: Licence NWB1POL0311
Reasons for Decision