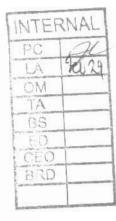
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BRANCH 5204-50th AVENUE, SUITE 301 YELLOWKNIFE, NT. X1A 1E2 (867) 669-4737 (Telephone) (867) 873-8185 (Fax)

Rita Becker Licencing Administrator Nunavut Water Board P.O. Box 119 Gjoa Haven, Nunavut XOE 1J0



February 28th 2000



Meliadine Project, NWB2ATU9899

I am responding to your letter, dated February 23rd 2000, regarding a water licence renewal (NWB2ATU9899) for the Meliadine Project, owned by Cumberland Resources Limited.

I noted the applicant intends to:

- · Remove scrap metal from the site.
- Reuse empty fuel drums or remove from the site.
- Remove waste oil and grease for recycling purposes.
- · Refrain from using tracked or wheeled vehicles in camp or the project area.

These actions are fully supported. The applicant should ensure that the waste oil and grease is disposed at a facility appropriate for handling such hazardous materials.

I noted the applicant intends to utilize a sump for grey water disposal. The applicant should be encouraged to maintain the pit to some engineering standard so it enhances the degradation of organic material and dispersion of liquids. The applicant also intends to use outhouses for human body waste. Given that the project facilities will support an exploration program for many years, and up to 12 employees may be on site during the active summer months, the applicant should be encourage to install bio-toilet type technology. Utilizing such technology would not only help maintain the quality of the local environment but would also represent a positive measure from a human health perspective

Given the quantity of stored fuel and hope that the exploration program will continue for some time, the applicant should be encouraged to install drip pans and/or absorbent matting under areas prone to small but frequent fuel spills. As well, the applicant should be encouraged to consider the use of portable, self-contained fuel berms.

Please call (669-4737) should you wish to discuss the comments.

Carey Ogilvie Environmental Assessment Coordinator Northern Division