Fish Habitat Management Suite 101, 5204-50th Avenue Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 1E2

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April 18, 2000

Nunavut Water Board P.O. Box 119 Gjoa Haven, NT X0E 1J0

Attention: Rita Becker

RE: Water License Renewal # NWB2ATU9899, Atulik Lake-Rankin Inlet (Meliadene –East Project, Cumberland Resources Ltd.

Dear Ms. Becker:

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Fish Habitat Management (DFO-FHM) received the water license renewal application for mineral exlporation by Cumberland Resources Ltd. at Atulik Lake near Rankin Inlet.

Under the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, DFO-FHM is participating in a NIRB screening by providing specialist information and/or advice. DFO-FHM's assessment primarily takes into consideration fish and fish habitat related issues.

Any concerns, comments or mitigation measures that DFO-FHM feels are pertinent to the above mentioned project are outlined in the following letter of advice, addressed to the proponent, and should also be considered specialist information and/or advice for the purposes of a MVRMA screening.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (867) 669-4919, or Pete Cott (867) 669-4913 or by fax at (867) 669-4940.

Christa Domchek Fish Habitat Biologist, Fish Habitat Management Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Attached

cc Pete Cott – A/Arctic Habitat Coordinator, DFO-FHM Winston Fillatre– A/C&P Supervisor -Fishery Officer, DFO

