



Environment Environnement
Canada Canada

Environmental Protection Branch
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May 7, 2003

Our file: 4703 001 014

Gladys Joudrey
Environmental Assessment Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board
PO Box 2379
Cambridge Bay, NU X0E 0C0

Fax: (867) 983-2574

Attention: Gladys Joudrey

Re: NIRE 03ER061 & NWB2ATU: Water Licence Renewal Application - Atulik Lake Project - Cumberland Resources Ltd.

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the above noted Water Licence Renewal Application submitted by Cumberland Resources Ltd. The comments provided for the above applications have been made under Section 36(3) of the Fisheries Act, the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA) and the Migratory Birds Convention Act (MBCA).

Cumberland Resources Ltd. will be utilizing an established exploration camp which is known as the Discovery camp. The camp is located 20 km north of Rankin Inlet on Anulik Lake. No new construction will be required. A fuel cache will be established central to the proposed diamond drilling activities. The diesel fuel required for the camp and drilling will be hauled over land during the spring while the ground is still frozen. Ground geophysical surveys will pin point the location of drill targets. Access to and from the drill sites will be by helicopter.

Comments and Recommendations

The Environment Canada, Yellowknife phone number should be changed to (867) 669-4729 with Magnus Bourque as the contact person.

- Operational practices for the handling of fuels and hazardous fluids should be available to personnel on site and include:
 - * spill contingency plan outlining a clear path of response
 - * contact list of persons to be contacted in the event of a spill and assigned responsibilities of company staff
 - * location of equipment, both on and off site to be used in the event of a spill
 - * state that "all spills" are to be documented and reported to the NWT/NU - 24 Hour Spill Line number (867) 920-8130
 - * an appropriate spill kit with absorbent material should be located at all fuel storage locations.
- The proponent shall ensure that drill cuttings, chemicals, fuel or wastes associated with the project do not enter waters frequented by fish. All sumps, spill basins and fuel caches should be located in such a manner that the contents do not enter a water body.
- All fuel containers must be properly sealed and stacked in an upright position to prevent the possibility of spills and leaks. Fuel containers should be stored on flat, stable terrain or in natural depressions well away from water bodies and inspected periodically for leaks.
- When storing banded fuel at a location, EC encourages the use of a secondary containment rather than relying on "natural depressions." Self supporting mounds are available from various suppliers within Canada.

- If artesian flow is encountered, drill holes shall be plugged and permanently sealed immediately.
- No disturbance of the bed or banks of any definable watercourse is permitted. During the spring, special efforts must be made to avoid bed and bank disturbances.
- Provide to my attention, when known, coordinates in degrees, minutes and seconds for the fuel cache and drill site locations.

EPB should be notified of changes in the proposed or permitted activities associated with this application.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4744 or ron.bujold@ec.gc.ca with any questions or comments.

Yours truly,



Ron Bujold
Environmental Assessment Technician

cc: Steve Harbicht (Head, Environmental Assessment & Monitoring, EPB)
Mike Fournier (Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, A&M, EPB)