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February 13, 2001

Cominco Ltd. 400-1066 W. Hastings Vancouver, B.C. V6E 3X1

Attention: Victoria L. Yehl

Dear Victoria L. Yehl:

Re: Notice of Receipt of Application

Nunavut Water Board Public Registry

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Your application for a water use permit to conduct exploratory drilling and gravity surveying for the Stuart River Project on Cornwallis Island was received on February 12, 2001. NIRB has assigned it file number 01EN009. In all future correspondence regarding this application please refer to this number.

Your application will be distributed to relevant authorities and communities in order to assess the ecosystemic and socio-economic effects your operation may have on the environment.

We expect to complete our screening report by Wednesday March 14, 2001.

If you have any questions regarding the screening process, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Yours truly,

Claigh Jouly
Gladys Joudrey

Environmental Assessment Officer

Tel: (867) 983-2593 Fax: (867) 983-2574