

February 10, 2009

Leslie Payette
Manager of Environmental Administration
Nunavut Impact Review Board
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Dear Ms. Payette

Re: NIRB file no. 09MN002, Areva Resources Inc.'s proposed Kiggavik Project

Please accept this as an unsolicited personal comment on the Areva Resources proposed Kiggavik Project. I am opposed to uranium mining globally, as a resident of Baker Lake I have concerns regarding this proposal. My concerns are outlined below.

- my research indicates that there is no safe way to mine uranium, the risk of contamination of the environment is long lasting and far reaching. Contaminated waste rock (sand), leaching from tailings ponds into the water systems and onto the land will impact negatively on the environment for many generations. Carbon emissions generated from the processing of yellow cake will impact on global warming.
- the negative impacts on the wildlife and more specifically caribou, their calving grounds and migration patterns. Caribou are an essential traditional dietary source for Inuit in the community—stats Canada recently released a report that 68% of Inuit maintain a traditional diet of country food. The lack of which will impact on the overall health of the community.
- moral issues associated with uranium mining, nuclear power and weapons.
- the inability of the governments to monitor the mining industry, especially uranium mining. This is seen worldwide.
- the unwillingness of mining (uranium) companies to report spills etc. either in a timely fashion or at all.
- the Thelon River is a heritage river and was designated so that future generations would benefit.

The Nunavut Planning Commission held a meeting in 2007 and deemed from that process that uranium mining was accepted by the people of Baker Lake and other organizations that were present. I attended as a community member and would not assume from those meeting that the people of Baker Lake were in agreement. The people were not allowed to give their full presentations, they were allotted 5 minutes to speak and then cut off by the moderator.

I would recommend that this proposal be referred to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs to the Federal Minister of the Environment for a public federal environmental review as per Sec. 12.6.1 of the Nunavut Land Claims agreement.

Barbara Mueller

