



Fisheries and Oceans
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DFO file : 08-HCAA-CA7-00052

NIRB file : 09MN003

February 10th, 2009

Ms. Leslie Payette
Manager of Environmental Administration
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, Nunavut
X0B 0C0

Via E-mail to :
lpayette@nirb.ca

Dear Ms. Payette:

Subject: AREVA Resources Canada Inc. – Kiggavik Project

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) received the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB) letter dated January 20th, 2009 regarding the commencement of the Part 4 Screening review of the AREVA Resources Canada Inc's project proposal of the Kiggavik uranium mine.

DFO has reviewed the "The Kiggavik Project – Project Proposal" dated November 2008 and concluded that the dewatering of a portion of Andrew Lake will cause a harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat, thus requiring an authorization under subsection 35(2) of the *Fisheries Act*. It is DFO's opinion that the following works and undertakings in relation to the development could also result in impacts to fish and fish habitat:

- Construction of stream diversions in the proposed location of the Centre Pit, temporary special waste pile and clean waste rock pile;
- Construction of a dam across the outlet of Sik Sik Lake;
- Construction of a dock in Baker Lake;
- Construction of watercrossing structures along site haul road and the access road from Baker Lake to the Kiggavik Mine site;
- Construction of berms to collect site drainage; and,
- Installation of water intake structures.

Please note that DFO has not yet received a *Fisheries Act* authorization application from AREVA for all works that may be determined to result in the harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction of fish habitat. DFO will send a letter to the proponent in this regard, including a copy of the application form.

Canada

DFO has considered the information in the project description, including the mitigation measures proposed therein, and is of the opinion that there is a potential for the development to cause significant adverse environmental effects to fish and fish habitat. Therefore we recommend that the Kiggavik mine development be reviewed under Article 12, Part 5 or 6, of the *Nunavut Land Claim Agreement*.

In closing, DFO would like to thank the NIRB for the opportunity to provide comments and we look forward to continued discussions related to this development proposal. If there are any questions or clarification needed on any of these matters, please contact Sarah Olivier at (867) 669-4919.

Regards,



Beverley Ross
Regional Manager, Environmental Assessment for Major Projects
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

cc. Ginny Flood, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
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