



Affaires indiennes  
et du Nord Canada

Indian and Northern  
Affairs Canada

Sous-ministre adjoint

Assistant Deputy Minister

Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 0H4

**MAR 11 2009**

Ms. Stephanie Autut  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)  
PO Box 1360  
CAMBRIDGE BAY NU X0B 0C0



Dear Ms. Autut:

The Honourable Chuck Strahl has asked me to reply to your letter of February 24, 2009 regarding screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) of AREVA Resources Canada Incorporated's *Kiggavik* mine development project proposal, Baker Lake Area, Kivalliq, NU (NIRB 09MN003, DIAND 5510-5-25). In your letter, you request additional time to screen the proposed project.

Under Article 12.4.5(b) of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, the period of time required for the screening of a project proposal by the NIRB may exceed 45 days with the approval of the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs. I recognize that this project proposal involves unique considerations making screening within 45 days impossible for the NIRB. On the Minister's behalf, I am granting the NIRB permission to exercise this provision of the Land Claim and exceed the 45-day limit for the screening of this project. I would like to thank the NIRB for its diligence in the review of this proposal.

I note that the Nunavut Regional Office has advised you that the time period for the processing of this land use application has also been extended. Should you have questions or concerns regarding my reply, please do not hesitate to contact Michael Nadler, Regional Director General, Nunavut Region, at (867) 975-4503.

Sincerely,

for Patrick Borbey  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Northern Affairs Organization

**Canada**