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Appendix A

Response to KIA IR #07

IR#07-01

The Government of Nunavut appreciates the participation of the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA) in the review process and welcomes their inquiries. The Government of Nunavut believes that the lack of information on the resident herd is an issue that needs to be addressed. All of the information that is available for public consultation is accessible from our web site. Unpublished information will be posted on our web site as soon as it is ready to be shared.

If KIA needs more specific information, the GN is open to share information they have via an information sharing agreement. We encourage KIA to define precise aims, types of data, data format, years to be covered, and to contact the GN to determine the details of an information sharing agreement.

IR#07-02

The Cabinet of the Government of Nunavut has approved the Nunavut Caribou Strategy Framework. Since its approval, the GN Department of Environment has been working towards an implementation plan to support the sustainable management of Nunavut's caribou herds. At this time there is no dedicated research plan for the study of a specific herd, but there exists a continuing effort to understand the overall population dynamics and demographics of the Kivalliq Region. These overall population studies contribute to the GN responsibility for ensuring healthy, sustainable, and viable populations of wildlife.

Response to KIA IR #08

IR #08-01 and #08-02

The Cabinet of the Government of Nunavut has recently approved the Nunavut Caribou Strategy Framework. Since its approval, the GN Department of Environment has been working towards an implementation plan to support the sustainable management of Nunavut's caribou herds. At this time there is no dedicated research plan for the study of a specific herd, but there exists a continuing effort to understand the overall population dynamics and demographics of the Kivalliq Region. These overall population studies contribute to the GN responsibility for ensuring healthy, sustainable, and viable populations of wildlife.

IR#08-03

The Government of Nunavut has the responsibility to monitor the overall health and status of wildlife in Nunavut. The GN does not conduct incremental project specific monitoring. It is the GN's belief that it is the responsibility of the proponent to conduct

project specific monitoring. The GN will work collaboratively with a proponent to design, licence, and implement project specific monitoring.

Response to BQCMB IR #25

The Nunavut General Monitoring Program is a Nunavut Land Claims Agreement obligation. Currently, the GN is contributing to the NGMP with projects on caribou and carnivores..

Concerning possible data gathered with AREVA contribution, the GN is open to integrating the reporting of data and analyses to the NGMP pending budgetary support. With the production of a SoK in this context, GN will provide comments to the NWMB, which is entitled to the final decision of wildlife management in the territory.

Response to CARC IR Part 2: Data Request

We do not have shapefiles that show Meadowbank Gold Mine RAA and direct and indirect habitat loss footprints.

Response to Makita IR #24 (shown as the second # 20, page 16)

To our knowledge, only a few efforts have been made to measure levels of radiocesium in the Kivalliq caribou.

- 1) From 1992 to 1994, Renewable Resources, GNWT, undertook an regional investigation that included sampling of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds (see Macdonald et al. 1996 published in the journal *Science of the Total Environment* 182:53-73). An average of 200 Bq/kg was measured over a dozen of caribou.
- 2) In the Arctic, the ¹³⁷Cs accumulates in lichen much more than in grasses and sedges. It originates from the nuclear testing in the atmosphere during the cold war, liquid discharges from nuclear reprocessing plants and from the Chernobyl fallout. The most southern herds present the highest concentrations of all (see Macdonald et al. 1996).
- 3) Inuit in Baker Lake were tested at the end of the 60's and 80's by Health Canada (Tracy and Kramer 2000. *Arctic*, 53:42-52). See also Strand et al. 2002 *Journal of Environmental Radiocativity* 60:5-21. The average concentration in the 60's was 2.0 Bq/g and 0.21 in the 80's.

The 3 papers cited here are annexed and contain more detail than is presented here (concentration and other studies published in the Arctic are listed inside).