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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI

May 8, 2003

Mr. Craig Goodings
Manager, Environmental and
Regulatory Affairs
Cumberland Resources Ltd.
Box 72, One Bentall Centre
Vancouver BC V7X 1M4

Subject: Application for Water Licence – Meadowbank Gold Project
NWB File #: NWB1MEA

Dear Mr. Goodings:

On April 23, 2003 the Nunavut Water Board (“NWB” or “Board”) forwarded your March 31, 2003 application for a water licence for the Meadowbank project to the Nunavut Planning Commission (“NPC”), as required pursuant to Article 11 and 13 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (“NLCA”) and S. 38 of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* (“Act”).

While awaiting NPC’s conformity determination, we conducted a preliminary assessment of your application and supporting project description report. Our initial review leads us to believe at this time that your application does not contain sufficient information to be processed notwithstanding whatever determination the NPC makes. Indeed, your application states that much of the information required will be provided in the Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement later in 2003. At a minimum, your application should provide the Board sufficient information to evaluate the qualitative and quantitative effects of the use or the deposit on waters, including but not limited to the information listed in S. 48(3) of the Act.

To this end, we would like to invite interested parties, by copy of this letter, to provide their initial comments and identify deficiencies in the water licence application and supporting documents, which can be obtained from the NWB’s ftp site ([ftp.nwb.yk.com](ftp://nwb.yk.com) in Directory “Mining or Bulk Sampling”, Sub-directory “NWB1MEA”) or by contacting Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB Licensing Administrator, by telephone, telecopier or email at nwblic@polarnet.ca. We ask that all comments be submitted to the NWB Licensing Administrator no later than May 31, 2003, after which date the NWB will provide additional directions.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Philippe di Pizzo
Executive Director

c.c. Distribution List

Cumberland Resources Ltd. – NWB1MEA – May 8, 2003

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