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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD  
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July 18, 2003

*NWB File #: NWB1MEA*

Ms. Stephanie Briscoe  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
Cambridge Bay NU X

Subject: Application for Licence - Meadowbank Gold Project

Dear Ms. Briscoe:

We are in receipt of an electronic message dated July 18, 2003 from Brian Aglukark, Nunavut Planning Commission ("NPC"), informing the Nunavut Water Board ("NWB") that NPC has completed its review of the abovementioned project proposal and that it has concluded that it conforms to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan. This message was copied to the Nunavut Impact Review Board ("NIRB").

We conclude that with this decision of the NPC, all requirements of section 38(1) of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* ("Act") have been met, and that NPC's determination is 38(1)(a): the use of water and the deposit of waste into water as described in the application conform to the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan.

Pursuant to section 39(1) of the Act, the NWB may not issue, amend or renew a licence to use waters or deposit waste where the use or deposit requires screening in accordance with Part 4 of Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement ("Agreement"), until NIRB has completed the screening and, where a review under Part 5 or Part 6 of that Article is required, issued a project certificate. **Consequently, we are formally asking NIRB to screen this application as required by law.**

We are aware that NIRB has already received all documents submitted by Cumberland Resources Limited in support of their water licence application. These documents have also been placed in the NWB Public Registry and are available from our ftp site or by contacting our office. Please feel free to contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Philippe di Pizzo  
Executive Director

c.c. Craig Goodings  
Distribution List

## Cumberland Resources Ltd. – NWB1MEA – July 18, 2003

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