

December 5, 2003

Mr. Craig Goodings Cumberland Resources #950, One Bentall Centre Box 72, 505 Burrard Street Vancouver, B.C V7X 1M4

Dear Mr. Goodings:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) is in receipt of your November 30, 2003 lease application to the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA) to construct a 5 million litre tank for bulk fuel storage. This application seems related to the several requests that you have made to the Board this fall for bulk fuel storage. As you know, Cumberland's main project proposal is now in the Minister's decision-making hands for Part 5 or Part 6 consideration under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA).

While NIRB respects the KIA's right to process its own applications, the NIRB has impact assessment jurisdiction over Inuit Owned Lands (IOLs). See NLCA section 12.12.1. Therefore, our advice to you regarding this KIA application is that same advice that we have already given you: NIRB will not screen this project separately; the Board will wait until we hear from the Minister, and then the Board will engage a process for public review of all components of your mining project proposal, including bulk storage of fuel.

In summary, until NIRB has the Minister's decision, we will not be screening individual parts of the project proposal. All licenses that are to be issued must await the project review. (See section 12.10.1 of the N LCA.) It is true that related licences for exploration or development may be issued separately, but that decision has not been made, will be subject to public comment if the exemption is applied for by Cumberland, and in any event, the Board will not review portions of the project in advance of ministerial directions under Part 5 or Part 6 of the NLCA.

Yours sincerely,

Jorgen Komak EA Officer

Cc: Distribution List, KIA