



Indian and Northern
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Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 2200
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

May 7, 2004

Doug Soloway
Environmental Assessment Officer
Transportation Canada
P.O. Box 8550, 3rd Floor- 344 Edmonton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0P6
(204) 983-7705; Fax: (204) 983-5048
solowad@tc.gc.ca

RE: Meadowbank Gold Mine Proposal

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is of the understanding that responsibility for implementation of the Navigable Waters Protection Act has been transferred from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to Transport Canada (TC). In our consideration, it is possible that TC may therefore may now be triggered as a responsible authority (RA) under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) for the afore-mentioned project.

As a RA on the BIPAR proposal, INAC requests that TC complete the attached form and respond to us within 10 working days (May 21, 2004). Please copy your response to Craig Goodings on behalf of Cumberland Resources, as well as David Robinson at the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) and Stephanie Briscoe of the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB).

If you require additional information to make a determination under Section 5 or Section 12(2) of CEAA, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 975-4554 as part of your efforts to locate the necessary information.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Janice Traynor
Environmental Scientist
Environment and Contaminants Division

cc Mr. Craig Goodings, Environmental Manager for Cumberland Resources
Ms. David Robinson, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Ms. Stephanie Briscoe, Nunavut Impact Review Board

Canada

MEADOWBANK GOLD PROPOSAL

Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) Referral Response Form

Pursuant to CEAA's Federal Co-ordination Regulations, please indicate to the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) office whether or not your Department/ Agency (please check off the appropriate box **by May 21, 2004**):

- a) has now, or anticipates identifying on the basis of information supplied to date, a responsibility under section 5 of CEAA to assess the environmental effects of the project (ie, is there a trigger).

YES "

NO "

Trigger(s):

- b) can provide specialist advice with respect to an environmental assessment of the proposed project pursuant to section 12(3) of CEAA to a responsible authority.

YES "

NO "

- c) will provide INAC and the other regulators with technical or scientific advice and/or comments on the issues raised by this project, based on the information supplied to date (please provide details including other federal legislative and/or policy requirements)

YES "

NO "

Areas of specialization:

- d) does not have sufficient information to enable you to identify any concerns related to your mandate. Please clearly identify additional requirements below.

YES "

NO "

Additional requirements:

All departments or agencies are requested to sign the signature block and date below and fax the response to this office within the time frame specified.

signature of department responder, print name

title of responder and date

**PLEASE FAX THE COMPLETED FORM TO: Janice Traynor at INAC
(867) 975-4585**