



Cumberland Meeting in Cambridge Bay February 9, 2005

Attendees:

Craig Goodings, Cumberland Resources, Environmental Manager (CG)
Martin Gebauer, Cumberland Resources, Terrestrial assessment (MG)
Susan Ross, Cumberland Resources, Socioeconomic assessment (SR)
Hattie Mannik, Cumberland Resources, Traditional Knowledge specialist (HM)
Randy Baker, Cumberland Resources, Aquatic assessment (RB)

Stephanie Briscoe, NIRB, Executive Director (SB)
Gladys Joudrey, NIRB, Manager of Administration (GJ)
Karlette Tunaley, NIRB, Technical Advisor (KT)
Stephen Lines, NIRB, Technical Advisor (SL)
Carolanne Inglis, NIRB, Hearing Coordinator (CI)
Jennifer Bishop, NIRB, Monitoring Officer (JB)
Jorgen Komak, NIRB, GIS Technician (JK)

Sylvia Novoligak, NIRB, Environmental Administrator (SN)
Rob Esser, NTI, Land Administration, Planning and Management (RE)
George Naikak Hakongak, NTI, Environmental, Water, and Marine Management (GN)
Carson Gillis, NTI, Director of Lands and Resources (CaG)
Keith Morrison, NTI, Administrative Geology (KM)

Craig Goodings presented an overview of the Meadowbank Gold Project including maps of the project location; information about Cumberland Resources; feasibility studies; maps of the Greenstone Belt; land tenure; proposed site plan; deposits; staged preliminary designs; milling process; environmental program; community meetings and involvement; traditional land use; archeological reconnaissance survey; seismic zoning; permafrost; groundwater flow; geochemistry considerations; conceptual dyke sections; rock storage facility options; tailings storage facility options; Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs); Values Socio-Economic Components (VSECs); supporting documentation organization chart; draft Environmental Impact Statement concordance table; predicted water quality treatment levels; summary of water balance model; selected demographic, education and income data; measurable regional cumulative effects assessment

KM: Why are water diversions proposed?

CG: To separate contaminated water from non-contaminated water for environmental purposes.

RB: To keep the cost of running the Waste Water Treatment Plan (WWTP) to a minimum. It is very costly to run a WWTP.

CI: Regarding the Traditional Knowledge Map shown in the presentation, do people fish or hunt in the mine site area?

HM: When people travel to Gjoa Haven, they use the route from Baker Lake to the mine site. Elders have said that they fish in the local area, the west side of the camp, and if the caribou are there they will hunt.

Randy Baker presented the Aquatic Components of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) including the strategic approach, methodology, key questions, mitigation and residual effects, water chemistry/ hydrology, fish populations, fish habitat (classification, value, substrate type, depth, morphology, complexity), quantities of affected and gained valued habitat, monitoring plans and programs, AEMP monitoring strategy, and key issues addressed in the Aquatic EIA.

RE: Have there been expressions of interest by Baker Lake people in retaining mine infrastructure?

SB: And for what purpose?

CG: Tourism, hunting, economic activity.

CaG: Suggest making closure plans conducive to this.

CaG: Has water compensation been addressed?

CG: We have started negotiations with KivIA regarding a mini IIBA with the surface lease for exploration. This includes employment opportunities for beneficiaries.

CaG: There should be some timeline for community consultation regarding water compensation. We would like to provide support to KivIA through the lessons we have learned.

SL: Regarding the harvesting of fish, have you thought about a “fish-out” plan?

RB: Yes, a fish out plan is needed. We are working with DFO on this.

SL: When will a draft be available?

CG: The question is whether to net or kill. We have discussed this issue with community Elders. We will try to save as many fish as possible and give the killed fish to Baker Lake.

SL: DFO has a fish out protocol.

RB: I do not advise putting the fish in another lake. I advise giving them to the community.

CG: It will be the HTO doing the work.

SL: Can another lake support increased fish? Do you know the size of the open pit?

CG: The dimensions are in the EIS.

SL: Have you characterized your waste rock?

CG: Yes

SL: What are the byproducts of cyanide destruction?

CG: Nitrates and ammonias. The cyanide destruction process is an INCO design.

SL: Is there a schedule of construction activities?

CG: Yes, in the EIS. It is proposed because it depends on permitting.

Martin Gebauer presented the Terrestrial Component of the EIS including: Terrestrial Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs), ecological land classification, aerial survey routes in the regional study area, caribou, caribou calving grounds, caribou protection areas, aerial survey results for caribou, estimated numbers of caribou in the regional study area, range of the Beverly caribou herd, Wager Bay caribou movements, Lorillard caribou movements, satellite collared caribou cow locations, Muskox aerial survey results, breeding bird surveys, breeding bird survey plots, impact matrices, mitigation and monitoring.

CI: Did you select your VECs through community consultations?

MG: Yes, through a combination of community consultation discussions and discussions with other mines

SB: Who identified the Caribou Protection Areas?

MG: The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

SB: Is that NTI supported?

CaG: The Government of Nunavut was written into the The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement establishing a Caribou management board.

SL: Was a human health and ecological risk assessment study done?

MG: Not to date, but test sites are being set up this year.

CG: There are not a lot of contaminants that can enter the food chain.

SB: Why hasn't the study been done to date?

CG: We could not plan where the contaminant plumes would spread.

RB: Risk assessment is not addressed in the NIRB guidelines.

CaG: Are grizzly bear and wolverines hunted by the community of Baker Lake?

HM: Yes, wolverine are hunted. Grizzly bear are only hunted if they are close to town. Grizzly bear are seen more in spring once the snow has melted.

MG: It is my understanding that there is a low density of Grizzly Bears in Baker Lake. We will have to manage our garbage to keep them away.

SB: NIRB has an obligation to consult with the Northern Saskatchewan and Northern Manitoba Denesuline on Beverly Caribou. Have you consulted with them? NIRB has placed them on our distribution list and is keeping them informed.

KM: The Government of Nunavut (GN) will be pushing for a caribou management plan. I suggest you speak to the GN.

Susan Ross presented the Socio-Economic Assessment Components including: baseline, impact assessment, mitigation, monitoring, and implementation of mitigation, benefit enhancement and monitoring.

SB: Do you not see Chesterfield Inlet and Rankin Inlet impacted socially or economically?

SR: No, one or two people getting jobs from those communities will not impact the communities as a whole.

SB: Have you consulted with those people? If you don't include them in training programs, they don't have the opportunity to become skilled.

SR: Access to the training programs in Baker Lake alone is limited.

SB: NIRB is consulting with Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet and accepting evidence from them. At the hearings, you will likely hear that other communities should be included in the socio-economic impact assessment.

SR: If Inuit are interested in training/ employment opportunities, they will be given preference.

KM: Communities not supported by the IIBA will have questions

CaG: Are you including any other communities in fly in and fly out rotations?

CG: Yes.

CaG: I suggest that you consider a discussion of the impacts to those smaller communities (those affected by fly in fly out operations)

CaG: A lot of issues related to jobs and employment will be dealt with during IIBA discussions. During the EIS phase there should be lots of consultation with communities and the issues from those discussions can be dealt with in the IIBA.

CI: I have not seen any evidence of consultations outside of Baker Lake. Do other communities such as Chesterfield Inlet or Rankin Inlet use the mine site area for any purpose?

CG: Only Gjoa Haven.

CI: Please direct me to cumulative effects with respect to valued socio-economic components.

CG: Please see the cumulative effects impact document, section 9

SR: The Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA) was prepared by AMEC. You may need to see both the socio-economic effects document and the CEA document.

SB: NIRB has heard that the Human Resources document has not been made available. The Board is requesting this document. If it contains confidential information, please remove it. Also, because receipt of the supporting documentation was delayed, the conformity deadline has been moved to March 3, 2005, but the technical review deadline and pre-hearing dates remain the same.

CG: We are dropping boxes of the supporting documentation off as we travel.

SB: What is Cumberland's schedule?

CG: We would like regulatory approvals in place in 12months.

SB: As for the traditional season, when do people leave for camps?

HM: Elders start going out on the land between March and May and are back in July. August and September are also bad times. They are back for awhile in July but return to the land in August, September and part of October.

SB: We anticipate early May for pre-hearings but if there is a technical delay we will consider late June, early July.

CaG: Once NIRB decides on a date, check with KivIA for community support.

CG: March 10, 2005 there will be a public meeting in Baker Lake held by Cumberland at 6pm. It is an open house held at the Community Hall. A workshop will be held the next day.

SL: When can NIRB expect the Human Resources Document?

CG: We will have to check with KivIA.

RE: Has Cumberland considered other sources of power generation?

CG: Cumberland explored a number of options above those stated in the EIS but given budgetary restrictions we were only able to provide what is in the EIS.