



File No: **03MN107**

May 30, 2005

Mr. Carl McLean
Manager of Land Administration
INAC, Nunavut Region
Box 100,
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0

Via Email: mcleanc@inac.gc.ca

Re: NIRB Decision Land Use Permit application No. N2005X0010 Geotechnical Investigations Cumberland Resources Ltd.

Dear Mr. McLean

On April 20, 2005 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received Cumberland Resources Ltd.'s (Cumberland) Land Use Permit application (N2005X0010) from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) proposing field investigation work for the Baker Lake to Tehek Lake all season access route. This application was received while NIRB was processing an application *for the same project* received from the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KivIA) (KVL205B10) on March 23, 2005.

On April 25, 2005, with INAC's support, NIRB granted this project a screening exemption under 12.10.2 (b) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) subject to specific conditions that would mitigate any potential environmental impacts from the proposed field investigations. Now, it seems that INAC requires an official letter summarizing NIRB's position on this issue.

NIRB hereby informs INAC that NIRB's original decision to exempt this project under NLCA 12.10.2 (b) stands with conditions, not only for the KivIA land use application, but for the INAC land use application as well.

NIRB requests, and expects that Parties will bring their concerns forward on this issue at the upcoming Technical Meeting and Preliminary Hearing Conference.

Yours truly,

Stephanie Briscoe
Nunavut Impact Review Board, Executive Director

c.c. Honourable Andy Scott, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Luke Cody, Executive Director, Nunavut Planning Commission
Meadowbank Distribution List