



Environment Environnement  
Canada Canada

Environmental Protection Branch  
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December 2, 2005

Our file: 4703 001 015

Gladys Joudrey  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
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[ktunaley@nirb.nunavut.ca](mailto:ktunaley@nirb.nunavut.ca)*

Dear Ms. Joudrey:

**RE: Cumberland Resources Ltd. - Meadowbank Gold Project  
Final Hearing Scheduling, Associated Deadlines and Information**

Thank-you for the opportunity to provide input into the proposed environmental assessment process for the Cumberland Resources Ltd. Meadowbank Gold Project. In the letter dated November 28, 2005, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) requested comments regarding their proposition to hold a final environmental impact statement (EIS) conformity meeting on December 15, 2005. Environment Canada's (EC) comments on this issue are provided below.

Environment Canada is interested in participating in the proposed meeting to discuss the NIRB's internal conformity review of the final EIS as well as submission filing timelines for the remainder of the EA process. Environment Canada is of the opinion that the objectives of this meeting can be fulfilled via teleconference and that it is not necessary to meet in Yellowknife. The NIRB should note that EC will not be in a position to discuss any issues regarding the content of the final EIS at this meeting as our internal review is still ongoing. However, EC is in agreement with Cumberland Resources Ltd. that the discussion of process issues, such as the timing of the final hearings, should be a priority for discussion at the proposed Conformity Meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4639 or by email at [colette.spagnuolo@ec.gc.ca](mailto:colette.spagnuolo@ec.gc.ca). Thank-you again for the opportunity to provide input into the environmental assessment process for this project.

Yours truly,

***Original signed by***

Colette Spagnuolo  
Environmental Assessment / Contaminated Sites Specialist

cc: (Stephen Harbicht, Head, Assessment and Monitoring, Environment Canada, Yellowknife)