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Department of Environment

Ministère de l'Environnement

Stephanie Briscoe, Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
P.O. Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay  
NU X0B 0C0

December, 02, 2005

**Re: Meadowbank Gold Project Conformity Meeting**

Dear Ms Briscoe

As requested by NIRB in their letter dated November 28, 2005; DoE is responding to the proposal to hold a FEIS conformity meeting with Cumberland and Parties on December 15<sup>th</sup> 2005.

DoE acknowledges the effort expended by NIRB in undertaking their conformity review and believes such a process can only be of longer term benefit to the proponent and interveners. However, having undertaken this review DoE feels that the onus is now on the proponent to respond to the issues identified within the timescales proposed by NIRB. Cumberlands correspondence dated November 28, 2005 would confirm that they are happy with this proposal.

DoE is prepared to participate by teleconference in the December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005 meeting. Our role in this meeting would be to assist NIRB, and the proponent, in ensuring that sufficient information is made that available to address the conformity issues identified by NIRB; and allow parties to comprehensively assess the environmental, social and economic impacts of this project. Unfortunately, DoE is not sufficiently advanced in its review of the FEIS to identify other technical issues.

One again we thank NIRB for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely

Mike Atkinson  
Manager Land Use and Environmental Assessment  
Department of Environment  
Tel 867 975 7732