

July 5, 2006

Mr. Andrew McAllister Senior Environmental Assessment Officer Natural Resources Canada

Via email: amcallis@NRCan.gc.ca

Re: Temporary Explosives Factory License for Meadowbank Project

Dear Mr. McAllister:

Thank you for your letter dated June 30, 2006 and received today, July 5, 2006, informing the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) that Cumberland Resources Ltd. (Cumberland) requires a temporary explosives factory license under section 7(1)(a) of the *Explosives Act* for a temporary explosives factory to be located near the Hamlet of Baker Lake.

Please be advised that Cumberland's requirement for a temporary explosives factory license will be included in the Meadowbank Gold Project Part 5 Review. In accordance with the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) Section 12.10.1 which states the following:

"No licence or approval that would be required in order to allow a proposed project to proceed shall be issued in respect of a project that is to be screened by NIRB until the screening has been completed and, if a review pursuant to Part 5 or 6 is to be conducted, until after than review has been completed and a NIRB project certificate has been issued by NIRB pursuant to these provisions."

the temporary explosives license shall not be issued until after the Part 5 Review has been completed and a NIRB project certificate has been issued by NIRB.

By way of copy of this letter and the attached notification from Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) to the Meadowbank Distribution list, NIRB is requesting that Parties submit comments regarding this additional project activity and regulatory authorization, if any, to Karlette Tunaley, NIRB's Technical Advisor. NIRB apologizes for the short notice, however, given the importance of time to this project we request that comment be submitted this **Friday July 7, 2006.**

For your information and reference this correspondence has also be uploaded to NIRB's ftp site at: http://ftp.nunavut.ca/nirb/03MN107-MEADOWBANK_GOLD_PROJECT/02-REVIEW/09-HEARING/CORRESPONDENCE/

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at ktunaley@nirb.nunavut.ca or by phone at 867-983-4605.

Sincerely,

(original signed by:)

Karlette Tunaley Technical Advisor

Attachments: Letter dated June 30, 2006 from NRCan to Stephanie Briscoe

Cc Meadowbank Distribution List