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July 19, 2006

*Your file*      *Votre référence*

4703 001 015

*Our file*      *Notre référence*

NU-02-0028

Karlette Tunaley  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
P.O. Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, Nunavut  
X0B 0C0

Dear Ms Briscoe:

**Subject:** NIRB's Final Questions to Parties and Cumberland Resources Ltd. Re: Meadowbank Gold Mine Proposal

Below is DFO's response to the *Meadowbank Written Hearing: NIRB's Final Questions to Parties and Cumberland Resources Ltd.* Question 11 of this memo was directed directly to DFO. DFO was asked:

"NIRB would like confirmation from DFO that the Canadian Coast Guard is the responsible agency for placing spill kits in the communities and under what conditions the Canadian Coast Guard would consider placing community spill kits in Chesterfield Inlet and Baker Lake.

I received this request late on July 17 with a deadline of July 19. I have tried to contact both CCG and Transport Canada who both have jurisdiction over spill kits. In this short time line I was unable to get a response from either.

I can offer the following information:

Cumberland Resources (CRL) will be transferring fuel between a ship and a tank farm so they are considered to be an Oil Handling Facility (OHF). As such they would have to meet requirements of the *Canada Shipping Act* and regulations. Part of this legislation would require an OHF to produce an Oil Pollution Emergency Plan and have the plan reviewed by Transport Canada. The plan has requirements for response equipment (ie spills kits), storage and training requirements etc. Craig Miller of Transport Canada is the contact for this process. He is out of the office until July 28, 2006. To date, others in Transport Canada have not responded to me with any helpful information.

In general the first response to a spill is the responsibility of the owner. The Canadian Coast Guard, as lead agency for ship-source spills, will then respond to ship-source spills. The Canadian Coast Guard has spill kits located in a number of Arctic communities. These kits come in three general sizes. The smallest is called an Arctic Community Pack. These are found in 10 communities in the Arctic. The closest Arctic Community Pack to the mine site is located at Rankin Inlet.

I have contacted the Coast Guard and am trying to determine under what conditions the Canadian Coast Guard would consider placing spill kits in Chesterfield Inlet or Baker Lake.

I will follow up with the board with a late submission when I receive full information for this request.

Regards,

***Original Signed By:***

Dave Gibson  
Habitat Management Biologist

Copy: Beverly Ross, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (via email)  
Gail Faulkner, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (via email)