



Natural Resources  
Canada

Ressources naturelles  
Canada

Minerals and  
Metals Sector

Secteur des minéraux  
et des métaux

Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0E4

Ottawa (Ontario)  
K1A 0E4

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

July 21, 2006

**Re:** Closing statements for the Meadowbank Gold Project

Dear Ms. Tunaley,

In response to the direction by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) on the continuance of the Final Hearing, issued by NIRB on July 12, 2006, I wish to confirm that Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has no remaining concerns arising from our interventions and within our requested areas of expertise. This includes the matter of a temporary explosives factory which is now, in the view of our Explosive Regulatory Division, resolved following the satisfactory responses by Cumberland Resources Ltd. to NIRB's questions on that subject.

NRCan would like to thank NIRB for the opportunity to have contributed its scientific expertise and regulatory knowledge to the Part 5 review of the Meadowbank Gold Project. The NIRB review process has ensured that the Meadowbank Gold Project, if approved, will have been planned by means of a thorough and transparent examination of its potential impacts and with full consideration of the important views and opinions expressed by all interveners and members of the affected Kivalliq communities.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Johnstone  
Deputy Director  
Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Affairs

cc: Andrew McAllister, NRCan  
Denis Lagacé, NRCan

**Canada**