

CUMBERLAND RESOURCES LTD.

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May 26, 2006

Mr. David Hohnstein, C.E.T.
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Nunavut Water Board
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Email: Tech2@nwb.nunavut.ca

Dear David

Re: Meadowbank Project: Diesel Fuel Tank – No Hydrostatic Testing

This is to respond to your query of May 24, 2006 to Roger March of Cumberland Resources Ltd. communicated through your email to Roger on the same date on the above subject.

You are right to note that the information provided in the Application for the Water License Amendment makes no mention of any hydrostatic testing of the proposed diesel fuel tank. Fuel storage tanks are constructed and tested to follow recommendations made in API 650. As per API 650 the tank could be tested for any leakage either by hydrostatic testing or using an alternate method such as vacuum testing of the tank floor, shell to floor welds testing by penetrating oil such as diesel, and X-Raying of welds to the extent required by API 650. These alternate methods of testing have been deployed at Diavik and Snap Mines. Hydrostatic testing in cold weather is generally avoided because of potential icing after the testing is completed. The proposed tank at Meadowbank will be tested using the recommended alternate methods.

I'll be glad to provide any additional details that you might need. Please feel welcome to call or email if you have any question.

Yours truly,

Raj Anand. M. Eng; P. Eng.

CC: Matt Langfrey, Tim Hinds, Luis Manzo, Roger March, Brad Thiele, Jim Koski, William Purdy,