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Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Nunavut District Office P.O. Box 100 Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Tel: (867) 975-4289 Fax:(867) 979-6445

Your file - Votre reference NWB2MEA0204
Our file - Notre référence

Cumberland Resources Ltd. 950-505 Burrard Street Vancouver, British Columbia V7X 1M4

April 7, 2005

Re: Unlicenced exploration activity at the Meadowbank site.

Dear Mr. Gordon;

Further to a phone conversation with Roger March of Cumberland Resources; The proposed work plan for calendar year 2005, submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) by Cumberland Resources Ltd., suggests that the Meadowbank Gold Project will begin exploration activities in late April 2005. Exploration activities are not permitted without a valid water licence. As the water licence previously issued to Cumberland Resources expired on December 31, 2004, it would be a violation of the Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act to conduct any activities requiring a water licence at the Meadowbank site.

Under section 11(1) and 12(1) of the Act, a water licence is required for any use of water or deposit of waste in Nunavut, where that deposit may enter waters in Nunavut.

Under section 90(1) of the Act, any person who contravenes subsection 11(1) or section 12(1), is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both

Accordingly, all activities requiring a water licence at the Meadowbank site must cease until a valid water licence has been issued by the NWB.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Sincerely,

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Scott Stewart Water Resource Officer Nunavut District Office Iqaluit, Nunavut

c.c. NWB (D. Hohnstein, P. Bealieu)
Roger March (Cumberland Resources Ltd.)
Anne Wilson (Environment Canada)