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July 22, 1999

VIA FAX: (867) 360-6338

Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Cape Haven, Nunavut  
X0E 1J0

Attention: Mr. Phillippe Di Pizzo  
Executive Director

Dear Mr. Di Pizzo:

**Re File: NWD2MCA9099 -- Meadowbank**

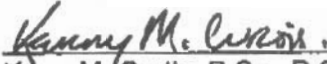
I am requesting temporary approval, subject to final documentation, to commence our exploration trenching program at the Meadowbank Gold Project. We have received approval from the Kivalliq Inuit Association to proceed.

If we receive temporary approval by July 27<sup>th</sup> we can at least mobilize our field crews in anticipation of starting the program the following week. Unfortunately, any delays beyond this timeframe will seriously jeopardize completion of this program this year.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Best regards,

CUMBERLAND RESOURCES LTD

  
Kerry M. Curtis, B.Sc., P. Geo.  
Senior Vice President

KMC/bg

