

**Attachment A.** Further information supporting the 9 June 2008 submission by the BQCMB on Uravan Minerals Inc. Garry Lake Project Proposal (08EN037).

- BQCMB board members from across the caribou ranges are concerned about the ecological effects of human land use activities on caribou and the long-term impacts these activities will have on the sustainability of traditional lifestyles and livelihoods for northern communities. Anxiety has increased in recent years given the documented declines in five NWT caribou herds, limited information about Beverly and Ahiak herds, and the uncertain but likely declining population status of these herds.
- The BQCMB believes that action must be initiated immediately by governments and regulatory boards to protect the caribou herds, and that this action must include providing long-term legislated protection for calving and post-calving areas, finalizing and implementing the Thelon Game Sanctuary Management Plan, and assessing and minimizing the cumulative effects of exploration and development on the caribou herds.
- Although the map provided by NIRB is helpful in showing the number and location of permits for mineral exploration, it provides a limited amount of information.
  - The map only provides a partial indication of the land use activities ongoing on the Beverly calving ground and across the Kivalliq portion of the caribou range. Mineral exploration often occurs for years before activities are planned that require application for a land use permit (such as camps and drilling). These early exploration activities that fall below the permit threshold (such as low-level flights by aircraft) are of concern to the BQCMB because they may cause significant disturbance to caribou.
  - The map shows site-specific activities such as camps or drilling locations, but does not indicate the areas in which companies are actively conducting exploration activities. A similar map that shows project areas would be more informative.
- The attached BQCMB map is intended to provide a regional view of the potential cumulative effects of mineral exploration and other land use activities on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds. For several years the BQCMB has been compiling and mapping information on companies with mineral tenure (prospecting permits, mineral claims, mineral leases), roads and land use permits on the calving grounds and across the caribou ranges in an attempt to monitor the land use activities occurring across the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou ranges.

We recognize that mineral tenure does not necessarily indicate where mineral exploration activities are occurring. However, it does show areas in which companies are interested and in which they have invested, and where mineral

exploration may be conducted. The Board reviews this information twice each year at board meetings.

- Information compiled by the BQCMB shows that in April 2008, 10 different companies and individuals had mineral tenure on parts of the traditional calving ground of Beverly caribou, which had been issued by INAC between 1988 and 2008. (These tenures, including 278 mineral claims owned by Uravan, are shown on the map described above.) According to the map provided by NIRB, current land use permits have been issued by INAC to three companies operating on the calving ground, with a fourth proposed by Uravan. So it appears likely that other companies are conducting mineral exploration under the land use permit threshold or may do so in the near future.
- Please note that there are a number of errors on the map you provided with your request for additional input:
  - 05EN027 is mapped in the wrong location; the project is in the West Kitikmeot, not the Kivalliq region.
  - 07EN032 is mislabelled; it is actually one of multiple locations (camps?) for 07EN046.
  - Land use permits issued to Cameco are missing from the map.
  - 05EN025 is mapped as 2 sites: 1 diamond, 1 uranium