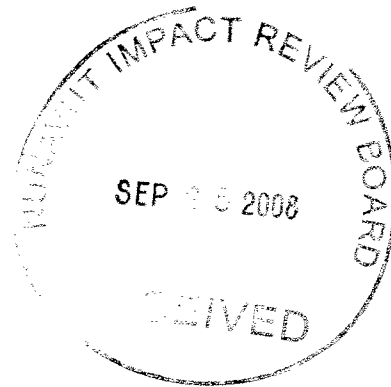




Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

**SEP 18 2008**

Mr. Lucassie Arragutainaq  
Acting Chair  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
PO Box 1360  
CAMBRIDGE BAY NU X0B 0C0



Dear Mr. Arragutainaq:

Thank you for your Screening Decision Report of June 27, 2008, indicating that UraVan Minerals Inc.'s Garry Lake Project proposal requires review under Part 5 or 6 of Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (Agreement).

I have reviewed the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (Board) Screening Decision Report and pursuant to Section 12.4.7 (b), I am referring the proposal to the Board for a review under Part 5 of Article 12 of the Agreement. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada is the only department with jurisdictional responsibility for authorizing the project to proceed.

I note the Board's acknowledgement in its decision report that it is unusual for a project of this size to be recommended for review. However, as detailed on page 5 of the report there remain outstanding issues that warrant further review which include:

- *Impacts of the project activities to caribou, with particular emphasis on calving activities.*
- *Potential impacts to wildlife habitat, particularly the caribou calving grounds of the Beverly herd.*
- *Potential cumulative impacts of this project, in relation to other similar projects in the region, to caribou, caribou calving grounds, and across caribou ranges.*
- *Other impacts to wildlife including raptor nesting areas, potential human-carnivore conflicts and aircraft disturbances.*

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The Board suggested it could focus the scope of the review on the project's impacts and cumulative impacts on wildlife habitat and Inuit wildlife harvesting, and also indicated that it favoured an expeditious review process in light of the size of the project. I support the Board's proposed approach to focusing the review on the aforementioned issues of concern, and pursuant to section 12.5.4 of the Agreement, I propose that the Board structure the review in a manner that will facilitate a thorough, yet expeditious review of the project.

I appreciate the work the Board has done in screening the proposal and look forward to receiving your final report upon completion of the review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Strahl". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Chuck Strahl