

Ministre des Affaires autochtones  
et du développement du Nord



Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and  
Northern Development

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

JAN 25 2013

Ms. Elizabeth Copland  
Chairperson  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
PO BOX 1360  
CAMBRIDGE BAY NU X0B 0C0



Dear Ms. Copland:

Thank you for your letter of October 1, 2012, which provides an update on the current status of the Nunavut Impact Review Board's review of Uravan Minerals Inc.'s (hereinafter called "Uravan") Garry Lake Uranium Exploration Project.

The Nunavut Impact Review Board has indicated the review has been essentially suspended since February 2009, when the Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines were issued for the Garry Lake Uranium Exploration Project. Furthermore, since February 2010, Uravan has established that it will not prepare an Environmental Impact Statement because the costs and time to complete one for the Garry Lake Uranium Exploration Project are prohibitive. Uravan has also requested that the Nunavut Impact Review Board reconsider the need for a Part 5 review, and hence, the need for an Environmental Impact Statement.

As you have stated, the Nunavut Impact Review Board does not have the authority to reconsider its June 27, 2008 screening decision for the Project. Nor do I have the authority to revisit my predecessor, Minister Chuck Strahl's September 18, 2008 decision to accept the Nunavut Impact Review Board's determination and refer the Garry Lake Uranium Exploration Project to the Nunavut Impact Review Board for a review under Part 5, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. Therefore, in order for this project to proceed, the requirements of Part 5 must be met. Hopefully the proponent will choose to fulfil its responsibilities so this project can advance, although ultimately, this is their decision.

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I appreciate the efforts of the Nunavut Impact Review Board in the review of the Garry Lake Project and I thank you for taking the time to provide me with this important update.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Duncan', with a stylized, cursive script.

John Duncan, PC, MP

c.c.: Mr. Larry Lahusen