

Ministre des Affaires autochtones
et du développement du Nord



Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and
Northern Development

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

JAN 25 2013

Mr. Larry Lahusen
Chief Executive Officer
Uravan Minerals Inc.
204 - 2526 Battleford Avenue SW
CALGARY AB T3E 7J4

llahusen@uravanminerals.com



Dear Mr. Lahusen:

Thank you for your letter of October 31, 2012, regarding the Nunavut Impact Review Board's review of the Uravan Minerals Inc.'s Garry Lake Uranium Exploration Project.

In your letter, you outline a number of concerns with the Part 5 review process the Project is undergoing. Specifically, you have questioned the Nunavut Impact Review Board's original screening determination for the Project, and subsequent requirement to complete an environmental impact statement. In reviewing the information requirements established by the Board's final guidelines, Uravan determined that it was unnecessarily onerous and that the costs to produce an environmental impact statement were prohibitive. As a result, Uravan has not initiated work on an environmental impact statement and has asked the Nunavut Impact Review Board to reconsider the need for a Part 5 review.

It is important to note that the Nunavut Impact Review Board does not have the authority to reconsider its June 27, 2008 screening decision for the Garry Lake Uranium Exploration 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 to refer the Garry Lake Uranium Exploration Project to the 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. In this situation, the only option available to Uravan, in order to

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have the Project reconsidered, would be to withdraw the current application and submit a revised application to the Nunavut Impact Review Board for screening.

With respect to the recommendations that you put forward in your letter, departmental officials are currently reviewing them as part of the Department's ongoing efforts to improve northern regulatory regimes.

I would also like to offer some clarification regarding the status of Uravan's Garry Lake claims. I have confirmed with departmental officials that Uravan continues to retain these rights. It is essential that Uravan take the necessary steps to provide the Nunavut Impact Review Board with the information that it requires to proceed with the review or, alternatively, to withdraw its current application and submit a revised application to the Nunavut Impact Review Board for screening, to ensure that Uravan continues to retain these rights.

Again, thank you for writing. I appreciate you taking the time to bring your concerns to my attention.

Sincerely,

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

John Duncan, PC, MP

c.c.: Ms. Elizabeth Copland