

NIRB File No.: 06AN085 INAC File No.: N2006C0037 KIA File No.: KVL306C02

December 19, 2008

The Honourable Chuck Strahl Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada c/o Spencer Dewar Manager of Land Administration Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Iqaluit, NU

Via email: dewars@inac-ainc.gc.ca

Re: Extension Request for AREVA's Land Use Permit with Indian and Northern Affairs
Canada for the Kiggavik-Sissons Exploration Project

Dear Spencer Dewar:

Pursuant to Section 12.4.5 (b) of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement (NLCA), the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) hereby requests more time to screen the project proposal referenced above (06AN085-Extension).

On November 12, 2008, the NIRB received an application from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) for AREVA Resources Canada's (AREVA) "Kiggavik-Sissons Exploration" project. The application requested a one year extension to AREVA's Land Use Permit (INAC File No. N2006C0037).

The original application for the above project was received by the NIRB from the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA) on November 29, 2006. The proposal was screened in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the NLCA and on April 3, 2007 the NIRB issued a 12.4.4 (a) screening decision to KIA and INAC allowing the proposed uranium exploration activities including geophysics, soil sampling, mapping, diamond drilling and environmental baseline studies to proceed subject to project-specific terms and conditions.

On August 14, 2007, the NIRB received an amendment request from INAC for the AREVA project. After a thorough assessment of the amendment application information and comments received, the NIRB determined that this request would result in a change to the original scope of the project and re-issued the recommended terms and conditions (April 3, 2007 Screening Decision), along with additional terms and conditions outlined in correspondence to INAC on August 30, 2007.



On March 26, 2008, the NIRB received an extension request from INAC for the AREVA project and determined that the proposed extension for one year did not significantly change the general scope of the original project activities and re-issued the original terms and conditions (Screening Decision dated April 3, 2007) along with the additional terms and conditions as outlined in the August 30, 2007 letter. In addition, the NIRB recommended that INAC grant only a one year extension to the Land Use Permit (i.e. to April 9, 2009) based on the original comments received from Parties. After the expiration of the permit, the NIRB indicated that it would review any requests related to the project proposal and that renewals thereafter would be subject to any findings, direction or advice received by INAC and the KIA from the Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment (GN-DOE) which may result from the GN/GNWT Population Surveys conducted regarding the Beverly and Ahiak Caribou Herds.

Due to the nature of comments received from the GN-DOE and the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board regarding the extension request, the NIRB is not able to provide a screening decision within the 45 day time period (42 days for INAC applications) as per Section 12.4.5 of the NLCA and therefore requires additional time. It is anticipated that the screening of this extension request will be completed by January 9, 2009.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the authorizing agency will inform the Proponent, stakeholders and interested Parties on the extension.

Phone: (867) 983-4600 Fax: (867) 983-2594

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Autut Executive Director

Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Mark Warbanski, AREVA

Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association

Phyllis Beaulieu, NWB