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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of Ronald Allan Coombes who has been President and CEO of numerous publicly trading companies over the past 20 years. As a Professor of Earth Sciences I have gotten to know and respect Mr. Coombes' knowledge of mineral exploration over the past 10 years.

Mr. Coombes has over 20 years of geological experience in Canada and the USA. He has brought to my attention several significant mineral properties of scientific and economic interest.

I have been in the field with Mr. Coombes on numerous occasions where he has demonstrated a professional knowledge of exploration and development of mineral properties.

For the project he is working on now, exploration and development of the Providence mine and associated properties in California, there is no one else who has his degree of knowledge, and hence no one who can take his place.

In my opinion Mr. Coombes should be granted the same professional courtesy as a Professional Geologist and therefore be eligible for essential Professional status for entrance to the United States.

I would be pleased to answer any further questions you may have and can be reached directly at (604) 312-3516.

Yours sincerely,



Lee A. Groat