

Dismantling of a Former Outfitter Camp - Transtaïga sector

Document containing the responses to the questions related to the *Preliminary Information*

Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN)

Final report

Client Reference no. 209863-2021-1

August 2022

16-02111832.000-0200-EN-L-0100-00_EN

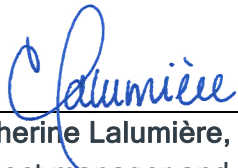


ENGLOBE

Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (MERN)

Client Reference no. 209863-2021-1

Prepared by:



Catherine Lalumière, biol., MBA
Project manager and Associate Director
Environmental Studies and Climate Change

Sylvain Gendron, M. Sc., PMP
Mikuen Services Environnementaux

Approved by:



Katheryne Budd, B.A.
Project Manager
Site remediation

Stéphane Cloutier, engineer
MELCC designated expert
Expert n° 290

Production team

Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN)

Project Manager	Kelly Belisle, Geog., B.Sc.
-----------------	-----------------------------

Englobe Corp.

Project manager	Katheryne Budd, Geog., B.A.
Collaborator	Catherine Lalumière, biologist, MBA
Publishing	Élodie Larochelle, B.A.

ICANTEC/MIKUEN Services environnementaux

CEO	Sylvain Gendron
-----	-----------------

Revisions and publications log

REVISION No.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
0A	July 26, 2022	Preliminary version published for comments
00	August 5, 2022	Final version

Property and Confidentiality

“This report can only be used for the purposes stated therein. Any use of the report must take into consideration the object and scope of the mandate by virtue of which the report was prepared, as well as the limitations and conditions specified therein and the state of scientific knowledge at the time the report was prepared. Englobe Corp. provides no warranty and makes no representations other than those expressly contained in the report.

This document is the work product of Englobe Corp. Any reproduction, distribution or adaptation, partial or total, is strictly forbidden without the prior written authorization of its Client. For greater certainty, use of any and all extracts from the report is strictly forbidden without the written authorization of its Client, given that the report must be read and considered in its entirety.

No information contained in this report can be used by any third party without the prior written authorization of its Client. Englobe Corp. disclaims any responsibility or liability for any unauthorized reproduction, distribution, adaptation or use of the report.

If tests have been carried out, the results of these tests are valid only for the sample described in this report.

Englobe Corp.'s subcontractors who have carried out on-site or laboratory work are duly assessed according to the purchase procedure of our quality system. For further information, please contact your project manager.”

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Questions and Comments	3
2.1	QC-1	3
2.2	QC-2	3
2.3	QC-3	4
2.4	QC-4	5
2.5	QC-5	9

FIGURE

Figure 1 : Installed roosts for bat population	5
--	---

MAP

Carte 1: Bâtiments conservés dans le contexte du projet (Buildings preserved in the context of the project)	7
---	---



1 Introduction

The Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (MERN) filed a request for a certificate of non-subjection in April 2022 for the proposed dismantling of the main camp and satellite camps of a former outfitter in the area of the Transtaiga road.

On July 11, 2022, a first series of questions and comments concerning the request for a certificate of non-subjection was produced by the Ministry of Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change. The objective of the present document is to respond to a first series of questions and comments. These are discussed in full through the following sections.



2 Questions and Comments

2.1 QC-1

QC-1. No direct communication appears to have been carried out by the proponent to inform the Cree Nation of Chisasibi of the dismantlement of the former Nouchimi outfitting camps. The proponent must specify if one or more meetings were held with the Cree Nation of Chisasibi and, if so, provide a summary of the discussions specifying the interests and concerns raised.

Response:

The MERN contacted a representative of the Chisasibi community (Samuel Cox). The first exchanges began in April 2021. The Chisasibi community representative helped the MERN to communicate with the concerned tallymen. The Chisasibi community did not have any particular demands. The tallymen's requests were accepted and several satellite camps were dropped from the project. This is mentioned in the document filed as part of the certificate of non-subjection.

2.2 QC-2

QC-2. The promoter indicated that the social impacts of the project lay in the creation of opportunities for local Cree entrepreneurs. These impacts are to be reflected in employment and staff development opportunities. The proponent must specify the direct and indirect economic benefits at the local level for the Cree community in order to achieve the objectives listed in Chapter 28 (Cree Economic and Social Development), section 28.10 (Cree Participation in Employment and Contracts) of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement. It must also present a summary of the discussions held with the economic stakeholders of the Cree First Nation of Chisasibi if applicable.

Response:

One of the policies of ICANTEC/MIKUEN, the contractor retained to carry out the work, is to promote the development of a circular economy which can be implemented in the communities where it

operates. Through this policy, ICANTEC/MIKUEN help achieve certain objectives listed in the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

As a First Nations company, ICANTEC/MIKUEN was able to foresee, and confirm during a site visit carried out on May 8, 2022, that the Nouchimi outfitter dismantlement project should plan the following:

- Service providers and local labour needed to achieve specific objectives of the final planning stages of the project should be recruited through social networks and direct relationships with the Cree Nation of Chisasibi;
- Services provided by large Aboriginal businesses (e.g., Kepa Transport, Air Creebec, PetroNord, Cree Construction and Development Company Ltd. [CCDC] and Tawich Development) should be retained and prioritized;
- The presence and the nature of the project would allow for the development of waste material management solutions (WMM) for any waste produced from the construction, renovation and demolition (CRD) sector of the territory. The solutions may be beneficial for both the Radisson landfill management as for the Cree First Nation of Chisasibi needs.

Although no formal discussions have been held between the proponent and the various goods and services providers of the Cree First Nation of Chisasibi, the latter are well known to ICANTEC/MIKUEN. In fact, recent and numerous collaborations with these providers mean that the contractor will communicate with its privileged contacts as soon as the start of the work is confirmed to ensure that the regional benefits are maximized.

2.3 QC-3

QC-3. In a table, the proponent presented a summary of the discussions between MERN and the tallymen. However, it seems that MERN was unable to communicate with certain tallymen and that there is still confusion as to whether or not certain buildings will be maintained. The proponent must present an updated list of communications and exchanges with tallymen and present a map with the location of retained buildings, including the location of the bat roosts.

Response:

Since depositing the request for non-subjection, additional discussions have been limited between MERN and the tallymen, who had not yet responded to MERN's communications. In March 2022, one of the tallymen responded to MERN's communications and accommodation was granted. At the request of the tallyman, the camp located at kilometre 395 (001357-10-000) will not be dismantled and will instead be transferred to him so he may practise traditional activities. The agreement was revised, and the camp was dropped from the project. In addition, the tallyman will be responsible for recovering the construction materials he wishes to keep on the second site (215131-00-000) before the arrival of the MERN contractor on the site.

To clarify which buildings will be preserved in accordance with the Talleymen agreement, their location is shown in the map below (Map 1).

Furthermore, the MERN has provided and installed bat roosts (duplexes) as possible habitat location for the bat population prior to the nesting season. These roosts were installed near the wooded area located northwest of the camp, outside the work area (Figure 1). A follow-up on the installation process of these bat roosts will be conducted in the fall of 2022. Since no interventions have taken place in the vicinity of the bat roosts, it is highly unlikely that any changes in their structure or use have occurred.

Figure 1 : Installed roosts for bat population



2.4 QC-4

QC-4. The proponent indicates that the project will allow for the recovery of valuable residual materials (sheet metal, wood, etc.) and the distribution of functional equipment to neighbouring communities. The proponent must present the steps that have been taken to inform the Cree communities concerned of the distribution of recyclable waste.

Response:

The ICANTEC/MIKUEN is accustomed to developing and implementing action plans to recover residual materials in communities or work sites in remote or isolated areas. Consequently, its services meet all the needs of the project and its involvement allows it to identify, in conjunction with the stakeholders, solutions adapted to the territory. In the context of this project, the solutions considered could be the development of a waste management plan (WMP/PGMR) for the municipality of Radisson and the local ICI, the evaluation of the needs for the Cree First Nation of Chisasibi's landfill site as well as the creation of circular economy initiatives or the training of local resources.

With regards to recoverable waste, ICANTEC/MIKUEN found during the scoping visit that certain recovery mechanisms were already in place and operating in the communities. Through the measures that will be put in place in the as part of the project, the need for disposal at the landfill or transportation to urban areas will be minimal. It should be noted that since the lease has been revoked in 2012, members of the Cree community of Chisasibi have been salvaging finished interior wood and other valuable materials from the site. This was found during the visit in May 2022. The MERN is aware of this practice and does not have any concerns with it since it allows for better material recuperation. Pre-demolition salvage will be encouraged because little or no materials will be reusable after demolition due to the use of mechanized equipment.

2.5 QC-5

QC-5. The proponent filed a separate request for non-subjection for the project titled “Remediation work on the former Transtaïga gas station”. The proponent must explain why the remediation of the former Transtaïga gas station is not considered a component of the dismantling of the former Nouchimi outfitter camp project.

Response:

The MERN considers the project of dismantling the former outfitter camp and the reclamation of the old service station as different, notably because they are not of the same nature nor are they handled by the same team within the regional branch of MERN.

The project to dismantle the former outfitting camp operation consists of construction work, whereas the work associated with the reclamation of the old service station is technical in nature and in the environmental field. The latter is subject to the standards of the Environmental Quality Act (EQA) and its related regulations. The service provider for the reclamation project of the former service station must be an environmental firm specializing in soil decontamination. Furthermore, the site of the former service station is included in the environmental liabilities of the State, which means that it must be treated specifically according to the standards governing this type of land. For example, it is subject to the MELCC's reference framework for contaminated sites, which sets out the deadlines and a specific methodological approach.

Although both projects are scheduled to be completed in 2022, this is a coincidence. In fact, MERN published the contract for the reclamation three times due to difficulties in selecting a bidder.



englobecorp.com