



la Convention
de la Baie-James
et du Nord québécois

Comité d'évaluation
Evaluating Committee

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**MINUTES OF THE 275TH MEETING
OF THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE**

(Adopted)

DATE: June 29, 2017

PLACE: Murdoch Archambault Avocats
407, McGill St., Suite 410
Montréal (Québec) H2Y 2G3

PRESENT: Daniel Berrouard, Québec
Kambale Katahwa, Canada
Louis Breton, Canada
Stéphane Cossette, Québec
Brian Craik, Cree Nation Government
John Paul Murdoch, Chairman, Cree Nation Government

Vanessa Chalifour, Executive Secretary

1) NEW CHAIR OF THE COMEV

Members were told that the Cree Nation Government has adopted the resolution for Paul-John Murdoch as Chair of the COMEV for the year 2017-2018.

2) MEETING DECLARED OPEN AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A point was added under Varia: JBACE best practices guide.

3) ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 273RD AND 274TH MEETINGS

The minutes of the 273rd meeting were adopted as written.

Minor corrections were made to the minutes of the 274th meeting.

Action: Translate and file the minutes for the 273rd and 274th meetings.

4) CORRESPONDENCE AND FOLLOW-UP

Correspondence sent and received between March 14, 2017 and June 20, 2017 is listed in Appendix A.

5) PROCESSING OF ORE FROM THE OPEN PIT MINE AT THE BARRY SITE AT THE BACHELOR MINE PLANT, BY METANOR RESSOURCES INC.

REF. NO: 3214-14-027

- Draft directive
 - For decision

On April 20, 2017 the COMEV received the preliminary information on the above project.

The plan is to treat 5,000,000 metric tonnes of gold ore from the Barry site at the Bachelor Mine. This project is the next phase after the earlier mining and processing phases at the Bachelor site. Mining and processing is expected to run from approximately 2018 to 2028.

Members reviewed a draft directive and suggested some changes to the text before agreeing that it can be forwarded to the Administrator.

Action: Send the impact assessment directive to the Provincial Administrator.

6) WINDFALL LAKE MINE PROJECT BY OSISKO MINING INC.

REF NO: 3214-14-059

- Draft directive
 - For decision

The COMEV received the preliminary information on the above project on June 14, 2017.

The proposal of for the construction and operation of an underground mine that would be accessible by two ramps, with the possibility of mining two or three 50-meter deep pits. Mine life would be about 10 years.

Members reviewed a draft directive and proposed some changes to the text before agreeing that it can be forwarded to the Administrator.

Action: Send the impact assessment directive to the Provincial Administrator.

7) RESURFACING AND PAVING OF WEMINDJI ACCESS ROAD

- Addenda
 - For recommendation on whether to exempt this project from the assessment procedure, or the scope of the impact assessment

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the addenda regarding this project on June 12, 2017.

This project involves the Cree Nation Government's plan to resurface and pave the access road to the community of Wemindji for a distance of more than 23 km (and not the 16.4 km mentioned in the initial application of March 8, 2017). The purpose of the work is to correct sidewalks in the urban area, construct and maintain culverts, construct drainage ditches, improve the paving and rebuild a curve near km 4.

After reviewing the preliminary information, the COMEV needs additional information before it can complete its analysis of the project. The proponent should provide answers to the following questions:

1. The proponent must specify the location of its hot mix asphalt plant and provide a description of the biophysical and human environment of the site.
2. The proponent must specify the path of the curve located near km 4. It must specify whether rivers or wetlands will be impacted.
3. The proponent must indicate whether there this project will cause a loss of fish habitat. If so, the proponent must implement a fish habitat compensation program.

Once the additional information is received, a conference call will be planned to complete the review of the file.

Action: Send letter to the Regional Administrator requesting additional information on the project.

8) RESURFACING AND PAVING OF NEMASKA ACCESS ROAD BETWEEN KM 4.5 AND KM 10

Ref. NO : 3214-05-083

- Preliminary information
 - For recommendation on whether to exempt this project from the assessment procedure, or the scope of the impact assessment
- Additional information
 - For information

The COMEV received the additional information on the above project on June 22, 2017.

This project involves the Cree Nation Government's plan to carry out paving work on the access road to the community of Nemaska between km 4.5 and km 10 on category 2 and 3 lands.

Having completed the review of the information on this project, the COMEV considers that further information is required to complete the analysis of the project. The proponent should answer the following questions:

1. The proponent must locate its bituminous concrete plant and provide a description of the biophysical and human environment of the site.
2. If the contractor chooses to make his own aggregates, if the borrowing bank used has more than three hectares or is used for purpose other than for road maintenance, the contractor shall submit additional information to the Regional administrator for that borrowing bank.
3. The proponent must provide a detailed schedule of work and define the restriction periods it intends to put in place to protect fish habitat.
4. The proponent states in its document that the road crosses a watercourse. However, the map shown in Figure 1 shows that the road crosses at least four. The proponent shall describe each watercourse crossing and indicate whether a culvert is installed in accordance with the RNI standards for each intermittent and permanent watercourse crossing. In the case of the presence of a culvert, it must validate its integrity. In the case of the absence of a culvert, the proponent must add one.
5. What measures are proposed to prevent the road from sinking again in peatland areas, particularly in the two "soft soils" zones? Techniques to increase the sustainability of roads in wetlands should be taken into account by the proponent so that the work will produce satisfactory results. A guide has recently been developed for this purpose¹. It should be noted that the possibility of integrating geogrids should be assessed by the proponent and that the development of culvert should be addressed during wetland crossings, particularly in the northeast curve where the wetland extends on both sides of the road. Water circulation may be presently disrupted by road fill and ditches may be unnecessary or ineffective if no measures have been taken to ensure the flow of water on both sides of the road.

¹ <https://fpinnovations.ca/ResearchProgram/forest-operations/resource-roads/Pages/guide-for-planning-construction-and-maintenance.aspx>.

6. Ditching can create additional impacts on wetlands and avoidance should be advocated where possible. The proponent must discuss the steps taken to validate whether digging ditches can be avoided where possible or alternatives such as digging ditches parallel to the road or in some cases dig only on one side.
7. The proponent must identify the concerns raised during its consultation with the Band Council and the Department of Transportation, Sustainable Mobility and Transportation Electrification and how it has addressed these concerns for this project.
8. The proponent must specify how traffic will be managed during the construction period, particularly in excavation areas. He must also specify how he intends to inform the population of Nemaska about the progress of the work.

Once the additional information is received, a conference call will be organized to complete the review of the file.

Action: Send letter to the Provincial Administrator requesting additional information on the project.

**9) EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FENELON DEPOSIT BY WALLBRIDGE MINING COMPANY LTD
REF No: 3214-14-038**

- Additional information (responses to questions)
 - For recommendation on whether to exempt this project from the assessment procedure, or the scope of the impact assessment

The COMEV received the preliminary information on the above project on May 5, 2017 and the additional information on June 12.

The members of the COMEV agreed that the responses were satisfactory.

Based on their review of the additional information, the COMEV decided to recommend that this project be exempted.

Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator recommending that this project be exempted from the assessment process.

Action: Contact the MERN to find out more about the drilling program.

VARIA

a) COMEV website

Vanessa Chalifour informed COMEV members that she has contacted the consultant responsible for designing the website.

A list of the components to be changed will be sent to the consultant. Texts for the following sections also need to be written in French and English to complete the website:

- Public participation
- Role of the COMEV
- Administrative and legal framework
- List of members membres (Louis Breton, Stéphane Cossette, Kambale Katahwa)

Once the texts have been drafted, they will be submitted to COMEV members for approval.

Action: Vanessa Chalifour will prepare the texts and submit them to the COMEV for approval. Louis, Stéphane and Kambale will prepare biographies and send them to Vanessa.

b) Chibougamau intermodal logistics project

John Paul Murdoch mentioned that he had discussed this file with regional authorities. Members discussed the matter and agreed that the project can be exempted from the assessment process.

Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator recommending that this project be exempted from the assessment process.

c) JBACE Best practices guide

Stéphane Cossette has reviewed the guide to public participation for project proponents in the territory covered by chapter 22 of the JBNQA.

At this point the proposed guide looks very interesting. Readers' comments are now being incorporated. A revised version should be submitted soon. The final version should be released by the end of 2017.

10) DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in Montreal on Thursday, September 21 at the offices of John Paul Murdoch, 407 McGill St., Suite 410.

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – March 14 June 20, 2017

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Processing of open pit Barry Mine ore at the Bachelor mine site, by Métanor Ressources Inc. 3214-14-027	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Preliminary information	Rec'd April 20 2017	<i>For recommendation on the scope of the impact assessment</i>
2017 repair and maintenance of the James Bay highway and Chisasibi Road by the Société de développement de la Baie-James 3214-05-081	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Preliminary information	Rec'd Mar 24 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or the scope of the impact assessment</i>
	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	Recommendation of exemption	Sent May 30 2017	
	Julie Bissonnette Deputy Minister's office	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Acknowledgement of receipt	Rec'd May 31 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Raymond Thibault Société de développement de la Baie-James	Attestation of exemption	Sent June 19 2017	
Fenelon deposit exploration and development program by Wallbridge Mining Company Ltd 3214-14-038	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Preliminary information	Rec'd May 9 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or the scope of the impact assessment</i>

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – March 14 June 20, 2017

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Fenelon deposit exploration and development program by Wallbridge Mining Company Ltd 3214-14-038	Daniel Berrouard COMEVA	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	Request for additional information	Sent May 30 2017	
	Julie Bissonnette Deputy Minister's office	Daniel Berrouard COMEVA	Acknowledgement of receipt	Rec'd May 31 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC (Alexandra Roio)	Sylvie Baillargeon WSP Canada Inc.	Questions and comments Fenelon dewatering and bulk sampling project	Sent June 1 2017	
	Sylvie Baillargeon WSP Canada Inc.	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	Additional information Responses to questions and comments	Sent June 5 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEVA	Additional information Responses to questions and comments	Rec'd June 13 2017	
Mine exploration work minière (Stripping and trenching) at James Bay by les Mines Opinaca Ltée 3214-14-042	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEVA	Added information to the preliminary information	Rec'd Mar 30 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or the scope of the impact assessment</i>
	Daniel Berrouard COMEVA	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	Recommendation of exemption	Sent May 30 2017	
	Julie Bissonnette Deputy Minister's office	Daniel Berrouard COMEVA	Acknowledgement of receipt	Rec'd May 31 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Martin Duclos Les Mines Opinaca	Attestation of exemption	Sent June 15 2017	
Windfall Lake mining project by OSISKO Mines Inc. 3214-14-059	Josée Marcoux WSP Canada Inc.	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	Preliminary information	Sent May 24 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or the scope of the impact assessment</i>
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEVA	Preliminary information	Rec'd June 15 2017	

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Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Operation of quarry at km 85.7 of the Transtaïga, LG3 3214-03-037	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Preliminary information	Rec'd May 3 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or the scope of the impact assessment</i>
	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	Request for additional information	Sent May 30 2017	
	Julie Bissonnette Deputy Minister's office	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Acknowledgement of receipt	Rec'd May 31 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Marjorie Harvey Hydro-Québec	Request for additional information	Sent June 14 2017	
Chibougamau intermodal logistics centre by the Ville de Chibougamau 3214-28-004	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	Added information to the preliminary information	Sent Mar 24 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Jean-Sébastien Gagnon Ville de Chibougamau	Added information to the preliminary information	Rec'd Mar 29 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Added information to the preliminary information	Rec'd May 11 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or the scope of the impact assessment</i>
	Jean-Sébastien Gagnon Ville de Chibougamau	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	English version of added information to the preliminary information	Rec'd May 17 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC (Alexandra Roio)	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	English version of added information to the preliminary information	Rec'd May 30 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or the scope of the impact assessment</i>

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – March 14 June 20, 2017

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Maintenance and paving work on the Nemaska access road	Daniel Berrouard COMEY	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Added information to the preliminary information	Sent May 11 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Daniel Berrouard COMEY	Added information to the preliminary information	Rec'd May 15 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Martin Desgagnés Cree Nation Government	Attestation of exemption	Sent May 23 2017	
	Daniel Berrouard COMEY	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Recommendation of exemption	Sent May 24 2017	
	Martin Desgagnés Cree Nation Government	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	Recommendation of exemption	Sent June 9 2017	
	Martin Desgagnés Cree Nation Government	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	Preliminary information	Sent June 9 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEY	Preliminary information	Rec'd June 28 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or the scope of the impact assessment</i>
	Martin Desgagnés Cree Nation Government	Marie-Renée Roy Provincial Admin.	Added information	Sent June 22 2017	
	Mélanie Chabot MDDELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEY	Added information	Rec'd June 22 2017	

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Correspondence and follow-up – March 14 June 20, 2017

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Maintenance and paving work on the Waskaganish access road	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Added information to the preliminary information	Sent May 11 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Added information to the preliminary information	Rec'd May 15 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Martin Desgagnés Cree Nation Government	Attestation of exemption	Sent May 23 2017	
	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Recommendation of exemption	Sent May 24 2017	
Maintenance and paving work on the Wemindji access road	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Added information to the preliminary information	Sent May 11 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Added information to the preliminary information	Rec'd May 15 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Martin Desgagnés Cree Nation Government	Attestation of exemption	Sent May 23 2017	
	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Recommendation of exemption	Sent May 24 2017	
	Martin Desgagnés Cree Nation Government	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Addenda – Modification to certain aspects of the project	Sent June 9 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Addenda – Modification to certain aspects of the project	Rec'd June 12 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or the scope of the impact assessment</i>

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – March 14 June 20, 2017

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Upgrading of drinking water pumping station project	Rhonda Oblin Cooper Cree First Nation of Waswanipi	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	Preliminary information	Rec'd May 15 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Admin.	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Preliminary information	Rec'd June 12 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or the scope of the impact assessment</i>