



la Convention
de la Baie-James
et du Nord québécois

Comité d'évaluation
Evaluating Committee

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**MINUTES OF THE 277TH MEETING
OF THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE**

DATE: November 15, 2017

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

PRESENT: Kambale Katahwa, Canada
Stéphane Cossette, Québec (via telephone)
Brian Craik, CNG
Daniel Berrouard, Québec
Louis Breton, Canada

Vanessa Chalifour, Executive Secretary

PRESENT: John Paul Murdoch, Chairman, CNG

1) MEETING DECLARED OPEN AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as presented.

2) ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 276TH MEETING

The minutes of the 276th meeting were adopted as written.

Action: Translate and file the minutes of the 276th meeting.

3) CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence sent and received between September 22 and November 14, 2017 is presented in Appendix A.

**4) OPERATION OF A HOT MIX ASPHALT PLANT IN THE TWO QUARRIES LOCATED AT KM 168 AND KM 207.9 OF THE JAMES BAY HIGHWAY BY THE SOCIÉTÉ DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE LA BAIE-JAMES
REF. NO: 3214-05-081**

- Preliminary information
 - For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the assessment process, or on the scope of the impact assessment to be conducted

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on this project on September 5, 2017.

Various regional stakeholders agree on the need for a repair program for the James Bay highway. This project involves a seven-year program that will ensure the long-term sustainability of the road and maintain a safe level for the various users. The work began in 2015 and should be completed in 2021. In terms of this application for exemption, the work consists essentially of repaving the road as well as a short-term fix of certain sections by adding a thin layer of asphalt to fill ruts and repair other deformations. The various repairs to be completed will require the operation of a hot mix asphalt plant for the length of the James Bay highway and Chisasibi road. This plant will operate in the existing quarries at km 168 and km 207.9. Work should begin in the spring of 2018 and be complete by the end of the response plan in 2021.

After reviewing the preliminary information, the COMEV members agreed that they will need additional information before reaching a decision. The proponent will have to provide the following information:

1. The proponent will indicate the provenance of the water accumulated in the quarry at km 207.9 and specify whether it is runoff water or groundwater. It should also state whether or not this water will have to be pumped continuously.
2. The proponent will also indicate whether there is a hydraulic connection between the peat bog and the quarry at 207.9, and whether the pumping mentioned above will affect the peat bog. .
3. The proponent will indicate the exact location of the sedimentation pond as well as its dimensions and the design criteria used. The proponent will also specify whether the quality of the water accumulated in the quarry at km 207.9 has been evaluated. It will explain how it intends to manage the situation in the event that the water is not of sufficient quality to be discharged directly into the wild.

Action: Send a letter of transmittal with questions and comments.

**5) CRUSHING AND TEMPORARY STORAGE OF BRICK, CONCRETE AND ASPHALT WASTE AT THE OLD LANDFILL AT OPÉMISKA PARK IN CHAPAIS BY THE VILLE DE CHAPAIS
REF. NO: 3214-16-076**

- Preliminary information
 - For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the assessment process, or on the scope of the impact assessment to be conducted

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on this project on November 7, 2017.

With this project, the Town of Chapais plans crush and store brick, concrete and asphalt waste on the site of the former landfill at Opémiska Park in Chapais. The crushing of the materials will allow them to be recovered as granular material type MG-20. The aggregate will be stored temporarily until October of 2019. The current weights of waste is approximately 1,600 tonnes (240 tonnes of brick, 720 tonnes of concrete and 720 tonnes of asphalt.)

After reviewing the preliminary information, the COMEV decided to recommend that this project be exempted from the assessment process.

Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator recommending exemption.

6) JAMES BAY LITHIUM MINE PROJECT BY GALAXY LITHIUM (CANADA) INC.
RE. NO.: 3214-14-055

- Draft directive
 - For decision

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on this project on October 23, 2017.

This project is to build and operate an open pit mine with an estimated depth of 225 meters. The operating life is estimated at more than 20 years. However, this data will be confirmed with a revised estimate of ore resources, expected later in 2017.

Members were provided a draft directive for review, and they proposed some changes to the text. They agreed to adopt the final version of the directive at the next COMEV meeting.

7) STRIPPING AND BULK SAMPLING AT THE CANCEZ PROPERTY BY METALS TECH LIMITED
REF. NO: 3214-14-060

- Preliminary information
 - For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the assessment process, or on the scope of the impact assessment to be conducted

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on this project on October 16, 2017.

According to this proposal, Metals Tech Limited plans to carry out stripping and bulk sampling at a site south of the LG-3 reservoir near the Transtaiga. The stripping will involve some 25,000 m³ of overburden in various locations, and will take place from 2018 through 2020. A total of about 975 tonnes of bulk material will be sampled, with the main objective of producing a representative sample of the site for metallurgical testing and possible evaluations for mining agreements.

After reviewing the preliminary information, the COMEV members agreed that they will need additional information before reaching a decision. The proponent will have to provide the following information:

1. The proponent states that *"in the event of acid rock runoff, we will implement the best available prevention measures."* The proponent must describe these measures.
2. The proponent states that the Cree nation of Wemindji including the Chief and the tallyman have been informed of the project. The proponent must indicate whether any concerns were raised, and how the proponent responded.
3. The proponent must present a map pinpointing the Lemoyne substation and the existing or redeveloped quarries and sand pits in the area and specify whether aboriginal camps are present.

4. The proponent must provide a brief description of their work camp including information on the number of people accommodated, the drinking water supply, the management of wastewater and the disposal of residual waste.
5. The proponent must make a commitment to use the recommended best practices during its mining survey work. (http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/milieu_ind/pratique-sondage-minier.pdf)
6. With respect to restoration, the proponent suggests that the trenches will likely remain open for an indefinite period in the event that some mining potential is identified. The proponent must give a time limit for their restoration. In addition, the proponent indicates that revegetation will be carried out according to what seems most appropriate for the location based on observations made in the area. The proponent must explain the options considered and what type of follow-up is planned to ensure the regrowth of the vegetation in the short, medium and long term.

Action: Send a letter of transmittal with questions and comments.

8) WHAPMAGOOSTUI NEW SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SITE

REF No: 3214-14-099

- Draft directive
 - For decision

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on this project on August 29, 2017.

The proposal is to build a new northern landfill for the communities of Whapmagoostui and Kuujuarapik. The design phases are not yet complete, but considering the increasing rate of waste generation, the current scenarios are planned to provide waste management for a period ranging from 9 to 31 years, depending on the operating method chosen.

A draft directive was brought to the attention of the members, who made some changes to the draft before agreeing that the directive could be sent to the Regional Administrator.

Action: Send the directive for the impact assessment to the Regional Administrator.

9) UPGRADING OF DRINKING WATER PUMPING STATION IN WASWANUPI

REF. NO.: 3214-11-099

➤ Responses received

- For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the assessment process, or on the scope of the impact assessment to be conducted

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on this project on June 7, 2017. Additional information was received on November 6, 2017.

With this project, the Cree community of Waswanipi plans to largely dismantle the existing pumping station building and a hangar and to clean up the site. The community is also planning the construction of a new pumping station of approximately 16 meters by 10 meters. The new building will also house the water treatment system equipment. A new generator, in a separate heated shelter installed on an outdoor concrete slab, will replace the current generator, which is of insufficient capacity. Finally, the work will include: connection of the new facilities (water line, pumping station, underground connections, etc.) and the installation of fences to restrict access to the site of the pumping stations, drinking water tanks and wells. In addition, the space and infrastructure needed for the installation of a future chlorine disinfection system are planned in the new pumping station building in case disinfection becomes necessary or is desired by the community in the future.

After reviewing the preliminary information, the COMEV decided to recommend that this project be exempted from the assessment process.

Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator recommending exemption.

10) VARIA

a) COMEV website

Vanessa Chalifour informed the members of the COMEV that all the texts have been sent to the consultant and that they have been integrated into the website design. After verification, some small changes will have to be made before the official launch of the website. Vanessa Chalifour will forward these changes to the consultant, who should be able to make the corrections during the week of November 20, 2017.

The COMEV website should be online by the end of November 2017. Once online, Vanessa Chalifour will be able to fully manage the website and make changes to it. Once it is online, a lot of work will be needed in order to update previous and current projects, among other things. All members agreed that only the projects and minutes from 2017 forward will be added to the website.

Action: Vanessa will send the consultant the changes to be made to the website maquette.

11) DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at the new JBACE offices at 1080 Beaver Hall Hill, Suite 1420, Montréal, H2Z 1S8.

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – September 22 to November 14, 2017

| Project | From | To | Document | Date | Action - comments |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Repair and paving Nemaska of access road from km 4.5 to km 10 Ref. No: 3214-05-083 | Mireille Paul MDDELCC | Martin Desgagnés Cree Nation Government | Transmittal of questions and comments | Sent September 20, 2017 Rec'd COMEV September 21, 2017 | |
| Windfall Lake mine project by OSISKO Mines Inc. Ref. No: 3214-14-059 | John Paul Murdoch COMEV | Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC | Recommendation of exemption | Sent September 26, 2017 | |
| | Mireille Paul MDDELCC | Alexandra Drapack Osisko Mines Inc. | Attestation of exemptions | Sent October 10, 2017 Rec'd COMEV October 18 2017 | |
| James Bay Lithium mine by Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc. Ref. No: 3214-15-055 | Mark Pensabene Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc. | Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC | Preliminary information | Sent October 11 2017 | |
| | Mireille Paul MDDELCC | John Paul Murdoch COMEV | Preliminary information | Sent October 23 2017 Rec'd COMEV October 25 2017 | <i>For recommendation on the scope of the impact assessment to be conducted</i> |
| Stripping and bulk sampling at the Cancet property, Metals Tech Ltd Ref. No: 3214-14-060 | Mireille Paul MDDELCC | John Paul Murdoch COMEV | Preliminary information | Sent October 16 2017 Rec'd COMEV October 18 2017 | <i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the assessment process, or on the scope of the impact assessment to be conducted</i> |
| Upgrading of drinking water pumping station Ref. No:3214-11-099 | John Paul Murdoch COMEV | Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator | Transmittal of questions and comments | September 27 2017 | |
| | Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator | Rhonda Oblin Cooper Cree First Nation of Waswanipi | Transmittal of questions and comments | Sent October 27 2017 Rec'd COMEV October 30 2017 | |
| | Isaac Voyageur Reg. Administrator | John Paul Murdoch COMEV | Responses received | Sent November 6 2017 Rec'd COMEV November 6 2017 | |

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – September 22 to November 14, 2017

| Project | From | To | Document | Date | Action - comments |
|--|----------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Project to relocate a section of a 315 Kv powerline and connect the Rose Lithium-Tantalum mine Ref. No: 3214-09-028 | John Paul Murdoch COMEV | Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC | Transmittal of impact assessment directive | Sent October 31 2017 Acknowledgement rec'd October 31 2017 | |
| Crushing and temporary storage of brick, concrete and asphalt waste at the former landfill at Opémiska park, by the Ville de Chapais Ref. No: 3214-14-076 | Mireille Paul MDDELCC | John Paul Murdoch COMEV | Preliminary information | Sent November 3 2017 Rec'd COMEV November 7 2017 | <i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the assessment process, or on the scope of the impact assessment to be conducted</i> |