



la Convention
de la Baie-James
et du Nord québécois

Comité d'évaluation
Evaluating Committee

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**MINUTES OF THE 278TH MEETING
OF THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE**

(Adopted)

DATE: January 10, 2018

PLACE: JBACE
1080 Beaver Hall Hill, Suite 1420
Montréal (Québec) H2Z 1S8

PRESENT: Kambale Katahwa, Canada
Alexandra Roio, Québec
Brian Craik, GNC
Daniel Berrouard, Québec
Louis Breton, Canada (by phone)

Vanessa Chalifour, Executive Secretary

ABSENT: John Paul Murdoch, Chairman, CNG

1) WELCOME OF NEW MEMBER: ALEXANDRA ROIO

The members of the COMEV welcomed new member Alexandra Roio, who will act as a member for the Quebec government.

2) MEETING DECLARED OPEN AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as written.

3) ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 277TH MEETING

The minutes of the 277th meeting were adopted as written.

Action: Have minutes translated into English and file.

4) CORRESPONDENCE AND FOLLOW-UP

Correspondence between November 15, 2017 and January 9, 2018 is attached as Appendix A.

**5) INSTALLATION OF BOAT RAMP AT KP 223 ON THE RUPERT RIVER BY THE CREE NATION OF NEMASKA
REF. NO: 3214-04-034**

➤ Preliminary information

- For recommendation on whether the project is exempt 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 December 1st, 2017.

This proposal from the Cree Nation of Nemaska is to install a boat ramp upstream from the weir at KP 223 on the Rupert River. No excavation will be required for this work, which will consist solely of the installation of crushed rock backfill to allow the launching of boats. The ramp will be about 4 meters by 25 meters. The work requires no deforestation or road construction. The work will be carried out in such a way as to keep the shore on each side of the launching ramp in a natural state.

In addition, the COMEV understands that the proponent will use materials that are free of particulates, and will put in place whatever measures are necessary to protect fish habitat located near the work.

Based on its review of the preliminary information, the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the assessment process.

Action: Send letter to Provincial Administrator recommending the project be exempted.

6) CHIBOUGAMAU INTERMODAL LOGISTICS CENTRE BY THE VILLE DE CHIBOUGAMAU – PHASE IB
REF. NO: 3214-28-004

- Preliminary information
 - For recommendation on whether the project is exempt 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 December 12, 2017.

This project from the Ville de Chibougamau involves the establishment of the intermodal logistics center of Chibougamau (CLIC). According to the proponent, this project would increase rail transport and reduce distances covered by road transport, meaning that companies would benefit from reduced freight transportation costs in the Nord-du-Québec region. Environmental gains would also be significant as a result of a substantial reduction on greenhouse gas emissions. Moreover, by acting as a logistics hub and intermodal zone, the CLIC would strengthen access to strategic infrastructures by maintaining rail service and by its multi-user approach.

The COMEV would like to mention that the proposed location of this project replaces the project from the same proponent for which COMEV issued a recommendation last July. The current recommendation covers only Phase 1 of the Chibougamau intermodal logistics center project. Any plans for future expansion will require that the project be resubmitted to the Provincial Administrator for approval.

Based on its review of the preliminary information, the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the assessment process.

Action: Send letter to Provincial Administrator recommending the project be exempted.

7) SECOND ENTRY POINT INTO THE COMMUNITY - WASWANAPI
REF. NO.: 3214-05-084

- Preliminary information
 - For recommendation on whether the project is exempt 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 December 15, 2017.

The goal of this project by the Cree Nation of Waswanipi is to construct a two-lane highway that will serve as a second entry point for Highway 113 into the community. Each lane will have a width of 3.5 meters and unpaved shoulders 2 meters wide on each side. A corridor of 30 meters will be cleared for the road. The total length of the road is 701 meters. The project schedule provides for the construction of the road beginning in May 2018 and asphaltting will take place in 2020. The proponent states that paving will take place after two freeze / thaw cycles that will allow the road to stabilize properly before paving. Before 2020, only about 20-50 meters of the road near the intersection of Highway 113 will be paved so as to prevent granular materials from spilling onto the highway.

Based on its review of the preliminary information, the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the assessment process.

Action: Send letter to Regional Administrator recommending the project be exempted.

8) JAMES BAY LITHIUM MINE PROJECT BY GALAXY LITHIUM (CANADA) INC.

REF. NO.: 3214-14-055

- Draft directive
 - For decision

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

This project is to build and operate an open pit mine with an estimated depth of 225 meters. The project is located along the James Bay road at km 381. The operating life is estimated at about twenty years, to be confirmed when the required impact study is produced.

Members of the COMEV studied a draft directive and proposed some modifications before agreeing to send the directive to the Provincial Administrator.

In addition, the proponent was asked to provide a history of the events, activities and projects that affected the baseline of the relevant valued components for this project in order to support an evidence-based cumulative effects assessment. The proponent must also provide its sources of information.

COMEV members wondered if such information might be necessary for all types of projects and if, therefore, they should systematically request this information in future directives. The COMEV will evaluate whether this is necessary based on experience.

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

9) DEVELOPMENT OF A PERMANENT SITE FOR THE CRUSHING AND STORAGE OF BRICK, CONCRETE AND ASPHALT WASTE (BBA) – PROJECT BY THE VILLE DE CHAPAIS

REF. NO.: 3214-16-077

- Preliminary information
 - For recommendation on whether the project is exempt 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 December 11, 2017.

With this project, the Ville de Chapais plans to develop a 1.78 hectare permanent site for the crushing and storage of brick, concrete and asphalt waste. The site may also receive other types of materials used for municipal purposes, such as sand, gravel and other quarry materials. The targeted site is located inside the Chapais Industrial Park. This project is intended to equip the Ville de Chapais with a compliant site for the storage of brick, concrete and asphalt.

Based on its review of the preliminary information, the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the assessment process.

Action: Send letter to Provincial Administrator recommending the project be exempted.

10) STRIPPING AND BULK SAMPLING AT THE CANCEY PROPERTY BY METALS TECH LIMITED

REF. NO: 3214-14-060

- Responses to questions
 - For discussion

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received additional information on this project on January 9, 2018.

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.

The COMEV would like to be kept informed of the discussion to be held in January 2018 with the Wemindji Cree Nation, the Chief and the tallyman. Based on its review of the preliminary information, the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the assessment process.

Action: Send letter to Provincial Administrator recommending the project be exempted.

11) VARIA

a) COMEV website

Vanessa Chalifour informed members that the COMEV website is now online and operational. Some projects still need to be added to the website. This will be done during the month of January 2018.

With the goal of continually improving the website, a bank of overtime will be purchased from the consultant. Vanessa Chalifour will contact the consultant for the exact costs and will arrange for approval of this expense.

In addition, COMEV will have to consider what links will be maintained with the COMEX website. Responses must also be received from the Cree Nation Government as well as the procedures to be implemented vis-à-vis the new provincial registry that will come into effect on March 23, 2018.

b) Thank you letter to Stéphane Cossette

A letter of thanks has been prepared following the departure from the Committee of Stéphane Cossette. The letter will be sent by email.

Action: Send thank you letter.

c) Projects in analysis /to come

- Mining exploration project (2x) by Opinaca Mines Ltd., Ref. No.: 3214-14-042
- Windfall exploration project

d) Projects awaiting responses from proponents

- Operation of a mobile hot mix asphalt plant in the quarries located at km 168 and 207.9 of the James Bay highway by the Société de développement de la Baie-James, Ref. No.: 3214-05-081

12) DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at the Montreal offices of John Paul Murdoch, 407 McGill St, Suite 410.

Appendix A
Correspondence between November 15 2017 and January 9 2018

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Operation of a hot mix asphalt plant in the quarries located at km 168 and 207.9 of the James By Highway by Société de développement de la Baie James Ref No: 3214-05-081	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC	Transmittal of questions and comments	Sent November 17 2017 Acknowledgement of receipt November 20 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	Raymond Thibault Société de développement de la Baie-James	Transmittal of questions and comments	Sent December 1 2017 Rec'd COMEV December 4 2017	
Stripping and bulk sampling on the Cancet property by Metals Tech Limited Ref No: 3214-14-060	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC	Transmittal of questions and comments	Sent November 17 2017 Acknowledgement of receipt November 20 2017	
	Darren Smith Dahrouge Geological Consulting Ltd.	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC	Responses to questions	Sent December 22 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Responses to questions	Sent 9 janvier 2018 Rec'd COMEV le 9 janvier 2018	
Crushing and temporary storage of brick, concrete and asphalt waste at the old Opémiska landfill in Chapais, project by Ville de Chapais Ref No: 3214-16-076	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC	Recommendation of exemption	Sent November 17 2017 Acknowledgement of receipt November 20 2017	
Dev't of permanent crushing and storage site for brick, concrete and asphalt waste (BBA) by the Ville de Chapais Ref No: 3214-16-077	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Preliminary information	Sent December 15 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or on the scope of the impact assessment</i>

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Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Project to relocate a section of a 315 Kv powerline and connect the Rose Lithium-Tantalum mine by Hydro-Québec Ref No: 3214-09-028	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC	Réal Laporte Hydro-Québec	Transmittal of impact study directive	Sent November 24 2017 Rec'd COMEV November 29 2017	
Installation of boat launch ramp Projet at KP 223 on the Rupert par River by the Cree Nation of Nemaska Ref No: 3214-04-034	Pierre Laneuville Hydro-Québec	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC	Preliminary information	Sent November 2 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Preliminary information	Sent November 30 2017 Rec'd COMEV December 1 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or on the scope of the impact assessment</i>
Chibougamau intermodal logistics centre by the Ville de Chibougamau – Phase IB Ref No: 3214-28-004	Jean-Sébastien Gagnon Ville de Chibougamau	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC	Preliminary information	Sent December 8 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Preliminary information	Sent December 12 017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or on the scope of the impact assessment</i>
Mining exploration by Opinaca Mines Ltd Ref No: 3214-14-042	France Trépanier Les Mines Opinaca Ltée	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MDDELCC	Preliminary information	Sent November 29 2017	
	Mireille Paul MDDELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Preliminary information	Sent December 18 2017 Rec'd COMEV December 19 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or on the scope of the impact assessment</i>
Upgrading of drinking water pumping station in Waswanipi Ref No: 3214-11-099	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Recommendation of exemption	Sent November 17 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Rhonda Oblin Cooper Cree First Nation of Waswanipi	Recommendation of exemption	Sent November 20 2017	

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Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Second Entry Point into the Community Ref No: 3214-05-084	Rhonda Oblin Cooper Cree First Nation of Waswainpi	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Preliminary information	Sent November 23 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Preliminary information	Sent December 15 2017 Rec'd COMEV December 19 2017	<i>For recommendation on whether to exempt the project, or on the scope of the impact assessment</i>
Whapmagoostui new solid waste disposal site Ref No: 3214-16-099	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Transmittal of impact study directive	Sent December 4 2017	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	George Sandy Whapmagoostui First Nation	Transmittal of impact study directive	Sent December 6 2017 Rec'd COMEV December 11 2017	
2016-2017 Annual Report JBACE	Graeme Morin JBACE	Vanessa Chalifour COMEV	2016-2017 Annual Report	Sent December 14 2017	