



la Convention  
de la Baie-James  
et du Nord québécois

**Comité d'évaluation**  
**Evaluating Committee**

ᑲᐅᑳ ᐅᑲᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲ  
ᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ

**MINUTES OF THE 292<sup>ND</sup> MEETING  
OF THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE**

**(Adopted)**

---

**DATE:** February 3, 2020

**PLACE:** Murdoch Archambault Avocats  
407, rue McGill, suite 410  
Montréal (Québec) H2Y 2G3

**PRESENT:** John Paul Murdoch, Chairman, CNG  
Brian Craik, CNG  
Louis Breton, Canada  
Geneviève Bélanger, Canada (via telephone)  
Alexandra Roio, Québec  
Daniel Berrouard, Québec

Vanessa Chalifour, Executive Secretary

---

**1) Meeting declared open and adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted as written.

**2) Adoption of the minutes of the 291<sup>st</sup> meeting**

The minutes of the 291<sup>st</sup> meeting were adopted as presented.

**Action: Translate and post the minutes of the 291<sup>st</sup> meeting.**

**3) Correspondence and follow-up**

Correspondence sent and received between December 11, 2019 and February 2, 2020 is listed in Appendix A.

**4) Site preparation and excavation of an access ramp -- Gladiator Project by Bonterra Resources Inc.**

**Ref. No.: 3214-14-065**

➤ Preliminary information

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

On November 26, 2019, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on a project by Bonterra Resources Inc to develop the site and excavate an access ramp at the Gladiator project.

With this project, Bonterra Resources intends to conduct underground exploration of the gold deposit under Barry Lake. The proponent plans to develop a 30-meter wide portal and underground ramp, a service building, a garage, a water well for industrial use, service areas and a parking area. There are also plans to have a storage area for organic materials, a muck pile, a waste rock pile and two water management ponds.

After reviewing the document from the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided they will need more information to continue their analysis. Thus the proponent must supply answers to the following:

1. The proponent must provide an updated schedule for the completion of the various stages of the project
2. The proponent must provide an update on the community consultation activities carried out in 2019 as well as any such activities planned for 2020.

3. The proponent indicates that forest access roads will be used to access the exploration site and that it will build a new access road 300 meters in length between the existing access road and the ramp. In order to ensure the safety of the various users of these roads, the proponent must, after consulting the users of the territory, indicate whether the access roads will be sufficiently wide to allow two vehicles to pass in opposite directions and whether signaling measures will be required.
4. The proponent must provide more details on the various underground exploration projects for the gold deposit located under Barry Lake. The proponent must specify its aims and the rationale for the exploration of this deposit.
5. On page 5 of the application, it is stated that the portal and ramp will be 30 meters wide. Considering that the planned ramp will be 10 meters wide and 57 meters long, it seems that the planned width of the portal and ramp is oversized. The proponent must therefore confirm the exact dimensions of the portal and ramp and the depth that will be reached.
6. According to Section 241 of *The Mining Act*, the proponent must obtain approval for the location of the waste rock pile. It should be noted that if changes are made to the location of the waste pad following the issuance of an attestation of exemption, the proponent must file a new application for a attestation of exemption under Section 157 of the Environment Quality Act (EQA), since the project must be carried out in accordance with the current description.
7. The proponent must present a revised map in Appendix A of the report on the characterization of the natural environment, including, in particular, its plan for the planned infrastructures, vegetation patterns and inventory stations.
8. The proponent must explain how the project was optimized to avoid wetlands and reduce losses. It must also indicate whether it would be possible to move certain infrastructures and, if necessary, delimit the maximum areas where this could be done.
9. The proponent indicates that the sizing of the sedimentation and polishing basins is based on knowledge Bonterra acquired at the Barry mine site. The proponent must specify what this knowledge is and explain on what basis the sizing of these basins has been determined.
10. The proponent must present a portrait of the contaminants likely to be emitted into the environment. No geochemical characterization report of the mine tailings was presented. In this regard, the application states that a preliminary geochemical characterization of the waste rock was underway in compliance with Directive 019 on the mining industry. In addition, the results of analyzes of total extractable metals in the waste rock as well as the results of TCLP, SPLP and CTEU-9 leaching are being compiled. The proponent must submit a geochemical characterization report of the mining waste, including waste rock, in accordance with the requirements of Directive 019 on the mining industry. It must also specify the planned management method, particularly with regard to the watertightness of the accumulation areas.

11. The proponent indicates that the final effluent will flow towards Barry Lake and that the monitoring program for the water quality of the discharged effluent will meet the requirements of Directive 019 on the mining industry. However, no study on the treatment of industrial water was presented.

The proponent must specify the volumes of water to be released and the treatment measures to be implemented, based in particular on the results of the geochemical characterization.

**Action:**     **Send letter to Provincial Administrator.**  
                  **Transmittal of questions and comments.**

**5) Operation of a new quarry and a hot mix asphalt plant at km 305 of the James Bay Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation**

**Ref. No.: 3214-05-081**

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

The Evaluating Committee received the preliminary information on the above project on December 3, 2019, and additional information on January 31, 2020.

The James Bay Development Corporation would like to operate a quarry at km 305 of the James Bay Highway. As part of the same project, it plans to install a mobile hot mix asphalt plant near the quarry. The quarry will supply materials for the following :

- Grading of shoulders;
- Widening of the pavement bed in certain places;
- Replacement of culverts and correction of certain existing structures;
- Production of aggregates for the onsite fabrication of asphalt for paving.

After reviewing the document from the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided they will need more information to continue their analysis. Thus, the proponent must supply answers to the following:

1. The proponent must specify whether it has consulted the community of Waskaganish on this project and what communication measures it will implement to inform the community on the different phases of the project (operation, restoration).
2. The proponent must specify whether there is data available on the existence of archaeological sites in the project area, and if so, it must present a map of these sites. The proponent should contact the community of Waskaganish, the Ministère de la Culture du Québec and the Cree Cultural Institute (Aanischaukamikw) in this regard.

**Action:**     **Send letter to Provincial Administrator.**  
                  **Transmittal of questions and comments.**

**6) Operation of a new quarry and a hot mix asphalt plant at km 35.05 of the James Bay Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation**

**Ref. No.: 3214-05-081**

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

The Evaluating Committee received the preliminary information on the above project on December 5, 2019, and additional information on January 31, 2020.

The James Bay Development Corporation would like to operate a quarry at km 35.5 of the James Bay Highway. As part of the same project, it plans to install a mobile hot mix asphalt plant near the quarry. The quarry will supply materials for the following :

- Grading of shoulders;
- Widening of the pavement bed in certain places;
- Replacement of culverts and correction of certain existing structures;
- Production of aggregates for the onsite fabrication of asphalt for paving.

After reviewing the document from the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided they will need more information to continue their analysis. Thus, the proponent must supply answers to the following:

1. The proponent must specify whether it has consulted the community of Waskaganish on this project and what communication measures it will implement to inform the community on the different phases of the project (operation, restoration).

**Action:     Send letter to Provincial Administrator.  
              Transmittal of questions and comments.**

**7) Bulk sampling project – Lake Windfall (Triple Lynx sector) by Osisko Mining Inc.**

**Ref. No.: 3214-14-059**

➤ Preliminary information

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

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on the above project on December 4, 2019.

Osisko Mining plans to bulk sample some 5 000 tonnes of ore. The proponent also plans to extend the underground exploration ramp and construct two ventilation shafts and a new collection basin for groundwater and runoff from the waste rock pile, enlarge the waterproofed waste rock pad and move the electrical distribution line.

After reviewing the document from the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided they will need more information to continue their analysis. Thus, the proponent must supply answers to the following:

1. The proponent must submit a revised timetable for the completion of the project taking into account the upcoming operational phase.
2. The proponent must indicate whether it will widen the bypass road located to the east of the impermeable waste pad so that two vehicles traveling in opposite directions are able to pass each other, as requested by the family of the tallyman of trapline W25B.
3. The proponent must specify the direction of surface water flow and provide an estimate of the extent to which effluent will have an impact on the surrounding lakes and rivers.
4. The proponent must specify whether the lakes and streams potentially affected by its mining effluent are used by the Aboriginal communities and other users of the territory for fishing.
5. The proponent must specify the receiving environment for the effluent from the ditches surrounding the muck pile and whether the project will cause an additional impact on this environment.
6. The proponent must specify whether the flood recurrence intervals to be used for the design of the retention works complies with those prescribed under Directive 019 on the mining industry. It must also specify whether these works will have underlying geomembrane to ensure they are watertight.
7. The proponent must specify whether the measures to be put in place to ensure the waste rock pad is watertight conform to those prescribed by Directive 019 on the mining industry. It must also specify whether the planned construction method will be similar to the one used in previous phases, which involved an underlying geomembrane.

8. The proponent must show on a map the location of the high-voltage power line. It must also show where this line will be relocated and who will be responsible for moving it.

The proponent must specify what area will have to be deforested for the relocation of the power line as well as any other impact resulting from this move.

9. The proponent must indicate what additional volume of overburden will have to be stored at the existing muck pile and confirm that no enlargement will be necessary during the course of the project.

10. The proponent must indicate whether invasive alien species (IAS) have been identified in the study area. It must also identify the mitigation measures it plans to put in place in order to limit the introduction of IAS during the work.

11. The proponent stated that the total quantity of ore to be extracted for bulk sampling is 20,000 tonnes. Of this total amount, 15,000 tonnes has already been authorized by virtue of Section 69 of the Mining Act. However, the 5,000 tonnes from the Underdog zone have not yet been mined. The proponent must specify:

- a. the tonnage in the new bulk sampling request;
- b. what will happen regarding the 5,000-tonne sampling at the Underdog zone that was already authorized, but postponed.

**Action:**     **Send letter to Provincial Administrator.**  
                  **Transmittal of questions and comments.**

**8) Construction and operation of a greenhouse in Chapais by 9394-3801 Québec Inc.**

**Ref. No.: 3214-27-005**

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

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on the above project on January 15, 2020, and additional information on January 31.

The proponent intends to build and operate a greenhouse covering approximately 3.2 hectares in the industrial park in the town of Chapais, which will be used for the production of tomatoes and other market garden produce intended for local and regional markets. A service building adjacent to the greenhouse will house the mechanical rooms, a control room, a staff lounge room, the cafeteria and the administrative premises.

The greenhouse will be built across from the Chapais Énergie cogeneration plant belonging to Nexolia Bioenergie. It will be connected to the plant by an underground or overhead pipe that will supply it with steam as well as by a condensate return pipe. The installation of the steam and condensate pipes will be carried out by Chapais Énergie, which plans to file a request for an amendment to its certificate of authorization in early 2020. Steam will be the main source of heating for the greenhouse. The cogeneration plant, with a nominal power of 30.9 MW, will supply steam at the rate of 145,000 GJ to 150,000 GJ per year.

The project includes the installation of four diesel-fueled boilers with a capacity of 2 MW each, and two above-ground diesel tanks. The boilers will be used for heating during winter peak periods, as well as in case of emergency, during planned shutdowns of Chapais Énergie or in the event that its supply is unavailable. The proponent is studying the possibility of powering these boilers with propane.

After reviewing the documents provided by the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided to recommend that this project be exempted from the environmental assessment process.

**Action:      Send letter to Provincial Administrator.  
                 Recommendation of exemption.**



**9) Varia**

**a) COMEV website**

No new developments on the website.

**b) Projects pending**

- i. Project -- stripping of 12 overburdens at the Sirmac site, Ref. No.: 3214-14-063 (*waiting for responses from the proponent – 2018 project*)
- ii. Construction of a road for the installation of a wind measuring mast by the Projet éolien Oujebougoumou Skakeegun S.E.C., Ref. No. 3214-05-082 (*waiting for responses from the proponent – 2016 Project 2016*)
- i) Restoration of the Coniagas site by Galaxy Lithium (Ontario) Inc., Ref. No: 3214-14-054 (*waiting for responses from the proponent*)
- ii) Expansion of the lumber yard at the wood products processing plant by Chantiers Chibougamau Ltée, Ref. No: 3214-23-006 (*waiting for responses from the proponent*)
- iii) Waste Incineration Plant in Wemindji (*On the agenda for next meeting*)
- iv) Chief Essential Oils Project (*On the agenda for next meeting*)
- v) Trenching work for mining exploration at the Cheechoo property, Ref. No: 3214-14-066 (*On the agenda for next meeting*)

**10) Date and place of next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at Murdoch Archambault Avocats.

**Appendix A**  
**Correspondence and follow-up -- December 11, 2019 to February , 2020**

<b>Project</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Action - comments</b>
Development of a new landfill at Nemaska by the Cree Nation of Nemaska Ref. No: 3214-16-079	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of impact study directive	Sent December 12, 2019 Acknowledgement of receipt December 13, 2019	
	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Matthew Tanoush Cree Nation of Nemaska		Sent January 17, 2020 Rec'd COMEV January 21, 2020	
Wastewater treatment plant in Wemindji	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Transmittal of impact study directive	Sent December 12, 2019	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Rod Mamianskum Cree Nation of Wemindji		Sent December 17, 2019 Rec'd COMEV December 18, 2019	
Restoration of the Coniagas site by Galaxy Lithium (Ontario) Inc. Ref. No: 3214-14-054	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of questions and comments	Sent December 13, 2019 Acknowledgement of receipt December 16, 2019	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc.		Sent December 17, 2019 Rec'd COMEV December 18, 2019	
Expansion of the lumber yard at the wood products processing plant by Chantiers Chibougamau Ltée Ref. No: 3214-23-006Ref. No	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of questions and comments	Sent December 13, 2019 Acknowledgement of receipt December 16, 2019	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Dave Lepage Les Chantiers de Chibougamau Ltée		Sent January 9, 2020 Rec'd COMEV January 9, 2020	
Waste Incineration Plant in Wemindji	Rod Mamianskum Cree Nation of Wemindji	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Preliminary information	Sent November 21, 2019	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	John Paul Murdoch COMEV		Sent December 17, 2019 Rec'd COMEV December 17, 2019	<i>For recommendation</i>
Chief Essentials Oils Project	Kenny Blacksmith KLB Resources Inc.	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Preliminary information	Sent December 12, 2019	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	John Paul Murdoch COMEV		Sent December 17, 2019 Rec'd COMEV December 17, 2019	<i>For recommendation</i>

**Appendix A**  
**Correspondence and follow-up -- December 11, 2019 to February , 2020**

<b>Project</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Action - comments</b>
Construction and operation of a greenhouse in Chapais by 9394-3801 Québec Inc. Ref. No: 3214-27-005	Vicky Lavoie 9394-3801 Québec inc.	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent January 9, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV		Sent January 5, 2020 Rec'd COMEV January 15, 2020	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Vicky Lavoie 9394-3801 Québec inc.	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Additional information	Sent January 29, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV		Sent January 31, 2020 Rec'd COMEV January 31, 2020	<i>For recommendation</i>
Trenching work for mining exploration at the Cheechoo propertu Ref. No: 3214-14-066	Dominique Doucet Ressources Sirios inc.	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent December 12, 2019	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV		Sent January 16, 2020 Rec'd COMEV January 16, 2020	<i>For recommendation</i>
Operation of new quarries and hot mix asphalt plants at km 35.5 and 305 of the James Bay Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation Ref. No: 3214-05-081	Anne-Marie Leclerc et Vital Boulé Norda Stelo / Stantec	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Additional information	Sent January 27 and 29, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	John Paul Murdoch COMEV		Sent January 31, 2020 Rec'd COMEV January 31, 2020	<i>For recommendation</i>