



la Convention
de la Baie-James
et du Nord québécois

Comité d'évaluation
Evaluating Committee

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**MINUTES OF THE 298TH MEETING
OF THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE**

(Adopted)

DATE: February 10, 2021

PLACE: Videoconference

PRESENT: Daniel Berrouard, Chairman, Québec
Isabelle Auger, Québec
Brian Craik, CNG
John Paul Murdoch, CNG
Louis Breton, Canada
Geneviève Bélanger, Canada

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 297th meeting

The minutes of the 297th meeting were adopted as written.

Action: Translate and post the minutes of the 297th meeting.

3) Correspondence and follow-up

Correspondence sent and received between December 10, 2020 and February 9, 2021 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

a) Preliminary information

b) Additional information

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

On November 26, 2019, the Evaluating Committee received the preliminary information from Bonterra Resources Inc. regarding the proposed site development and excavation of an access ramp at the Gladiator project. Additional information was received on November 5, 2020.

In this project, Bonterra Resources plans to conduct a series of underground explorations of the gold deposit located under Barry Lake. The proponent plans to build a gate and a 30 meters wide underground access ramp, a service building, a garage, an industrial water well, a service area and a parking area. The plans also include a storage pad for organic materials, an overburden pile, a waste rock pile and two ponds for water management.

After reviewing the documents provided by the proponent, COMEV has decided they need more information before continuing their analysis. Accordingly, the proponent will be sent questions and comments for response.

Action: Send letter to the Provincial Administrator
Forward questions and comments

5) Development and operation of two (2) quarries at km 28 of the Laforge-1 Road and km 446 de of the Trans-Taiga Road by the James Bay Development Corporation

Ref. No. 3214-05-081

a) Preliminary information

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

On December 15, 2020 the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding plans to develop and operate two quarries by the James Bay Energy Corporation.

According to the proposal, the proponent plants to develop one quarry at km 28 of the Laforge-1 road and another quarry at km 446 of the Trans-Taiga. Basically, the planned work, which includes the resurfacing of granular pavement, culvert repairs, and the reshaping of the talus along the Trans-Taiga, will require a supply of clean stone and aggregates.

After reviewing the proponent's documents, the COMEV agreed to recommend that the project be exempted from the review process.

Action: Send letter to the Provincial Administrator
Recommendation of exemption

6) Environmental rehabilitation of the old fuel deposit sites at Lac Pau, the former KA-5 cement plant and the old Bowen contractor area by Hydro-Québec

Ref. No. 3214-16-080

a) Preliminary information

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

The Evaluation Committee (COMEV) received, on December 16, 2020, preliminary information regarding the environmental rehabilitation of the old Lac Pau oil depot, the former KA-5 cement plant and the old Bowen contractor area by Hydro-Quebec.

Through this project, Hydro-Québec plans to rehabilitate the old Lac Pau oil depot, the former KA-5 cement plant and the former Bowen contractor's area. The main objective of this project is to resolve the environmental issues observed at each of the sites and thus, make them comply with the applicable usage criteria.

After reviewing the proponent's documents, the COMEV agreed to recommend that the project be exempted from the review process.

Action: Send letter to the Provincial Administrator
Recommendation of exemption

7) Operation of a quarry and hot mix asphalt plant at km 323 of the James Bay Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation

Ref. No. 3214-05-081

a) Preliminary information

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

On December 21, 2020, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on the above plan to operate a quarry and a hot mix asphalt plant at km 323 of the James Bay Highway.

The proposed plan by the James Bay Development Corporation is to expand the quarry and operate a hot mix asphalt plant to repair the James Bay Highway between km 271 and km 320, including the repair of culverts.

After reviewing the documents from the proponent, COMEV decided they needed more information before continuing their analysis. Accordingly, the proponent will be sent questions and comments for its responses.

**Action: Send letter to Provincial Administrator
 Forward questions and comments**

8) Varia

a) Projects pending

- i) Stripping of 12 overburdens at the Sirmac site, Ref. No.: 3214 14-063 (*Waiting for responses from proponent–2018 project*)
- ii) Construction of a road for the installation of a wind measuring mast by Projet éolien Oujé-Bougoumou Skakeegun S.E.C., Ref. No.: 3214-05-082 (*Waiting for responses from proponent –2016 project*)
- iii) Underground exploration ramp, underground drilling and bulk sampling in Sector 51 of the Fenelon project by Wallbridge Mining Company Limited, Ref. No.: 3214-14-064 (*A special meeting will be held re this project in early March*)
- iv) Expansion and operation of a quarry and hot mix asphalt plant at km 550 of the James Bay Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation. Ref. No.: 3214-05-081 (*On the agenda for next meeting*)
- v) Construction of a 120 kV power line to connect the Windfall mine. Ref. No.: 3214-09-029 (*On the agenda for next meeting*)

b) Changes within COMEV

As of February 8, 2021, Isabelle Auger is working for the Société du Plan Nord. For the time being, she will continue her mandate for the COMEV.

Vanessa Chalifour has also taken up a new position at the environmental assessment branch for northern and mining projects and strategic environmental assessment at the MELCC. As of February 8, 2021, she is the coordinator / team leader for northern projects, which means that she will eventually leave her position at COMEV once a new executive secretary has been appointed. In the meantime, she will continue to perform her duties for the COMEV.

c) Selection Committee

Geneviève Bélanger told members that the Selection Committee provided for under Chapter 23 of the JBNQA would like proponents in Nunavik to have access to information about the content that is expected from them when filing preliminary information, and the procedure they need to follow. Given that the Selection Committee does not have a website, one of the options being considered is to make this information available via the COMEV website, and to propose a template similar to the preliminary information form used by the Government of Quebec for projects analyzed by the Selection Committee. Geneviève Bélanger will follow up on this at the next meeting.

9) Next meeting

The next meeting will be held March 22, 2021 by videoconference (Teams).

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – December 10, 2020 to February 9, 2121

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Operation of a quarry and hot mix asphalt plant at km 393.9 of the James Bay Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation Ref. No. 3214-05-081	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of recommendation of exemption	Sent December 10, 2020 Acknowledgement of receipt December 10, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Émil Tagho James Bay Development Corporation	Transmittal of attestation of exemption	Sent January 13, 2021 Rec'd COMEV January 26, 2021	
Update on the bulk sampling work at the Windfall site by Osisko Mining Ref. No. 3214-14-059	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of recommendation of exemption	Sent December 10, 2020 Acknowledgement of receipt December 10, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Alexandra Drapack Osisko Mining Inc.	Transmittal of attestation of exemption	Sent January 5, 2021 Rec'd COMEV January 6, 2021	
Quarry of more than 3 ha near the La Grande-3 hydroelectric complex by Hydro-Québec Ref. No. 3214-03-045	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of impact study directive	Sent December 10, 2020 Acknowledgement of receipt December 10, 2020	
	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Guy Côté Hydro-Québec		Sent January 8, 2021 Rec'd COMEV January 8, 2021	
Development and operation of two (2) quarries, at km 28 of the Laforge-1 road and km 446 of the Trans-Taiga by the James Bay Development Corporation Ref. No. 3214-05-081	Catherine Vallières Consortium Norda Selo/Stantec	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent November 11, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent December 15, 2020 Rec'd COMEV December 15, 2020	<i>For recommendation</i>
Environmental rehabilitation of the old fuel depot at Lac Pau, the former KA-5 cement plant and the old Bowen contractor area by Hydro-Québec Ref. No. 3214-16-080	Gilbert Lemens Hydro-Québec	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent October 29, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent December 16, 2020 Rec'd COMEV December 21, 2020	<i>For recommendation</i>
Operation of a quarry and hot mix asphalt plant at km 323 of the James Bay Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation (Groupe Synergis) Ref. No. 3214-05-081	Charles D. Delisle Groupe Synergis	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent December 7, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent December 21, 2020 Rec'd COMEV December 22, 2020	<i>For recommendation</i>

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – December 10, 2020 to February 9, 2121

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Exploration ramp, underground drilling and bulk sampling in Sector 51 of the Fenelon project by Wallbridge Mining Company Limited Ref. No. 3214-14-064	François Demers Wallbridge Mining Company Limited	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Request to suspend the social and environmental impacts assessment and review of the Fenelon mining project	Sent December 17, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Luc Lainé COMEX	Additional information on the social and environmental impacts study social Request to suspend the review	Sent December 22, 2020 Rec'd COMEV December 22, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Additional information	Sent December 22, 2020 Rec'd COMEV December 22, 2020	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of questions and comments	Sent December 22, 2020 Acknowledgement of receipt December 22, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	François Demers Wallbridge Mining Company Limited		Sent December 23, 2020 Rec'd COMEV January 6, 2021	
	François Demers Wallbridge Mining Company Limited	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Additional information	Sent January 14, 2021	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent January 22, 2021 Rec'd COMEV January 22, 2021	<i>For recommendation</i>
Expansion and operation of a quarry and operation of a hot mix asphalt plant at km 550 of the James Bay Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation Ref. No. 3214-05-081	Catherine Vallières Consortium Norda Stelo/Stantec	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent December 17, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent January 8, 2021 Rec'd COMEV January 8, 2021	<i>For recommendation</i>
Construction of a 120 kV power line to connect the Windfall mine Ref. No. 3214-09-029	Guy Côté Hydro-Québec	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent January 21, 2021	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent February 2, 2021 Rec'd COMEV February 2, 2021	<i>For recommendation</i>