



la Convention
de la Baie-James
et du Nord québécois

Comité d'évaluation
Evaluating Committee

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**MINUTES OF THE 300TH MEETING OF
THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE**

(Adopted)

DATE: May 28, 2021

PLACE: Videoconference

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

Sophie Cooper, Executive Secretary

1) Meeting declared open and adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as written.

2) Adoption of the minutes of the 299th meeting

The minutes of the 299th meeting was adopted as written.

Action: Translate and post the minutes of the 299th meeting.

3) Correspondence and follow-up

Correspondence sent and received between March 22 and May 28, 2021 is listed in Appendix A.

4) Operation of a borrow pit and hot mix asphalt plant at km 323 of Billy Diamond Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation (Groupe Synergis)

Ref. No.: 3214-05-081

- a) Preliminary information
- b) Additional information (responses to questions and comments)
- c) Additional information
- d) 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 December 21, 2020, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding the operation of a borrow pit and hot mix asphalt plant at km 323 of the Billy Diamond Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation. Additional information was received on March 4, April 29 and May 12 of 2021.

By this project, the James Bay Development Corporation would like to expand the quarry and operate a hot mix asphalt plant in order to carry out road work on the Billy Diamond Highway, including culvert replacements, between km 271 and km 320.

After reviewing the documents sent by the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the review procedure.

**Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator
 Recommendation of exemption**

5) Bulk sampling project at the James Bay mining site by Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc.

Ref. No.: 3214-14-055

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 March 24, 2021, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding a bulk ore sampling project. This project is part of feasibility study for the James Bay lithium mine project, for which the COMEX received an impact study in October of 2018.

By this project, Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc. would like to extract 120 tonnes of ore and waste rock (240 tonnes in total) that will be processed using a system similar to the one proposed for the mining project. The samples will be taken on the site of the proposed pit, in an area that is currently a rocky outcrop.

After reviewing the documents from the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided they needed additional information before continuing their analysis. The proponent will be sent questions and comments for response.

Action: Send letter to Provincial Administrator
Transmit questions and comments

6) Expansion of the quarry and operation of a hot mix asphalt plant at km 254 of the Billy Diamond 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 April 7, 2021, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding the proposed operation of a quarry and hot mix asphalt plant at km 254 of the Billy Diamond Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation.

The JBDC plans to expand the quarry and operate an asphalt plant to supply materials needed for repairs along the James Bay Highway.

After reviewing the documents sent by the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the review procedure.

Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator
Recommendation of exemption

7) Expansion and operation of the SOC-1 quarry at km 5.3 of the La Grande-4 road by Hydro-Québec

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 April 6, 2021, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding a plan to expand and exploit the existing SOC-1 quarry located at km 5.3 of the La Grande-4 road by Hydro-Québec.

According to the project proposal, Hydro-Québec wants to expand the existing quarry to supply materials for the repair and maintenance of the Trans-Taiga highway, the access roads to the hydroelectric installations and the road to the La Grande-4 airport.

After reviewing the documents sent by the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the review procedure.

Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator
Recommendation of exemption

8) Installation of a hydrometeorological station at Winsh Lake by Hydro-Québec

Ref. No.: 3214-28-007

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 April 21, 2021, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding the installation of a new hydrometeorological station at Winsh Lake.

Hydro-Québec wishes to install the new station to gather hydrometeorological data to be used by Hydro-Québec for operations, production planning, and monitoring in terms of the environment, security and civil engineering.

After reviewing the documents sent by the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the review procedure.

Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator
Recommendation of exemption

9) Rebuilding of a boat launch upstream from the PK 170 weir on the Rupert River by the Cree Nation of Nemaska

Ref. No.: 3214-04-037

- 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 April 21, 2021, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding the planned rebuild of a boat launch ramp in the Rupert River by the Cree Nation of Nemaska.

The Cree Nation of Nemaska wishes to replace the existing boat launch, made of a gravel-sand-silt mixture, with infrastructure made of steel and concrete. The project calls for prefabricated slabs to be transported to the site and assembled there.

After reviewing the documents sent by the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the review procedure.

**Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator
 Recommendation of exemption**

10) Varia

a) Tamaani Internet Project Phase 5: Update on the project

The COMEV received updates on this project, for information purposes, from the Kativik Regional Government and the Regional Administrator, on April 12 and April 23 of 2021.

b) Windfall Lake mining project by Osisko Mining Inc., Ref. No.: 3214-14-059

A letter containing information regarding the directive for the environmental and social impact assessment for this project was sent to COMEV members on May 11, 2021. The members understand that in the coming weeks that the directive will be reviewed and analyzed. This analysis will then be sent to the COMEV members for review. Thus, it was decided to wait for the analysis and to postpone this matter to the next meeting.

c) Projects pending

- a) 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)*
- b) Site preparation and excavation of an access ramp – Gladiator project by Bonterra Resources Inc., Ref. No.: 3214-14-065 *(On the agenda for the next meeting)*

d) Committee Chairman for 2021-2022

Sophie Cooper reported that the Québec party of the COMEV is still chairing the committee. The Cree party is responsible for chairing the committee for the 2021-2022 term. The COMEV is still waiting for confirmation from the Cree party in this regard.

11) Next meeting

The next meeting will convene June 25, 2021 via videoconference (Teams).

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – March 22 to May 28, 2021

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Bulk sampling project at the James Bay Mine by Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-055	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium Canada Inc.	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent March 12, 2021	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent March 24, 2021 Rec'd COMEV March 29, 2021	<i>For recommendation</i>
Underground ramp, underground drilling and bulk sampling in Sector 51 of the Fenelon project Ref. No.: 3214-14-064	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	François Demers Wallbridge Mining Company Limited	Transmittal of attestation of exemption	Sent March 31, 2021 Rec'd COMEV March 31, 2021	
Expansion and operations of a quarry and hot mix asphalt plant at km 254 of the Billy Diamond Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation Ref. No.: 3214-05-081	Catherine Vallières Société de développement de la Baie James	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent March 30, 2021	
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent April 7, 2021 Rec'd COMEV April 8, 2021	<i>For recommendation</i>
Tamaani Internet Project Phase 5	Michel Gordon Administration régionale Kativik	David McGovern Administrateur fédéral	Project update	Sent April 9, 2021 Rec'd COMEV April 12, 2021	<i>For information</i>
Expansion and operation of the SOC-1 quarry at km 5.3 of the La Grande-4 Road by Hydro-Québec Ref. No.: 3214-05-081	Catherine Vallières Société de développement de la Baie James	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent March 24, 2021	
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		April ,Rec'd COMEV April 13, 2021	<i>For recommendation</i>
Construction of a 120 kV power line to connect the Windfall mine by Hydro-Québec Ref. No.: 3214-09-029	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Guy Côté Hydro-Québec	Transmittal of impact study directive	Sent April 12, 2021 Rec'd COMEV April 12, 2021	

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – March 22 to May 28, 2021

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Expansion and operation of a quarry and hot mix asphalt plant at km 550 of the Billy Diamond Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation Ref. No.: 3214-05-081	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Emil Tagho James Bay Development Corporation	Transmittal of attestation of exemption	Sent April 12, 2021 Rec'd COMEV April 14, 2021	
Construction of a road for the installing of a wind measuring mast by Projet éolien Oujé-Bougoumou Shekeegen S.E.C. Ref. No.: 3214-05-082	Frédéric Verlez Evolugen	Vanessa Chalifour MELCC	Update of file Confirmation that file is active	Sent April 14, 2021	
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Frédéric Verlez Evolugen		Sent April 14, 2021 Rec'd COMEV April 15, 2021	<i>For information</i>
Installation of a hydrometeorological station at Winsh Lake by Hydro-Québec Ref. No.: 3214-28-007	Patrice Fillion Hydro-Québec	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent March 26, 2021	
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent April 21, 2021 Rec'd COMEV April 21, 2021	<i>For recommendation</i>
Rebuilding of a boat launch by Cree Nation of Nemaska Ref. No.: 3214-04-037	Jame	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent March 23, 2021	
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent April 21, 2021 Rec'd COMEV April 21, 2021	<i>For recommendation</i>
Tamaani Internet Project Phase 5	David McGovern Federal Administrator	Michel Gordon Kativik Regional Administration	Project update	Sent April 23, 2021 Rec'd COMEV April 23, 2021	<i>For information</i>
Gladiator project – Ramp excavation and site development by Bonterra Resources Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-065	Pascal Hamelin Bonterra Resources Inc.	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Additional information	Sent April 20, 2021	
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent April 29, 2021 Rec'd COMEV April 29, 2021	<i>For recommendation</i>

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Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Windfall Lake mine project by Osisko Mining Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-059	Alexandra Drapack Osisko Mining Inc.	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Update of fileImpact study directive	Sent April 30, 2021	
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent March 11 mai 2021 Rec'd March COMEV le 11 mai 2021	<i>For information</i>
Operation of a gravel/sand pit and hot mix asphalt plant at km 323 of the Billy Diamond Highway by Construction Norascon Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-05-081	Charles D. Delisle Groupe Synergis	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Additional information	Sent May 11, 2021	
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV		Sent May12, 2021 Rec'd COMEV May 12, 2021	<i>For recommendation</i>