



la Convention  
de la Baie-James  
et du Nord québécois

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

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**MINUTES OF THE 309<sup>TH</sup> MEETING  
OF THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE**

**(Adopted)**

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**DATE:** May 27, 2022

**PLACE:** Videoconference

**PRESENT:** Geneviève Bélanger, Canada, Chair  
Louis Breton, Canada  
John Paul Murdoch, CNQ  
Daniel Berrouard, Québec  
Nicholas Poirier, Québec  
  
Sophie Cooper, Executive Secretary

**1) Meeting 309 declared open and adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted as written.

**2) Adoption of the minutes of the 308<sup>th</sup> meeting**

The minutes of the 308<sup>th</sup> meeting were adopted as written.

**Action: Translate and post the minutes of the 308<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**3) Correspondence and follow-up**

Correspondence sent and received between April 21 and May 27, 2022 is presented in Appendix A.

**4) Opening and operation of a sandpit near Lac Lardet by Les équipements J.V.C. Inc.**

**Ref. No.: 3214-03-048**

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

On March 3, 2022, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding a sandpit project near Lardet.

For this project, the proponent plans to operate a 6.2-hectare sandpit with the aim of producing abrasive sand for the construction of access roads.

Before the COMEV can issue a recommendation on this project, it appears that certain verifications must be made concerning the connection between this project and the Mine Principale restoration project. The COMEV is awaiting details from the proponent to clarify certain aspects of the Lac Lardet sandpit project. The analysis of the project will continue at the next meeting scheduled for June 15, 2022.

**5) Environmental rehabilitation of the Mirabelli site at km 324 of the Billy Diamond Highway by Hydro-Québec**

**Ref. No: 3214-16-083**

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

On March 29, 2022, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding the proposed environmental rehabilitation of the Mirabelli site.

For this project, Hydro-Québec would like to undertake environmental rehabilitation work on sites A and B at the former camp at Lac Mirabelli. Site A corresponds to the storage of barrels of petroleum products and site B corresponds to the presence and operation of a generator powered by diesel fuel. The objective is to rehabilitate the soils contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons at sites A and B to make them compliant with criterion “B” of the MELCC’s *Guide*

*d'intervention – Protection des sols et réhabilitation des terrains contaminés.* The contaminated soils will be removed from the sites and treated in an aerated pile biodegradation process.

After reviewing the documents submitted by the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided to recommend that this project be exempted from the social and environmental impacts assessment procedure.

**Action:**     **Send letter to the Provincial Administrator**  
                  **Forward recommendation of exemption**

**6) Opening and operation of a borrow pit for the restoration of the Coniagas tailings site by Galaxy Lithium Inc.**

**Ref. No: 3214-14-054**

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

On January 21, 2022, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding the use of a borrow source for the restoration project at the Coniagas tailings site. Additional information (responses to questions and comments) was received April 14, 2022.

The proponent submitted a first application for exemption for the Coniagas restoration project in 2011 and was issued an attestation of exemption on April 29, 2015. The proponent filed another application for exemption in September of 2019 related to the opening of a borrow pit as a source of supply for the restoration work. This attestation of exemption was issued on October 7, 2020.

During the preparation of the plans and specifications for the restoration work on the tailings site, the calculations performed showed a greater than expected need for materials from the borrow pit. The current application for exemption is for authorization to open and operate a borrow pit of 2.9 ha instead of the originally proposed 0.9 ha, in order to carry out the restoration work.

After reviewing the documents submitted by the proponent, the members of the COMEV decided to recommend that this project be exempted from the social and environmental impacts assessment procedure.

The COMEV encourages the proponent to keep the lines of communication open with the Cree First Nation of Waswanipi, traditional knowledge holders and tallyman W-24A. The COMEV also encourages the proponent to continue its discussions with the Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute to find out about the possible presence of sites or objects that are of cultural and archaeological value in the area.

**Action:**     **Send letter to the Provincial Administrator**  
                  **Forward recommendation of exemption**

**7) Varia**

**a) Projects pending**

- 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 the proponent)*
- Champion Lake Shoreline protection project by the Cree First Nation of Nemaska, Ref. No: 3219-01-002 *(Waiting for responses from the proponent)*
- Construction and operation of a remote landfill (LETI) at the Eastmain Mine by par Benz Mining Corporation Ref. No.: 3214-16-081 *(Waiting for responses from the proponent)*
- Expansion of an existing quarry and reopening of the old sand pit at km 58 of Route 19900 (formerly R-1005) by the Ministère des Transports du Québec. Ref. No.: 3214-03-022 *(Waiting for responses from the proponent)*
- Opening and operation of a quarry in the Chibougamau sector by Dynamitage TCG Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-03-047 *(Waiting for responses from the proponent)*
- Project to dismantle the main camp and satellite camps of a former outfitter in the Transtaïga road sector by the MERN. Ref. No.: 3214-16-084 *(Under analysis)*

**8) Next meetings**

The 310<sup>th</sup> meeting of the COMEV is scheduled for June 15, 2022 at 9 a.m.

The 311<sup>th</sup> meeting of the COMEV is scheduled for August 2, 2022 at 9 a.m.

<b>Appendix A</b> <b>Correspondence and follow-up – April 21 to May 27, 2022</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Action - comments</b>
Rehabilitation of a site on the Mid-Canada radar surveillance line by the MELCC Ref. No.: 3214-16-082	Anne-Sophie Cauchon MELCC	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Additional information	Sent April 20, 2022	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Maud Ablain MELCC	Geneviève Bélanger COMEY		Sent April 25, 2022 Rec'd COMEV April 25, 2022	
Project to dismantle the main camp and satellite camps of a former outfitter in the Trans-Taïga Highway sector by the MERN Ref. No.: 3214-16-084	Patricia Hébert MERN	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent April 20, 2022	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Maud Ablain MELCC	Geneviève Bélanger COMEY		Sent April 25, 2022 Rec'd COMEV April 25, 2022	
Expansion of the GD-17 borrow pit at Nemaska by the Cree First Nation of Nemaska Ref. No.: 3214-03-046	Geneviève Bélanger COMEY	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of recommendation of exemption	Sent April 29, 2022 Acknowledgement of receipt May 2, 2022	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Maud Ablain MELCC	Jean H. Paradis Cree First Nation of Nemaska	Transmittal of attestation of exemption	Sent May 12, 2022 Rec'd COMEV May 12, 2022	<i>For information</i>
Opening and operation of a quarrrt in the Chibougamau sector by Dynamitage TCG Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-03-047	Geneviève Bélanger COMEY	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of questions and comments	Sent April 29, 2022 Acknowledgement of receipt May 2, 2022	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Maud Ablain MELCC	Bernard Vachon Dynamitage TCG Inc		Sent May 3, 2022 Rec'd COMEV May 3, 2022	
Rehabilitation of a site on the Mid-Canada radar surveillance line by the MELCC Ref. No.: 3214-16-082	Geneviève Bélanger COMEY	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of recommendation of exemption	Sent May 6, 2022 Acknowledgement of receipt May 9, 2022	<i>For recommendation</i>
Bulk sampling of the Caribou and Lynx 4 sectors –Windfall Lake mine project by Osisko Mining Inc. Ref. No.:3214-14-059	Maud Ablain MELCC	Alexandra Drapack Osisko Mining Inc.	Transmittal of attestation of exemption	Sent May 12, 2022 Rec'd COMEV May 13, 2022	<i>For information</i>

<b>Appendix A</b> <b>Correspondence and follow-up – April 21 to May 27, 2022</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Action - comments</b>
Rehabilitation of a former service station on the Trans-Taïga Highway by the MERN Ref. No.: 3214-16-085	Patricia Hébert MERN	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent April 28, 2022	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Geneviève Bélanger COMEV		Sent May 24, 2022 Rec'd COMEV May 25, 2022	
Rehabilitation of a former service station in the Radisson sector by the MERN Ref. No.: 3214-16-086	Patricia Hébert MERN	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent April 28, 2022	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Geneviève Bélanger COMEV		Sent May 24, 2022 Rec'd COMEV May 25, 2022	