



la Convention
de la Baie-James
et du Nord québécois

Comité d'évaluation
Evaluating Committee

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**MINUTES OF THE 311TH MEETING
OF THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE**

(Adopted)

DATE:

311 A: August 2, 2022
311 B: August 11, 2022

PLACE:

Videoconference

PRESENT:

Geneviève Bélanger, Canada, Chairman
Louis Breton, Canada
John Paul Murdoch, CNG
Daniel Berrouard, Québec
Nicholas Poirier, Québec

Sophie Cooper, Executive Secretary

1) Meeting 311 declared open and adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as written.

2) Adoption of the minutes of the 310th meeting

The minutes of the 310th meeting were adopted as written.

Action: Translate and post the minutes of the 310th meeting.

3) Correspondence and follow-up

Follow-up of correspondence for the period June 16 to August 2, 2022 is presented in Appendix A.

4) Mining project for the construction and operation of a gold-copper deposit in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay territory by Troilus Gold

Ref. No.: 3214-11-025

- Project Notice - 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

Before the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) can issue an impact study directive for this project, it needs to verify certain information regarding the identification and delimitation of natural areas, undisturbed areas, restored areas, and disturbed areas (in the exploration and future exploitation phases) located on the project site. The COMEV is also awaiting additional details to clarify certain aspects of the project. The project analysis will continue during the meeting scheduled for August 11, 2022.

5) Creation of Assinica National Park by the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP)

Ref. No.: 3214-18-011

- Update of the impact study directive

In July of 2012, the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement, de la Faune et des Parcs sent the preliminary information for the Assinica National Park project. Following an analysis of the project, in October of 2012 the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) sent the proponent a directive setting out the parameters of the impact study. Because the 2012 directive was valid for only three (3) years, the proponent has asked for it to be updated.

The COMEV received on June 2, 2022, the request for an updated version of the impact study directive for the Assinica National Park project.

The Assinica Park project responds to a commitment in the "Peace of the Braves," an agreement reached between the Government of Quebec and the Cree Nation in February of 2004. This commitment aims, in part, to protect a portion of the Cree heritage lands of Assinica by granting it the status of a National Park of Quebec. This park will protect a representative sample of the boreal forest and natural regions of the Rupert Plateau and James Bay Lowlands.

At each stage of this project, the National Parks Department of the MFFP has consulted with the stakeholders, including the tallymen, affected by the project. This process led to longer than expected delays and, consequently, the impact study has not yet been conducted.

After reviewing the documents transmitted by the proponent, the COMEV recommended that an update of the directive be sent, along with its letter of transmittal, to the Provincial Administrator.

Action: **Send letter to the Provincial Administrator**
 Forward the updated impact study directive

6) Environmental rehabilitation of a former gas/service station in the Radisson area by the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles
Ref. No.: 3214-16-086

- 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 Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on the above project on May 24, 2022.

The Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN) wishes to clean-up and decontaminate the soil at a former gas/service station located on the outskirts of the town of Radisson. The site has been abandoned since the dismantling of the fuel infrastructure. The soil decontamination will be done on-site by biodegradation to meet criterion C of the Intervention Guide - *Guide d'intervention: Protection des sols et réhabilitation des terrains contaminés*. At the end of the soil treatment, the site will be backfilled with decontaminated soil and leveled.

After reviewing the documents from the proponent, COMEV members agreed that this project should be exempted from the social and environmental impacts assessment process.

The COMEV will remind the proponent that it will have to file a rehabilitation plan with the MELCC's Regional Analysis and Expertise branch for Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Nord-du-Québec. In addition, the COMEV will encourage the proponent to set the soil decontamination objective to meet criterion A or B_{écotox} of the *Guide d'intervention - Protection des sols et réhabilitation des terrains contaminés* to maximize the ecological potential of the project.

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

7) Environmental rehabilitation of a former service station on the Trans-Taïga Road by the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles

Ref. No.: 3214-16-086

- 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

Before the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) can issue a recommendation on this project, it needs to understand the connection between this project and the dismantling of the former outfitter camps on the Trans-Taïga. The COMEV is awaiting details that will clarify various aspects of the project. Analysis of the project will resume at the meeting scheduled for August 11, 2022.

8) 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 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 (**File closed**)
- Opening and operation of a sand pit near Lake Lardet by Les équipements J.V.C. inc. Ref. No.: 3214-03-048 (**Waiting for responses from proponent**)
- Dismantling of the main camp and satellite camps of a former outfitter on the Trans-Taïga Road by the MERN. Ref. No.: 3214-16-084 (**Waiting for responses from proponent**)
- Construction of the Nadoshtin Residence by the Société Corporation Résidence Nadoshtin inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-025 (**under analysis**)

9) Next meetings

The next meetings of the COMEV are scheduled for September 29 and October 19, 2022 via videoconference.

10) Meeting 311 B – August 11, 2022: Mining project for the construction and operation of a copper-gold deposit in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay territory by Troilus Gold

Ref. No.: 3214-11-025

- Project Notice - 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 Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on the above project on June 6, 2022.

The aim of this project is the reopening of the old Troilus gold and copper mine located about 175 km north of Chibougamau in the Nord-du-Québec region. The project site is on Category III lands of the Cree community of Mistissini. Troilus plans to extract ore from three open pits: two pits that were previously mined and are currently in the restoration process (J4 and 87) will be enlarged, and a new pit will be created in the southwest zone of the project (South-West pit).

After reviewing all the information from the proponent, the COMEV agreed to transmit to the Provincial Administrator, in the form of an attachment to a letter of transmittal, a directive outlining the recommended scope of the social and environmental impact study to be conducted by the proponent.

Action: **Send letter to the Provincial Administrator**
 Forward the impact study directive

11) Meeting 311 B – August 11, 2022: Environmental rehabilitation of a former service station on the Trans-Taïga by the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles

Ref. No.: 3214-16-086

- 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 Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on the above project on May 25, 2022.

In this project, the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN) wishes to clean and decontaminate the soil at a former service station located on the Trans-Taïga road. The petroleum infrastructure was removed in 2020 and the site is vacant. Contaminated soils will be removed for off-site treatment or will be sent to a landfill and/or soil treatment site, depending on their level of contamination. The site will be backfilled with clean soil from a regional borrow pit.

After reviewing the documents from the proponent, COMEV members agreed they need further information to continue their analysis. Questions and comments will be forwarded to the proponent for response.

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

Appendix A Correspondence and follow-up – June 16 to August 2, 2022					
Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Environmental rehabilitation of the Mirabelli site at km 324 of the Billy Diamond Highway by Hydro-Québec Ref. No.: 3214-16-083	Melissa Gagnon MELCC	Nicolas Morin Hydro-Québec	Attestation of exemption	Sent June 20, 2022 Rec'd COMEV June 20, 2022	<i>For information</i>
Borrow pit project for the restoration of the Coniagas tailing site by Galaxy Lithium (Ontario) Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-054	Maud Ablain MELCC	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium Inc.	Attestation of exemption	Sent June 21, 2022 Rec'd COMEV June 21, 2022	<i>For information</i>
Opening and operation of a sand pit near Lake Lardet by Les Équipements JVC inc. Ref. No.: 3214-03-048	Geneviève Bélanger COMEV	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of questions and comments	Sent June 22, 2022 Acknowledgement of receipt June 22, 2022	<i>For recommendation</i>
Dismantling of the main camp and satellite camps of the former outfitter in the Trans-Taïga Road sector by the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles Ref. No.: 3214-16-084	Geneviève Bélanger COMEV	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmittal of questions and comments	Sent June 30, 2022 Acknowledgement of receipt July 4, 2022	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Melissa Gagnon MELCC	Kelly Bélisle MERN		Sent July 11, 2022 Rec'd COMEV July 12, 2022	
Construction of the Nadosthtin Residence by the Corporation Résidence Nadoshtin Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-06-031	Noureddine Mouncef James Bay Energy Corporation	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Transmission de Preliminary information	Sent June 17, 2022	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Melissa Gagnon MELCC	Geneviève Bélanger COMEV		Sent July 11, 2022 Rec'd COMEV July 12, 2022	
Opening and operation of a quarry in the Chibougamau sector by Dynamitage TCG inc. Ref. No.: 3214-03-047	Melissa Gagnon MELCC	Bernard Vachon Dynamitage TCG inc.	Closure of file	Sent July 11, 2022 Rec'd COMEV July 12, 2022	