



la Convention  
de la Baie-James  
et du Nord québécois

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

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**MINUTES OF THE 318<sup>TH</sup> MEETING  
OF THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE**

**(Adopted)**

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**DATE:** July 18, 2023

**PLACE:** Videoconference

**PRESENT:** John Paul Murdoch, CNG, Chair  
Lucas Del Vecchio, CNG  
Geneviève Bélanger, Canada  
Nicholas Poirier, Québec  
Daniel Berrouard, Québec

Sophie Cooper, Executive Secretary

**ABSENT :** Louis Breton, Canada

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

The agenda was adopted as written.

**2) Adoption of the minutes of the 317<sup>th</sup> meeting**

The minutes of the 317<sup>th</sup> meeting were adopted as written.

**Action: Translate and post the minutes of the 317<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**3) Correspondence and follow-up**

Correspondence for the period June 15 to July 18 2023 is listed in Appendix A.

**4) Environmental rehabilitation of a former service station on the Trans-Taïga Road by the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts (MNR)**

**Ref. No.: 3214-16-085**

- Preliminary information
- Additional information (responses to questions and comments)
- For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the social and environmental impacts procedure, or on the scope of the impact study to be conducted

On May 30, 2022, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received preliminary information regarding the above MNR rehabilitation project. Additional information (responses to questions and comments) was received May 25, 2023.

The proponent plans to clean and decontaminate the soil at a former service station located on the Trans-Taïga Road. The fuel equipment was removed in 2020 and the site is vacant. The surface of the land is now mainly sand and bare of any flora or fauna. Soils contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons will be removed for off-site treatment. Once the contaminated soil is removed, the site will be backfilled with clean soil from an existing borrow pit located in the area. Observation wells will be installed to monitor groundwater quality after the rehabilitation work is complete. The proponent plans to start work in August-September of 2023.

After reviewing the documents from the proponent, COMEV members decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the social and environmental assessment process.

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

**5) Expansion and operation of a quarry at km 35.5 of the Billy Diamond Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation (SDBJ)**

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

- Preliminary information
- For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the social and environmental impacts procedure, or on the scope of the impact study to be conducted

On June 8, 2023, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information from the SDBJ on its plan to operate a quarry.

The proponent has requested a new certificate of exemption in order to extend the lifespan of the quarry project at km 35.5 on the Billy Diamond Highway. The quarry will be expanded and mined to provide the materials required to complete the highway repair work, which is now scheduled to run through 2026.

After reviewing the documents from the proponent, COMEV members decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the social and environmental assessment process.

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

**6) Varia**

**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)
- 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 the proponent)
- Construction of the Nadoshtin Residence by the Société Corporation Résidence Nadoshtin Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-06-031 (Waiting for responses from the proponent)
- Construction of forest roads in the Témiscamie sector by Chantiers Chibougamau Ltée Ref. No.: 3214-05-086 (Waiting for clarifications)
- Sirmac Project - Bulk sampling of 50 000 tonnes by Vision Lithium Inc. (3214-14-068) (under analysis)
- 2023-2024 maintenance and repair work on the Billy Diamond Highway by the James Bay Development Corporation. Ref. No. 3214-05-081 (Waiting for responses from the proponent)
- Moblan mining project by Sayona Nord (under analysis)

- Construction of a new wastewater lagoon cell at Waskaganish by the Cree First Nation of Waskaganish Ref. No. 3219-12-004 (Waiting for responses from the proponent)

**7) Next meeting**

The next meeting of the COMEV is scheduled for August 24, 2023, via videoconference.

<b>Appendix A</b> <b>Correspondence and follow-up – June 16 to July 18, 2023</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Action - comments</b>
Reconstruction of thermal plant and dryers by Barrette-Chapais Ltée Ref. No.: 3214-24-001	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmittal of recommendation of exemption	Sent June 19, 2023 Acknowledgement of receipt June 19, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCCFP	Yan Sellin Barrette-Chapais Ltée	Transmittal of recommendation of exemption	Sent June 26, 2023 Rec'd COMEV June 26, 2023	
Expansion of an existing quarry and reopening of an old sandpit at km 58 of Route 19900 by the MTMD Ref. No.: 3214-03-022	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmittal of recommendation of exemption	Sent June 19, 2023 Acknowledgement of receipt June 19, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCCFP	Philippe Lemire MTMD	Transmittal of recommendation of exemption	Sent July 12, 2023 Rec'd COMEV July 12, 2023	
Construction of a new wastewater treatment lagoon cell in Waskaganish by the Cree First Nation of Waskaganish Ref. No.: 3219-12-004	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Issac Voyageur Regional Administrator CNG	Transmittal of request for additional information	Sent June 19, 2023 Acknowledgement of receipt June 19, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Issac Voyageur Regional Administrator CNG	Brenda Weistche Cree Nation of Waskaganish		Sent June 27, 2023 Rec'd COMEV June 27, 2023	
Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs DGÉES	Mélissa Gagnon MELCCFP	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Announcement of a restructuring at the Direction générale de l'évaluation environnementale et stratégique	Sent June 20, 2023 Rec'd COMEV l June e 20, 2023	<i>For information</i>
Moblan Lithium mining project par Sayona Nord inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-062	Manon Bérubé Sayona Nord inc.	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Project update	Sent June 29, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Maud Ablain MELCCFP	John Paul Murdoch COMEV		Sent July 5, 2023 Rec'd COMEV July 10, 2023	