

1) Meeting declared open and adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as written.

2) Adoption of the minutes of the 319th meeting

The minutes of the 319th meeting were adopted as written.

Action: Translate and post the minutes of the 319th meeting.

3) Correspondence and follow-up

Correspondence for the period of August 25 to September 27, 2023 is listed in Appendix A.

4) Moblan mining project by Sayona Nord

Ref. No.: 3214-14-070

- Preliminary information – Project update
- For recommendation on the scope of the impact study to be conducted

On July 5, 2023, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information regarding an update to the Moblan Lithium project.

Sayona Nord Inc. acquired the mining rights to the Moblan property in December of 2021. The proponent wishes to establish an open pit mine and a lithium concentrator at the Lac Moblan site. They plan to construct and operate a spodumene mine to produce lithium, with an estimated mine life of 20 to 25 years. Several facilities will be required at the industrial complex, including areas dedicated to the storage of overburden, waste rock, tailings, ore and concentrate, as well as a concrete plant, water management and treatment facilities, administrative buildings, and two camps that can accommodate 200 to 350 workers. The revised project also includes a new route for the construction of the power line, the expansion of the initial study area (from 443 ha to 2000 ha) and the enlargement of the mining pit (from 26 ha to 85 ha), which will impact two watersheds and result in the complete destruction of a lake.

After studying all the information submitted by the proponent, the members of the COMEV agreed to send the Provincial Administrator a letter of transmittal with a directive containing their recommendations on the scope of the social and environmental impacts study to be conducted by the proponent.

Action: Send letter to the Provincial Administrator
Forward impacts study directive

6) Compensation for damages to wetlands and water bodies – Evaluation of the situation in territories covered by the Agreement - Request for consultation

- For comments and opinions

On August 9, 2023, the MELCCFP sent the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) a request for consultation on compensation for damages to wetlands and water bodies in territories covered by the JBNQA.

Since the role of the COMEV is to transmit recommendations to the Administrator regarding whether projects should undergo the review process, as well as to issue directives for project reviews, members agreed that the COMEV's comments should be limited to this mandate.

COMEV members noted that it is important to adequately inform proponents of their responsibilities with respect to compensation for damages to wetlands and bodies of water when they submit their preliminary information for a northern project. Proponents must also be informed of the possibility of making their compensation plan the subject of a separate application for exemption from the environmental review procedure. This would include projects that have already been presented to and approved by the Cree or Jamesian communities. The COMEV members also pointed out the importance of informing the committee of any new terms and conditions concerning compensation for damaged wetlands and bodies of water which must be included in any impact study directive. Finally, the members emphasized that they remain available for any questions or comments on this subject.

Action: **Send a letter to Méliissa Gagnon (MELCCFP)**
 Forward comments

7) 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 responses from the proponent)*
- 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)*

- 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)*
- Borrow pit project (PK 0.6) for the restoration of the Coniagas tailings site by Allkem/Galaxy Lithium (3219-14-054) *(under analysis)*
- Construction of an ecocentre in Whapmagoostui by the Cree First Nation of Whapmagoostui *(under analysis)*
- Development and operation of a quarry and operation of a hot mix asphalt plant at km of the Billy Diamond Highway by Blais & Langlois inc. (3214-05-081) *(under analysis)*

8) Next meetings

The next meetings of the COMEV are scheduled for November 1, 2023 and November 28, 2023 via videoconference.

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up – August 25 to September 27, 2023

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Borrow pit project (PK0.6) for the restoration of the Coniagas tailings site by Allkem/Galaxy Lithium Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-054	Denis Couture Allkem/Galaxy Lithium	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Preliminary information	Sent August 17, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Maud Ablain MELCCFP	John Paul Murdoch COMEV		Sent August 25, 2023 Rec'd COMEV August 28, 2023	
Construction of an ecocentre in Whapmagoostui by the Cree First Nation of Whapmagoostui	Raphaël Joannis-Clément CNG	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator GNC	Preliminary information	Sent August 17, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator CNG	John Paul Murdoch COMEV		Sent August 29, 2023 Rec'd COMEV August 29, 2023	
Sirmac project – Bulk sampling of 50 000 tonnes by Vision Lithium Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-068	John Paul Murdoch COMEV	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Additional information (responses to questions and comments)	Sent August 30, 2023 Acknowledgement of receipt August 30, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Maude Ablain MELCCFP	Yves Rougerie Vision Lithium		Sent September 1, 2023 Rec'd COMEV September 6, 2023	
Development and operation of a quarry and of a hot mix asphalt plant at km 440 of the Billy Diamond Highway by Blais & Langlois inc. Ref. No.: 3214-05-081	Charles Delisle Blais & Langlois	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP		Sent August 1, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCCFP	John Paul Murdoch COMEV		Sent September 8, 2023 Rec'd COMEV September 11, 2023	