



la Convention
de la Baie-James
et du Nord québécois

Comité d'évaluation
Evaluating Committee

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**MINUTES OF THE 297TH MEETING
OF THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE**

(Adopted)

DATE: December 10, 2020

PLACE: Videoconference

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

Vanessa Chalifour, Executive Secretary

1) Meeting declared open and adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as written.

2) Adoption of the minutes of the 296th meeting

The minutes of the 296th meeting were adopted as written.

Action: Translate and post the minutes of the 296th meeting.

3) Correspondence and follow-up

Correspondence sent and received between October 28 and December 9, 2020 is listed in Appendix A.

4) Operation of a gravel pit at km 305 of the James Bay Highway by Trimix Béton Inc.

Ref. No.: 3214-03-043

- a) Preliminary information
- b) Additional information
- c) File closed
 - For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the review procedure, or on the scope of the impact study to be conducted

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on the above project on August 6, 2020 and additional information on September 29, 2020. On November 23, 2020, the COMEV received a letter from the MELCC confirming that the proponent had sent a request to withdraw the application for exemption as well as confirmation that, considering new information, the MELCC had determined that the project as described was automatically exempt from the review process. Thus, the COMEV is not required to make a recommendation on this project.

5) Operation of a gravel pit at km 291.4 of the James Bay Highway by Trimix Béton Inc.

Ref. No.: 3214-03-044

- Preliminary information
- a) Additional information
- b) File closed
 - For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the review procedure, or on the scope of the impact study to be conducted

The Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on the above project on August 6, and additional information on September 29, 2020. On November 23, 2020, the COMEV received a letter from the MELCC confirming that the proponent had sent a request to withdraw the application for exemption as well as confirmation that, considering new information, the MELCC had determined that the project as described was automatically exempt from the review process. Thus, the COMEV is not required to make a recommendation on this project.

6) Operation of a quarry and hot mix asphalt plant at km 393.9 of the James Bay Highway by the James Bay Energy Corporation

Ref. No.: 3214-05-081

a) Preliminary information

- For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the review procedure, or on the scope of the impact study to be conducted

On September 14, 2020, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received preliminary information on the above quarry project at km 393.9 of the James Bay Highway.

In this project, the James Bay Energy Corporation wants to operate a quarry of less than 3 hectares and a hot mix asphalt plant at km 393.9 of Billy-Diamond Highway (formerly the James Bay Highway). The purpose is to provide materials for repairs to Billy-Diamond Highway.

After reviewing the documents from the proponent, members decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the review process.

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

7) Quarry greater than 3 ha near the La Grande-3 hydroelectric complex by Hydro-Québec

Ref. No.: 3214-03-045

a) Preliminary information

- For recommendation on the scope of the impact study to be conducted

On October 2, 2020, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information from Hydro-Quebec regarding a quarry project near its La Grande-3 complex.

Hydro-Québec's intention is to develop and operate a quarry to produce crushed gravel in the La Grande-3 hydroelectric sector. The project would involve the development of a quarry of about 5 ha that would include an extraction area, a stacking area, an equipment storage area and a crushing and screening area.

The proponent will first have to clear trees and brush, then remove the topsoil. The granular materials produced will be used, among other purposes, for the maintenance and repair of various Hydro-Québec infrastructures and facilities located in the LG3 sector, such as roads, bridges, and culverts, as well as certain buildings.

Members reviewed a draft directive and made some changes before agreeing that the directive can be sent to the Provincial Administrator.

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

8) Underground exploration ramp, underground drilling, and bulk sampling in Sector 51 of the Fenelon project by Wallbridge Mining Company Limited
Ref. No.: 3214-14-064

a) Preliminary information

- For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the review procedure, or on the scope of the impact study to be conducted

On October 22, 2020, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received the preliminary information on the above project in Sector 51 of Wallbridge Mining's Fenelon project. Additional information was received on December 22, 2020.

According to their proposal, Wallbridge Mining Company would like to undertake, in tandem with its surface exploration program, some underground development work, underground drilling and bulk sampling of 25,000 tonnes, mainly in Sector 51.

Given the new information received about this project, the COMEV convened extraordinary meetings on December 17 and 22, 2020 to continue its analysis of the project.

After reviewing the documents sent by the proponent, members concluded that they needed additional information before continuing their analysis and formulated a few questions and comments for the proponent.

Action: Send letter to Provincial Administrator
Forward the questions and comments

9) Update on the bulk sampling program at the Windfall site by Osisko Mining
Ref. No.: 3214-14-059

a) Preliminary information

- For recommendation on whether to exempt the project from the review procedure, or on the scope of the impact study to be conducted

On November 27, 2020, the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) received from Osisko the preliminary information regarding an update to the bulk sampling work at the Windfall project.

The purpose of this new sampling work is to develop a better understanding of the indicated resources to include in its feasibility study. The rationale stated in the company's previous requests for bulk sampling work remains the same – ie, to understand the unique geology at Windfall, as well as the mineralization complexity and the nugget effect. The objectives of the new bulk sampling are to reveal the various styles of mineralization in different host rocks, evaluate representative zones with average grades from the 2020 resource estimates, characterize the various controls affecting the zones (thickness, verticality, continuity) and reconcile the grade levels with the resource estimates (without processing).

After reviewing the documents from the proponent, the COMEV decided to recommend that the project be exempted from the review process.

Action: Send letter to the Provincial Administrator
Recommendation of exemption

10) Varia

a) Projects pending

- i. Stripping of 12 overburdens at the Sirmac site, Ref. No.: 3214 14-063 *(Waiting for responses from proponent–2018 project)*
- ii. 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 –2016 project)*
- i) Projet Site preparation and excavation of an access ramp – Gladiator project by Bonterra Resources Inc., Ref. No.: 3214-14-065Ref. No.: 3214-14-065 *(On the agenda for the next meeting)*

11) Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2021, by videoconference (Teams).

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up -- October 28 to December 9, 2020

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Quarry CA km 298 by the James Bay Energy Corporation Ref. No.: 3214-03-032	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Noureddine Mouncef James Bay Energy Corporation	Acknowledgement of receipt	Sent October 2, 2020 Rec'd COMEV October 28, 2020	
Tamaani Internet project Phase 5	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	David McGovern Federal Administrator	Transmittal of recommendation of exemption	Sent October 28, 2020	
	David McGovern Federal Administrator	Daryl Combden Kativik Regional Government		Sent November 19, 2020 Rec'd COMEV November 19, 2020	
Whapmagoostui Kuujjuaraapik Hybrid Power Plant Project	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Transmittal of impacts study directive	Sent October 28, 2020	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Matthew Mukash Kuujjuarapik Whapmagoostui Renewable Energy		Sent October 29, 2020 Rec'd COMEV October 29, 2020	
Operation of a gravel pit at km 305 of the James Bay Highway by Trimix Béton Inc., Ref. No.: 3214-03-043	Gervais Simard Ressources Environnement	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Withdrawal of application for exemption from the assessment and review process	Sent October 26, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Trimix Béton Inc.	Request to withdraw an application for exemption File closed	Sent November 23, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Request to withdraw an application for exemption File closed	Sent November 23, 2020 Rec'd COMEV November 24, 2020	<i>For information</i>
Operation of a gravel pit at km 291.4 of the James Bay Highway by Trimix Béton Inc., Ref. No.: 3214-03-044	Gervais Simard Ressources Environnement	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Withdrawal of application for exemption from the assessment and review process	Sent October 26, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Trimix Béton inc.	Request to withdraw an application for exemption File closed	Sent November 23, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEV	Request to withdraw an application for exemption File closed	Sent November 23, 2020 Rec'd COMEV November 24, 2020	<i>For information</i>

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Project	From	À To	Document	Date	Action - comments
Underground development and ramp – Gladiator project by Bonterra Resources Inc., Ref. No.: 3214-14-065	Pascal Hamelin Ressources Bonterra Inc.	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Additional information (responses to questions and comments)	Sent October 20, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEVA		Sent November 5, 2020 Rec'd COMEV November 26, 2020	<i>For recommendation</i>
Update of the bulk sampling project at the Windfall site, by Osisko Ref. No.: 3214-14-059	Alexandra Drapack Osisko	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Preliminary information	Sent November, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Daniel Berrouard COMEVA		Sent November 27, 2020 Rec'd COMEV November 30, 2020	<i>For recommendation</i>