

## FORM

### Preliminary information

#### PREAMBLE

The James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA), by its chapters 22 and 23, establishes a system of protection for both the natural and social environment in the James Bay and Northern Quebec region. Depending on the type of project, some aspects of these chapters may report under the responsibility of the Government of Canada, or the Government of Québec or both levels of government. Some projects can also be reported under the responsibility of the Cree Nation Government, notably for projects conducted on Category IA lands. Title II of the [Environment Quality Act \(EQA\)](#) presents the environmental and social impact assessment and review procedures applicable in the James Bay region (section 133 of the EQA) and in Northern Quebec (section 168 of the EQA).

The projects mentioned in schedule A of the EQA are subjected to one of the procedures applicable in the Northern environment, contrary to those mentioned in schedule B, which are exempt from the procedures. Projects not outlined in either schedule are considered "grey zone" projects. Anyone who intends to undertake a project in a northern environment covered by schedule A of the EQA must apply for a certificate of authorization. For "grey zone" projects, a proponent must request an attestation of exemption and the Provincial administrator will confirm to him, after analysis of the project by the northern committee concerned, whether the project is not subject to the [Environmental and social impact assessment and review procedure](#) or if it is subject to it. In the first case, an attestation of exemption will be issued to the proponent for the project and, in the second, a directive will be prepared and sent to him, which will indicate the nature, scope and extent of the impact study he must prepare. Thus, except for the projects listed in schedule B, a proponent must file a preliminary information form with the Provincial administrator of the JBNQA.

If necessary, it is possible to confirm whether your project corresponds to an activity listed in schedules A and B of the EQA or a "grey zone" by sending an e-mail request for verification of exemption, including a short description of your project, its location and the anticipated impacts at the following email address: [dgees-assujettissement@environnement.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:dgees-assujettissement@environnement.gouv.qc.ca).

The preliminary information form is used to describe the general characteristics of a project. It must be completed in a clear and concise manner and the information must be limited to the elements that are relevant for a proper understanding of the project, its anticipated impacts, and possible ramifications.

In accordance with the EQA, the preliminary information form is either sent to the Evaluating Committee (COMEV), if the project concerns the region south of the 55th parallel (James Bay), or to the Kativik Environmental Quality Commission (KEQC), if the project concerns the region north of the 55th parallel (Nunavik). These two committees review the preliminary information and, in the case of projects covered by schedule A of the EQA, produce a recommendation on the directive indicating the nature, scope and extent of the study impact that the proponent must prepare. For "grey zone" projects, these committees produce a recommendation (COMEV) or a decision (KEQC) on whether the project is subjected to or exempt from the procedure. These recommendations and decisions are then forwarded to the Provincial administrator who communicates his decision to the proponent. The proponent may be issued an attestation of exemption for projects that are exempt from the procedure or issued a directive for those subjected to the environmental and social impact assessment and review procedure.

The Evaluating Committee is a tripartite advisory body composed of representatives appointed by the Cree Nation Government and representatives of the Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec. The Kativik Environmental Quality Commission is a bipartite body of Inuit or Naskapi representatives appointed by the Kativik Regional Government and representatives of the Government of Quebec. While performing their duties, both bodies pay particular attention to the following principles, which are outlined in sections 152 and 186 of the EQA:

- a) the protection of the hunting, fishing and trapping rights of the Native people;
- b) the protection of the environment and social milieu;
- c) the protection of the Native people, of their societies, communities and economy;
- d) the protection of the wildlife, of the physical and biological milieu and of the ecological systems of the territory;
- e) the rights and guarantees of the Native people in Category II lands;
- f) the participation of the Crees, Inuit and Naskapis in the application of the environmental and social protection regime provided for in this division;
- g) any rights and interest of non-Native people, and
- h) the right of the persons acting lawfully to carry out projects in the territory.

Also note that the preliminary information form will be published in the [Environmental assessment register](#) (French only) as defined in section 118.5 of the EQA but only for projects for which a directive will be issued. The [COMEV](#) and [KEQC](#) also publish preliminary information form on their websites.

In accordance with sections 115.5 and 115.12 of the EQA, the applicant for any authorization granted under that act must, as a condition of issuance, complete a « Declaration of the applicant or the holder of an authorization issued under the act respecting the Environment Quality Act », together with the other documents required by the minister. You will find the explanatory guide and the associated forms at the following address: <https://www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/lqe/renforcement/index.htm> (French only).

The preliminary information form must be accompanied by the payment, charging the proponent for services provided under the environmental authorization system. This payment must be made to the ministre des Finances. Details regarding the applicable rates are available in the [Tarification](#) section (French only) of the environmental assessment web page. It should be noted that the MELCC will not process the application until payment is received.

Once completed, the proponent must send its preliminary information form together with a letter of transmission, which must be sent to the JBNQA Provincial administrator:

- Send the electronic copy of the documents (form and letter of transmission) to [reception.30e@environnement.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:reception.30e@environnement.gouv.qc.ca) including the Deputy minister ([marc.croteau@environnement.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:marc.croteau@environnement.gouv.qc.ca)) as well as Vanessa Chalifour, coordinator/team leader for northern projects ([vanessa.chalifour@environnement.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:vanessa.chalifour@environnement.gouv.qc.ca)). The letter of transmission must confirm that the hard copies are consistent with the electronic ones. In case of large electronic documents, please consult the last bullet.

- Send a hard copy of the documents (French) to the Deputy minister office at the following address:

James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement Provincial Administrator  
Deputy minister of the Environment and Fight against Climate change  
Édifice Marie-Guyart, 30e étage  
675, boul. René-Lévesque Est, boîte 02  
Québec (Québec) G1R 5V7

- Send the other hard copies and the USB keys (including the French and English versions) to the Direction de l'évaluation environnementale des projets industriels, miniers, énergétiques et nordiques at the following address:

Mélissa Gagnon, director  
Direction de l'évaluation environnementale des projets  
industriels, miniers, énergétiques et nordiques  
Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques  
Édifice Marie-Guyart, 6e étage, boîte 83  
675, boul. René-Lévesque Est  
Québec (Québec) G1R 5V7

Projects located south of the 55<sup>th</sup> parallel (James Bay)

Ten (10) hard copies, including six (6) in French and four (4) in English  
Three (3) PDF copies in electronic format  
Additional copies may be requested depending on the scope of the project.

Projects located north of the 55<sup>th</sup> parallel (Northern Quebec/Nunavik)

Seventeen (17) hard copies, including nine (9) in French and eight (8) in English  
Three (3) PDF copies in electronic format  
Additional copies may be requested depending on the scope of the project.

- If the electronic documents are very large: Inform the Direction de l'évaluation environnementale des projets industriels, miniers, énergétiques et nordiques ([vanessa.chalifour@environnement.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:vanessa.chalifour@environnement.gouv.qc.ca)) and a secure link allowing you to send your documents on the ShareFile platform will be shared with you. This link will be valid for a period of 7 days. Attach the letter of transmission to the email, indicating that the electronic version will be transmitted via the ShareFile platform of the DGÉES.

## 1. IDENTIFICATION AND COORDINATES OF THE PROPONENT

<b>1.1 Identification of the proponent</b>	
Name : Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques	
Civic address : 1175 Lebourgneuf Boulevard, Quebec, G2K 0B7	
Postal address (if different from civic address) :	
Name and function of the signatory(s) authorized to submit the application: Mrs. Anne-Sophie Cauchon, Director, Direction du Passif Environnemental	
Telephone : (418) 455-7174	Telephone (other) : -
Email : Anne-sophie.Cauchon@environnement.gouv.qc.ca	
<b>1.2 Company number</b>	
Québec enterprise number (NEQ) : N/A	
<b>1.3 Resolution of the municipal council, band council, northern village, or responsible body</b>	
If the proponent is a municipality, the preliminary information form is accompanied by the resolution of the municipal council, band council, northern village, or the responsible body duly certified authorizing the signatory(s) of the application to present it. Add a copy of the resolution to appendix I.	
<b>1.4 Identification of the consultant mandated by the proponent (if applicable)</b>	
Name :	
Civic address :	
Postal address (if different from civic address) :	
Telephone : -	Telephone (other) : -
Email : @ .	
Description of mandate :	

## 2. GENERAL PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT

<b>2.1 Project title</b>
Project of ... (construction/extension/development/ etc.) of ... (installation/equipment/factory/etc.) in the territory of ... (municipality/village/community) Rehabilitation of Site 406A of the former Mid-Canada Radar Surveillance Line
<b>2.2 Article of accordance</b>
To verify the accordance of your project, indicate which paragraph of schedule A of the Environment Quality Act your project is subjected to, in your opinion, and why (threshold, for example). Indicate if your project is considered a "grey zone" project, if applicable.  As the project is not defined by Schedules A and B of the Environment Quality Act, it constitutes a grey zone project.
<b>2.3 Objectives and justification of the project</b>
Indicate the main objectives and highlight the reasons for implementing the project.  The former Mid-Canada radar surveillance line was erected in the 1950s from east to west in Canada. In Quebec, the portion of the line totaled 45 sites between the Labrador border and the Hudson Bay. The sites were abandoned during the 1960s and transferred to the Government of Quebec in 1965. On all sites, we find disused buildings, contaminated soils, hazardous materials and various wastes that affect the quality of the environment by leaching contaminants into the soil. The sites also represent a security issue related to the ancient nature of the facilities still in place. Finally, due to the presence of large quantities of waste on the sites, they are non-compliant with Quebec legislation, particularly with respect to the regulation on the landfill

and incineration of residual materials. This project involves the rehabilitation of one of the 43 sites currently abandoned. Section 5.1, below, explains why this site is considered. The remaining 42 sites will be the subject of further requests.

The objective of the project is the remediation of the site through complete rehabilitation. Another objective is the involvement of the Cree and Inuit Nations who are present on the territory where the site is located.

#### 2.4 Brief description of the project and alternatives

Briefly describe the project (length, width, quantity, voltage, surface, etc.) and for each of its phases (development, construction, and operation and, when appropriate, closure and restoration), briefly describe the main characteristics associated with each of the project alternatives, including planned activities, developments, and construction (deforestation, expropriation, blasting, backfilling, etc.).

The following activities will be carried out:

- The removal of residual hazardous materials, their packaging and temporary storage in a space that complies with the regulations;
- Removal of equipment from inside buildings;
- Dismantling of pipelines and old fuel tanks;
- Dismantling of infrastructure (building, shelter, heliport, others);
- Packaging of dismantled materials on a dedicated surface;
- Removal of contaminated soil and packaging on a managed surface
- The off-site transportation of dismantled materials and contaminated soil to developed sites in the Trans-Taiga, these developments will require agreements between the responsible for the work and the receivers;
- Grouping of dismantled materials for final transport to authorized locations that will have to be identified by those responsible for the work.

If relevant, add to appendix II all the documents allowing to better understand the characteristics of the project (diagram, sketch, cross-section, etc.).

Additional information on the site is described in the summary document entitled *Detailed Rehabilitation Project for 7 Sites of the Former Mid-Canada Radar Surveillance Line* annexed to this form.

#### 2.5 Related activities

Summarize, if applicable, related planned activities (ex: road access, crushing or milling, installation of a cofferdam, stream diversion) and any other projects that may influence the project design.

The transport of contaminated materials and soils off-site is an important issue for the project. Preliminary assessments were developed for the use of air transport, i.e. by helicopter. However, other means such as land transport could also be considered. According to this variant, temporary infrastructure such as a winter access road could then be required.

### 3. PROJECT LOCATION AND SCHEDULE

#### 3.1 Identification and location of the project and its activities

Name of the municipality, village, or community where the project is located (indicate if several municipalities, villages, or communities are affected by the project):

The site is part of the former Mid-Canada line and is identified as 406A.

Land categories (I, II and III): Category III Land

Geographical coordinates in decimal degrees of the central point of the project (for linear projects, provide the coordinates of the project start and end point):

Site 406A

Central Point :            Latitude : 54,83323            Longitude : - 79,00021

#### 3.2 Description of the project site

Describe the main components of the physical, biological, and human environments likely to be affected by the project by focusing on the description on elements considered to be of scientific, social, cultural, economic, historical, archaeological, or aesthetic importance (environmental valued components). Indicate, if applicable, the ownership status of the lands where the project is planned, as well as the main features of the site: zoning, available space, sensitive environments, wetlands and bodies of water, compatibility with current uses, availability services, topography, presence of buildings, aboriginal land use and occupation, etc.

The project site is located south of the 55th parallel. This site is located on the edge of Hudson Bay and has served in the past as a fuel and supply site for the nearby radar surveillance site 406, which is close but more elevated.

A summary of the physical and biological characteristics is provided below while additional information is summarized in Appendix 2.

Site 406A

Site located on the edge of Hudson Bay 95 kilometers south of Whapmagoostui and close to the Cree and Inuit Nations area of interest. The site includes rocky outcrops, the presence of contaminated soils is considered in the rock depressions which are also preferential paths for anthropogenic surface contamination.

**3.3 Project schedule**

Provide the implementation schedule (estimated period and estimated duration of each step of the project) considering the time required for the preparation of the impact study, if applicable, and the progress of the procedure.

The following timetable for implementation is proposed.

Period	Steps
January 2021	Submission of Preliminary Information to the Provincial Administrator
Winter 2022	Analysis of the project by the Environmental Assessment of Industrial, Mining, Energy and Northern Projects direction and by the COMEV.  Preparation of a public call for tenders for professional services related to the preparation of plans and specifications.  Continued discussions with the Cree Nation on the preparation of an agreements involving contractors or autonomous teams carrying out field work.
Spring 2022	Comev recommendation on whether or not the project should be subject to the environmental and social impact assessment and review procedure.  Selection of a professional firm for the preparation of plans and specifications.
Summer – Fall 2022	Depending on the recommendation of the COMEV, receive an attestation of exemption of the project to the environmental and assessment or read the directive concerning the impact study.  Proceed to finalize agreements or offers of services if an attestation of exemption is deliver.
Fall 2022 – Winter 2023	Carry out the impact study, if required, and obtain the certificate of authorization.
Spring – Summer – Fall 2023	Carry out the restoration work of the site.

**3.4 Location plan**

Add to appendix III a topographic or cadastral map showing the location of the project and, if applicable, a plan for the location of development or activities on an appropriate scale indicating any existing infrastructure and its relation to the proposed work site.

The map added to Annex III allows a location of the site on the territory.

#### 4. INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES OF THE PUBLIC, ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES AND USERS OF THE TERRITORY

##### 4.1 Information and consultation activities carried out

If applicable, indicate the terms and conditions relating to the public information and consultation activities carried out as part of the project design (methods used, number of participants and represented areas), including those carried out with the local populations, among others the Crees, Inuit and Naskapi, as well as the users of the territory, and indicate, if needed, the concerns raised by the public and whether these concerns were taken into consideration in the design of the project.

If applicable, mention the modalities of the public information and consultation activities carried out as part of the project design (methods used, number of participants and environments represented), including those carried out with local populations, including the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi, as well as land users. Indicate the concerns raised and explain how they were taken into account in the project design. If applicable, mention the modalities for the public information and consultation activities carried out as part of the project design (methods used, number of participants and communities represented), including activities carried out with local populations, including the Cree, Inuit and Naskapis, and specify, if applicable, the concerns raised and their consideration in the design of the project.

The involvement of the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi Nations is important in this project. In fact, a virtual meeting has been scheduled for August 2021 with the Cree Nation Government. Unfortunately the meeting has been postponed because of the elections that took place at the same time (July and August) by this government. Another virtual meeting was then held with the James Bay Environmental Advisory Committee (JBACE) in September 2021. The meeting has focused on the results of sites characterization campaigns that have been carried out in recent years and in a presentation of an intervention approach for their remediation. The case of site 406A was discussed in more details.

The intervention approach presented is based on the completion of the reclamation work by a general contractor or an autonomous team who will be responsible for:

- Preparation of a work plan, timeline and health and safety program;
- Selection of working methods and coordination of the teams;
- The planning of the execution of the works including the logistics required by the site;
- The execution of the works.

The audit of the work will be carried out by an environmental auditor who will be the representative of the ministry on the site. The auditor's tasks will be to:

- Prepare specification for areas to be decontaminated and objectives to be achieved;
- Carry out quality audits of decontaminated sectors;
- Carry out the measurement for payment and recommend it to the Ministry;
- Prepare monitoring reports including site rehabilitation results;
- Ensure budget monitoring and reissue of accounts;
- Assist, if necessary, the contractor firm in the logistics of execution of the work.

Further meetings are planned with the Cree Nation and community stakeholders to further discuss the issues related to the rehabilitation work and the possible involvement of these partners in the project.

##### 4.2 Information and consultation activities planned during the environmental and social impact assessment procedure

If applicable, indicate the terms and conditions for public information and consultation activities during the environmental and social impact assessment procedure, including those planned for aboriginal communities and users of the territory impacted by the project.

#### 5. DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN ISSUES<sup>1</sup> AND IMPACTS OF THE PROJECT ON THE RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

##### 5.1 Description of the main issues of the project

Briefly describe the main issues regarding the development, construction, and operation phases and, when applicable, closure and restoration phases of the project.

<sup>1</sup> Issue: A major concern for the government, the scientific community, or the population, including the impacted indigenous communities, and whose analysis could influence the recommendations or decisions of the northern committees regarding the authorization or refusal of a project.

The project involves the responsible and permanent closure of site 406A of the former Mid-Canada Line. At the end of the work, the site will have been cleaned of residues and contaminated soils currently present and representing environmental risks.

This project will concern only the identified site. During the characterization phase carried out in partnership with the Department of National Defence, a classification round based on the National Classification System for Contaminated Sites and used by the federal government was carried out to determine the eligibility of the Mid-Canada sites for a future Federal-Provincial funding partnership. The exercise concluded that 7 of the 43 sites did not have a sufficiently high classification level to be eligible for a federal funding. As a result, the 7 sites concerned will be managed exclusively by the Government of Quebec and will be excluded from the current negotiation between the two levels of government.

The main issue of the project is related to transport. Indeed, as the site is located in a fairly isolated area, few transportation options are available. Helicopter transportation may limit local benefits as it requires specialized equipment and operators. Land transport involves significant distances to travel in the absence of even rudimentary road infrastructure.

## **5.2 Description of the main anticipated impacts of the project on the receiving environment**

For the development, construction, and operation phases and, when appropriate, closure and restoration phases of the project, briefly describe what are the anticipated impacts of the project on the receiving environment (physical, biological, and human). Briefly outline the planned mitigation or remediation measures, if applicable.

The rehabilitation of site 406A will involve the deployment of work teams and equipment on the ground to carry out the activities of dismantling, packaging and transporting soil and materials that has to be removed.

During the work, the anticipated impacts on the receiving environment will be:

- . Air emissions from burning wood – This impact is similar to outdoor fires in forest camps. It will be necessary to have a burning permit, to inform the SOPFEU and to have a water source nearby during these activities.
- . GHG emissions from off-site transportation of materials – See Section 6.1 for this topic.
- . Hazardous Materials Spill Risks – Refueling procedures including areas dedicated to these activities will be put in place and environmental kits will be available on site.
- . Construction of a trail route for off-site material removal by land – On land movement of contaminated material and soil off-site remains a possible option. In this context, trails that can allow the passage of tracked vehicles or other off-road vehicles would be necessary. Land transport will ideally be carried out in winter which facilitates traffic on the territory and minimizes the impact on the ground.
- . Although the site 406A is located on land with many rocky outcrops, the removal of contaminated soils will involve revegetation of the remaining soils with in-land species.

For a "grey zone" project, provide sufficient information to assess its environmental and social impacts to determine whether it should be subjected to the environmental and social impact assessment and review procedure. Provide mitigation or remediation measures, if applicable.

## **6. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION**

### **6.1 Greenhouse gas emission**

Indicate if the project is likely to lead to the emission of greenhouse gases and, if so, which ones. Briefly describe the main sources of projected emissions at the various phases of the project.

As already mentioned, the main issue of the project is related to the transport of contaminated materials and soils off-site. Based on the option of using a helicopter transport, the estimated number of trips for the management of these products totals 6 for site 406A. In terms of fuel consumption, it is estimated that a total of 1700 liters will then be required for the transport of these materials. To this consumption another 5400 liters must be added for the helicopter transportation of work teams. In terms of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the total fuel used will result in an estimated emission of nearly 20 tons.

## **7. OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION**

### 7.1 Other relevant information

Enter any other information deemed necessary for a better understanding of the project.

The project aims is to rehabilitate site 406A in order to eliminate the environmental impacts created by the residual materials and hazardous residual materials left over in the environment. The project also aims to remove soils that have been contaminated mainly by petroleum hydrocarbons such as fuels or heating oil. The natural degradation of these contaminants, which has been present since the 1950s and 1960s, is slow and the current level of contamination exceeds the criterion applicable for such a sector.

The project also represents an economic opportunity for the communities present on the territory to participate in the execution of field work or in the transport, accommodation or other sectors.

Finally, that the completion of the rehabilitation project of the former Mid-Canada radar stations is a project requested by the Nations and the advisory committees present on the territory for many years. The first environmental works on the sites were carried on in 1985 and in 1998-2003 where inventories, cleaning and the removal of residual hazardous materials were done. This important work had been categorized as Phases I and II of the project, respectively. The next phase III work will finalize the complete remediation of the sites.

An intervention report for the site will be prepared. It will include a photographic report of the work to compare the site before and after its remediation as well as a compilation of residues and contaminated soils that will have been managed off-site. A copy of this report will be sent to the Provincial Administrator. The Passif Environmental Direction of MELCC, for its part, will be able to send copies to the representatives of the Cree Nation, as well as to the JBACE.



## 8. DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE

8.1 Declaration and signature
<p><b><i>I certify that :</i></b></p> <p><i>1° the documents and information provided in this preliminary information form are accurate to the best of my knowledge.</i></p> <p><i>Any misrepresentation may result in sanctions under the EQA. All information provided will form an integral part of the application and will be published on the website of the Evaluating Committee (COMEV) or the Kativik Environmental Quality Commission (KEQC) and the Environmental assessment register.</i></p>
First and last name
Anne-Sophie Cauchon
Signature
<i>French version signed</i>
Date
January 28, 2022

**Appendix I**

Resolution of the municipal council, band council, northern village, or responsible body

Site 406A of the former Mid-Canada Line is listed in the MELCC's Environmental Liability Inventory. The restoration work of this site is therefore authorized by the latter.

## **Appendix II**

### Project characteristics

If relevant, insert below documents to better understand the characteristics of the project (diagram, sketch, cross-section, etc.).

An estimated quantity of 25 tonnes of residual materials and a quantity of contaminated soil that remains to be determined are present on site 406A. According to the inventory, we find:

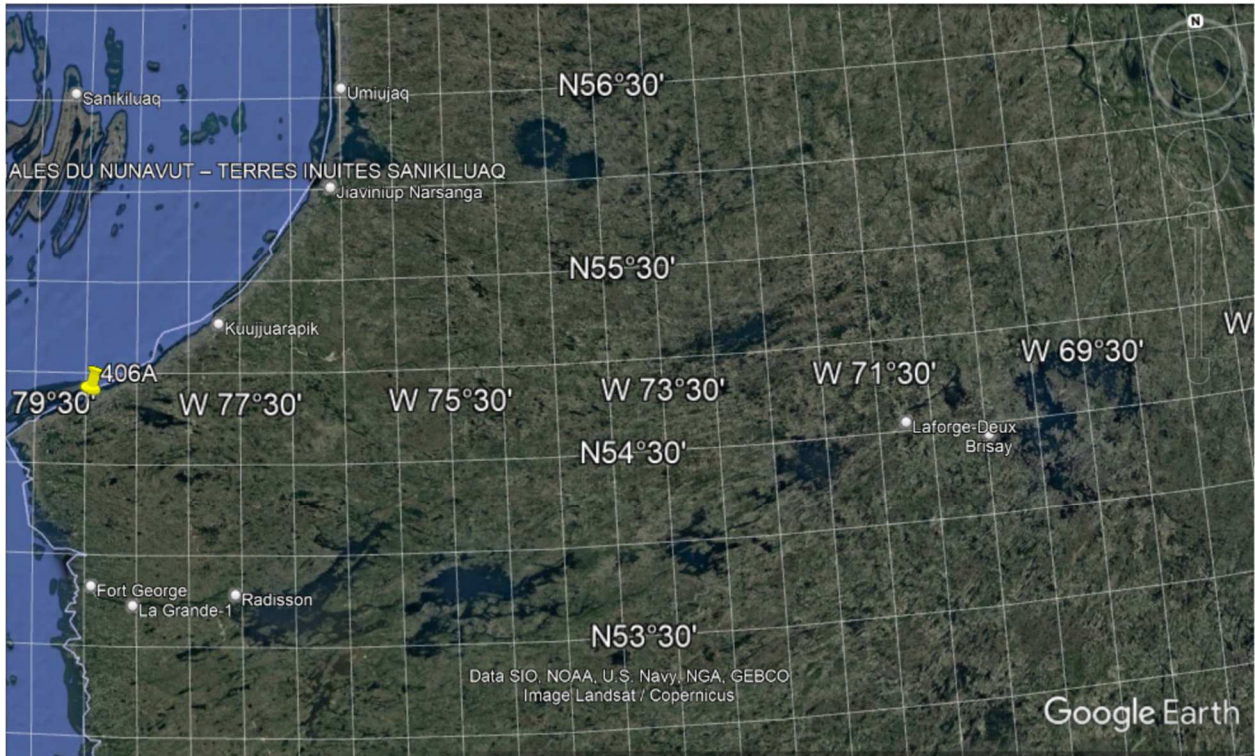
- 4 fuel storage tanks and associated valves;
- Old equipment (motor, old pump, mobile compressor);
- A line of approximately 600 meters of pipeline connecting the coast and Site 406;
- A small building housing the pumping station.

#### Document

*Detailed rehabilitation project of 7 sites of the former Mid-Canada radar surveillance line*

**Appendix III**  
Location plan

Insert a topographic or cadastral map showing the location of the project and, if applicable, a plan for the location of works or activities on an appropriate scale indicating in particular the infrastructures in place in relation to the work site.



Representation of the 406A site on the territory (Google Earth™)

## Appendix IV

Report of the information meeting held with the James Bay Environmental Advisory Committee.

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Date: September 15, 2021

Location: Conference via Zoom

Persons present:

Mrs. Chantal Otter-Tétreault, CNG, Protected Areas Coordinator  
Mr. Cameron McLean, GNC, directeur environnement  
Mrs. Michèle Leduc-Lapierre, Executive Director CCEBJ  
Mrs. Eva Wolf, CCEBJ Administrative Assistant  
Mr. Alexandre Guy-Côté, Approx. Canada, Atlantic Environment Advisor  
Mrs. Kelly Leblanc, CNG, Environmental and Social Assessments  
Mrs. Manon Cyr, Mayor of Chibougamau  
Mrs. Mélanie Chabot, MELCC Protected Areas Directorate  
Mrs. Suzie Boudreau, Manager Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Mrs. Madeleine Green, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  
Mrs. Elisabeth Gill, Environmental Assessment Agency of Canada  
Mr. Marc Dunn, Environmental Director Niskamoon Corporation  
Mrs Brigitte Goulet, MELCC-member CCEBJ  
Mrs Eve Desroches-Maheux, MELCC  
Mr. Nicholas Poirier, MELCC  
Mr. Michel Chaussé, MELCC

Written by: Daniel Gendron, MELCC \_\_\_\_\_



Signature

Subject: Update of the former Mid-Canada Radar Line (MCL) project and discussion with the James Bay Advisory Committee of the continuation of the project.

#### **Start of the conference: 13:00**

The meeting begins with thanks to the members of the JBACE for their invitation to participate in the 221<sup>th</sup> statutory meeting to present an update on the Mid-Canada Line project. The MELCC participants introduce themselves in turn.

A brief history of the installations build during the Cold War period is provided with more details regarding the location of the Mid-Canada Line constructed at the 55<sup>th</sup> parallel and distant from the DEW (69<sup>th</sup> parallel) and Pine Tree (49<sup>th</sup> parallel) surveillance lines.

A PowerPoint presentation, which includes a review of the characterization work, an update of the upcoming federal-Quebec agreement with the 36 qualified sites and the the orientation for the 7 sites excluded from the federal-Quebec agreement, is given.

It is mentioned during the presentation that the involvement of Nations in the project is an important objective.

It is also mentioned that several sites are located close to the 55<sup>th</sup> parallel and in the area of interest for wildlife activities of the Nations. However, the issue related to the occupation of the territory was not discussed.

At the end of the presentation, it is stated that the involvement of the trappers who is important and that the project should allow benefits for them. It is mentioned as an example that the Snowboy family occupies the hunting territory of Cape Jones and that they have always collaborated in the interventions carried out in the past on this territory. It is mentioned that during a presentation made in Chisasibi in 2017, Mr. Snowboy, who was then the Chief of this community, had participated in the activity.

It was asked how environmental protected areas would be taken into account in the project. For example, Cape Jones is part of the territory reserve for protected areas of Burton Lake–Roggan River – Cape Jones.

It is then mentioned that for sites located on environmental protected area territories, ecological inventories might be necessary and the results must be taken into account during the cleaning works. This aspect should be highlighted when preparing the project preliminary information's for submission to environmental assessments. Mrs. Mélanie Chabot, from the MELCC Protected Areas Office and participant in the meeting, offered her collaboration to help identify sites according to the protected areas of the territory.

Regarding the economic benefits, it is requested to prepare the project to promote the employability of the communities. It was reported that effort in this way are done and that meetings and interviews with the Nations and their representatives were being held in order to better understand the communities forces. However, obtaining information on this subject remained difficult. It was then mentioned that it might be necessary to help rising opportunities from a better knowledge of the project. It was also mentioned that members of the JBACE and CNG could participate in working sessions to further explore this point.

**End of the conference: 14:00**