

Comité d'examen des répercussions sur l'environnement et le milieu social

**Environmental and Social Impact Review Committee** 

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# JAMES BAY LITHIUM MINE PROJECT COMEX ANNOUNCES PUBLIC HEARINGS IN HYBRID MODE

Québec City, December 6, 2022 – The Environmental and Social Impact Review Committee (COMEX) announces that it will hold two public hearing sessions on the James Bay Lithium Mine project by Allkem/Galaxy Lithium. The purpose of the hearings is to allow citizens to acquire information about the project, ask questions, and voice opinions. Public participation is an essential part of the review process and enables the COMEX to receive opinions and concerns from citizens before sending its recommendations to the Provincial Administrator of Chapter 22 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. The COMEX will hear from those wanting to submit a question or express their views on the project during the following two sessions:

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2023, in Eastmain Time: 1:00 PM - Online session via Zoom Place: Stajune Complex (gymnasium)

168, Opinaca Street

Eastmain (Québec) J0M 1W0

Simultaneous translation (French-English-Cree) will be available

Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023, in Matagami

Time: 1:00 PM - Online session via Zoom

Place: Salle du Conseil municipal, Hôtel de Ville de Matagami

195, boul. Matagami

Matagami (Québec) J0Y 2A0

Simultaneous translation (French-English) will be available online

Any group or person is invited to submit written comments to the COMEX secretariat prior to the hearing and, if they wish, make a brief oral presentation during the hearings. However, it is not necessary to submit written comments to participate in the public hearings. Rules regarding the COMEX hearings can be consulted at <a href="http://comexqc.ca/en/">http://comexqc.ca/en/</a> under "Public Participation — Directive on the public participation."

To better plan the public hearings, the COMEX secretariat wishes to have prior notice of the intention of a group or person to present comments or opinions on the project. To this end, the executive secretary of COMEX can be reached by email at the following address: <a href="mailto:sophie.cooper@environnement.gouv.qc.ca">sophie.cooper@environnement.gouv.qc.ca</a>.

For more information regarding the public hearings (location, Zoom links, virtual mode process, etc.), please visit the COMEX website at the following address: <a href="https://comexqc.ca/en/">https://comexqc.ca/en/</a>.

### THE PROPONENT'S PROJECT

The James Bay lithium mine project is located about 10 kilometers south of the Eastmain River, near the Billy-Diamond Highway 381 roadside stop. The project involves the exploitation of a spodumene deposit. Ore will be mined from an open pit using conventional mining methods, including drilling and blasting. A combined pile will be built to store waste rock and tailings. The ore processing process will include ore crushing followed by separation in dense media. Ore processing will result in a concentrate of approximately 6% lithium oxide. Other planned infrastructures include a storage and overburden storage areas, water retention ponds, a water treatment plant, an explosives storage site, a worker camp, as well as administrative and operational buildings. The mine will be in operation for approximately 15 to 20 years.

### **DOCUMENTATION**

Information on the project is available at <a href="http://comexqc.ca/en/">http://comexqc.ca/en/</a> under "Projects – James Bay Lithium Mine Project"

#### COMEX

The Environmental and Social Impact Review Committee (COMEX) is an independent body that reports to the ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs (MELCCFP). Its mission is to contribute to the protection of human health and the environment while taking into consideration the economic and social well-being of citizens inhabiting the territory governed by the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) that lies south of the 55<sup>th</sup> parallel.

## **INFORMATION**

For any questions regarding the public hearings, do not hesitate to contact the executive secretary of COMEX.

Sophie Cooper Executive Secretary Review Committee (COMEX) sophie.cooper@environnement.gouv.qc.ca