



Québec City, September 23, 2022

Marc Croteau

Deputy Minister and Provincial Administrator for Chapter 22

of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement

Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques

675, boulevard René-Lévesque Est

Édifice Marie-Guyart, 30e étage, boîte 02

Québec (Québec) G1R 5V7

**OBJECT: Rose Lithium-Tantalum Mining Project by Critical Elements Lithium Corporation
Environmental and social impact assessment study
N/Ref: 3214-14-053**

Mr. Deputy Minister,

The Review Committee (COMEX) received, in July 2017, for recommendation, a first version of the environmental and social impact assessment study for the project mentioned above. After completing a feasibility study for the project, the proponent submitted, in January 2018, a revised version of the environmental and social impact assessment study.

Following the analysis of these documents by COMEX, three (3) sets of questions and comments were sent to the proponent in April 2018, June 2018, and May 2020. The proponent submitted responses to these sets of questions and comments in February 2019, January 2020, and July 2020, respectively. COMEX held a series of public hearings for the project, conducted in hybrid mode (in-person and online), in Matagami, Eastmain, and Nemaska in February 2021.

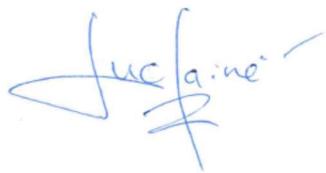
Following the public hearings, two (2) sets of questions and comments aimed at clarifying certain aspects of the project were sent to the proponent in June 2021 and in October 2021. The proponent submitted responses to these questions and comments in September 2021 and January 2022, respectively.

Considering all the information received in relation to this project, in accordance with section 162 of the *Environment Quality Act (EQA)* and section 22.6.13 of the *James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA)*, the COMEX recommends that you authorize this project. The present recommendation is conditional upon compliance with the conditions stipulated in our analysis report, which you will find attached with this letter.

One of these conditions concerns the workers' camp as the proponent is still unable, to date, to specify where it will house its workers or evaluate the associated environmental and social impact of the camp. Thus, construction on the mine can only start once you have received the information related to the worker's camp and after its authorization following a recommendation by the COMEX.

Finally, the COMEX assumes that any changes that the proponent wishes to make to its project must be the subject of an application for an amendment to the certificate of authorization.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Luc Lainé".

Luc Lainé
Chairman
The Environmental and Social Impact Review Committee