



## About COMEX

### Mission

The Environmental and Social Impact Review Committee (the Review Committee – COMEX) is an independent body reporting to the Minister of Environment and the Fight against Climate Change. Its mission is to contribute to the protection of human health and the environment and to the economic and social well-being of the peoples inhabiting the territory governed by the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement ([JBNQA](#)) that lies south of the 55<sup>th</sup> parallel.

### Mandate

The Review Committee was created under Chapter 22 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA), with its mandate being to recommend to the Minister of Environment and the Fight against Climate Change or to the Cree Regional Administrator whether or not to authorize development projects that are subject to the environmental assessment and review procedure. Where appropriate, the Review Committee determines the conditions under which a project may proceed, and if necessary, specifies the appropriate preventive or remediation measures.

Thus, the Review Committee analyzes every project that is submitted for review and assessment as prescribed in title II of the Environment Quality Act ([EQA](#)), using the relevant expertise of the governments of Quebec and the Cree Nation. The participation of affected populations, as well as of other individuals and groups, is also an important component of the Review Committee's approach so that the COMEX can identify the concerns of the people in the territory, paying particular attention to the traditional knowledge of aboriginal communities.

As part of its mandate, the Review Committee devotes particular attention to the following principles:

- a. the protection of aboriginal hunting, fishing and trapping rights;
- b. the protection of the social and natural environments;
- c. the protection of aboriginal peoples and their societies, communities and economies;
- d. the protection of wildlife, the physical and biological environments, and ecosystems;
- e. the rights and guarantees of aboriginal peoples in Category II lands;
- f. the participation of the Crees in the application of the environmental and social protection regime;
- g. the rights and interests of non-aboriginals;
- h. the right of any natural or legal person to carry out lawful projects.

## **The proponent's project plan**

Critical Elements Corporation plans to operate an open pit lithium-tantalum mine on the Rose property, which is located approximately forty kilometres north of the Cree village of Nemaska on the territory of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government. The mined ore will be processed to produce both spodumene and tantalum concentrates. The daily production target is 4,600 tonnes of ore, with an expected operating life of 17 years. The planned infrastructure on the site includes an open pit, an ore concentration plant, tailings storage areas and mining water management facilities. The Rose property is accessible from the road that links the Cree village of Nemaska to the Eastmain 1 powerhouse. The project also requires moving a section of the 315 kV Eastmain-1-Nemiscau power line to the east, which will be handled by Hydro-Québec.

Information on the project is available at <http://comexqc.ca/en/> under « Projects – Rose lithium-tantalum mining project. »

# Agenda of the public hearing in Matagami on February 15, 2021

## **100 % virtual mode public hearing**

1:00 pm – Opening of the hearing, chairman’s message and presentation of COMEX, members, and mandate

1:20 pm – Presentation of the project by the proponent

1:50 pm – Period of questions of clarification by the public and the COMEX

2:30 pm – Break

2:45 pm – Presentation of briefs and comments by the public  
End of the public hearing and Chairman’s message

## **Zoom**

Topic: Audiences publiques du COMEX :

Projet minier Rose Lithium-Tantale

Matagami, Qc. le 15 février, 2021 13:00

Time: Feb 15, 2021 01:00 PM America/Toronto

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82440779329?pwd=ODZIN3JiMHVvU1ZNRXBjBCbW1WUT09>

Meeting ID: 824 4077 9329

Passcode: 351133

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,82440779329#,,,,\*351133# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,82440779329#,,,,\*351133# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 824 4077 9329

Passcode: 351133

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbYJu3xIQ9>

## **Livestream**

French only: <https://livestream.com/accounts/8792434/events/9525622>

## **Agenda of the public hearing in Eastmain on February 16, 2021**

**Room:** Statjune Complex (gymnasium), 168, Opinaca Road, Eastmain QC J0M 1W0

Opening prayer by an elder (to be confirmed)

Opening remarks by the Chief (to be confirmed)

1:00 pm – Opening of the hearing, president message and presentation of COMEX, members, and mandate

1:20 pm – Presentation of the project by the proponent

1:50 pm – Period of questions of clarification by the public and the COMEX

2:30 pm – Break

2:45 pm – Presentation of briefs and comments by the public

End of the public hearing and Chairman's message

### **Zoom**

Topic: Audiences publiques du COMEX :

Projet minier Rose Lithium-Tantale

Eastmain, Qc. le 16 février, 2021 13:00

Time: Feb 16, 2021 01:00 PM America/Toronto

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89967152940?pwd=ZDNPVUVTaHU4S25YRStob3Y1cXFyUT09>

Meeting ID: 899 6715 2940

Passcode: 373820

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,89967152940#,,,,\*373820# US (Tacoma)

+13017158592,,89967152940#,,,,\*373820# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 899 6715 2940

Passcode: 373820

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/krCWJL9VK>

### **Livestream**

English : <https://livestream.com/accounts/8792434/events/9527244>

French : <https://livestream.com/accounts/8792434/events/9527242>

Cree : <https://livestream.com/accounts/8792434/events/9527250>

## **Agenda of the public hearing in Nemaska on February 18, 2021**

**Room:** Board Room (in the reception area of the administrative building),  
32, Machishteweyaa Street, Nemaska QC J0Y 3B0

Opening prayer by an elder (to be confirmed)  
Opening remarks by the Chief (to be confirmed)

1:00 pm – Opening of the hearing, president message and presentation of COMEX,  
members, and mandate

1:20 pm – Presentation of the project by the proponent

1:50 pm – Period of questions of clarification by the public and the COMEX

2:30 pm – Break

2:45 pm – Presentation of briefs and comments by the public  
End of the public hearing and Chairman’s message

### **Zoom**

Topic: Audiences publiques du COMEX :

Projet minier Rose Lithium-Tantale

Nemaska, Qc. le 17 février, 2021 13:00

Time: Feb 18, 2021 01:00 PM America/Toronto

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89998898596?pwd=NXV0cUU5cTQyY0hXOHRlZkxvQmdGdz09>

Meeting ID: 899 9889 8596

Passcode: 799892

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,89998898596#,,, \*799892# US (Chicago)

+13462487799,,89998898596#,,, \*799892# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 899 9889 8596

Passcode: 799892

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89998898596>

### **Livestream**

English : <https://livestream.com/accounts/8792434/events/9527274>

French : <https://livestream.com/accounts/8792434/events/9527269>

Cree : <https://livestream.com/accounts/8792434/events/9527283>

## Instructions to the participants

- For people who wish to assist public hearings on site, it is mandatory that everyone respects the measures decreed by Quebec Public Health, namely wearing a mask, social distancing, and hand-washing. In addition, to avoid the risk of spread as much as possible, please note that no catering service will be available on site. Finally, if you have symptoms similar to COVID-19, we ask that you do not come on site, but participate in the hearings in virtual mode.
- Considering that the public hearings will take place online, via Zoom, and will be broadcast live on Livestream, we ask all participants to turn off their microphones and cameras to facilitate the smooth running of the hearings. For any questions during these, please use the raise your hand icon or write to us in the chat. The executive secretary of COMEX will notify you via chat when you can make your intervention.
- Any group or person can send the COMEX secretariat a brief prior to the holding of the public hearings and can, if desired, summarize it verbally during the hearings. However, you do not need to submit a brief to participate. You can consult all the rules followed by COMEX during public hearings at <https://comexqc.ca/en/>, in the section « Public participation - Directive on public participation. »
- A person who wishes to participate verbally during public hearings to make known his or her opinion or that of persons whom he represents must notify the executive secretary of COMEX before the start of the public hearing session at the following email address ([vanessa.chalifour@environnement.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:vanessa.chalifour@environnement.gouv.qc.ca)) or during the session via chat.
- The participants must address their questions to the president of the COMEX who sees to direct them towards the person most able to give an answer.
- To encourage the participation of the greatest number of people, participants are invited to be concise in their intervention and to limit themselves to a maximum period of 10 minutes.
- After the public hearings have been held, the public can still submit their comments to COMEX within a maximum of 30 days following the public hearings, i.e., until March 18, 2021, by writing to the following email address: [vanessa.chalifour@environment.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:vanessa.chalifour@environment.gouv.qc.ca).