

<b>Concerns and comments to be presented at the COMEX hearing regarding the impacts of the Whabouchi Project</b>	
<b>Name</b>	Abel Wapachee
<b>In the capacity of</b>	Tallyman of Trapline N23 and Community member
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Age Group</b>	35 to 65 years old
<b>Submission to the COMEX</b>	In writing
<b>Concern and/or comment</b>	Impact of polluted waters on the Rupert River and the fish habitat
<p>I am concerned that if the water of Mountain Lake is polluted by the project, the pollution will flow down to Rupert River which is located on my Trapline. I understand that the studies were based on a ten kilometer radius which would not cover the Rupert River. I am concerned that the quality of the water of the Rupert River will be affected and will impact the fish habitat of that area. Certain land users of our Trapline practice traditional activities on the Rupert River. If the water of the Rupert River is affected, I am afraid that it will have an impact on the quality and taste of the water the land users drink, as well as the fish and the animals they eat.</p>	
<b>Proposed solution(s)</b>	
<p>I want the Proponent to monitor the quality of water downstream from the mine on the Rupert River. This monitoring should be on a quarterly basis. Monitoring should also be done on the quality, quantity and type of fish.</p> <p>If it is demonstrated from this monitoring that there is a negative impact on the quality of water and on the fish habitat, I would like the Proponent to be responsible for the remedial measures.</p>	
<b>Concern and/or comment</b>	Employment Opportunities
<p>I am not against the mining project as I believe it will create employment opportunities for Community members who are presently unemployed such as myself. It will also improve the economy of the Community.</p>	

However, members of the Community that are hired should be protected and not worry about losing their jobs. At the Eleanor mine, I heard that many employees lost their employment when the construction phase of the mine was complete. These employees were under the impression that they had long-term employment.

**Proposed solutions**

I would like the Proponent to ensure that members of the Community are offered full-time permanent positions and protected from termination of employment. I would also recommend that the employees be unionized.

**Signature of participant**

*Abel Wapackee*