



la Convention
de la Baie James
et du Nord québécois

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

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MINUTES OF THE

394th MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE

(Adopted)

DATE: April 22, 2021

PLACE: Video conference (Teams)

PRESENT: Luc Lainé, Chairman
Daniel Berrouard, Québec
Robert Joly, Québec
John Paul Murdoch, CNG
Brian Craik, CNG

Vanessa Chalifour, Coordinator/Team Leader – Northern
Projects, MELCC

Sophie Cooper, Executive Secretary

1) Call to order and adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

2) Adoption of the minutes of the 393rd meeting

The minutes of the 393rd meeting were adopted as presented.

Action: Translate and file the 393rd meeting minutes

3) Correspondence and follow-up action

Correspondence and follow-up action from March 25 to April 21, 2021 are presented in Appendix A.

4) Nibiischii National Park project, Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs

Ref. No.: 3214-18-003

- a. Application to amend the CA
- b. Additional information (responses to questions and comments)
 - For recommendation

WHEREAS on September 3, 2019, the Review Committee (COMEX) received, for its recommendation, an application to amend the certificate of authorization for the Nibiischii National Park project. Additional information (responses to the Review Committee's questions and comments) was also received on January 28, 2021.

The COMEX members have reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent. Considering all of the information received in relation to this project, COMEX recommends that the Provincial Administrator authorize the amendment to the global certificate of authorization issued on December 8, 2011, subject to certain conditions.

#2021-0422-01: *write the Provincial Administrator to inform him that the COMEX members have reviewed the information provided by the proponent and recommend that the amendment to the certificate of authorization be authorized subject to certain conditions (recommendation detailed in the letter).*

Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator
Transmit a recommendation

5) Other business

a. Federal consultations on the Rose Lithium-Tantalum and James Bay Lithium mining projects

COMEX is aware that the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada's reports regarding this project are in progress.

b. Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining project: Discussion on the coming steps in the project review process and review of briefs and public opinions

Several issues were raised by participants during the public hearings. COMEX has noted these concerns and will consider all of them in its final recommendation. Regarding this matter, COMEX held a specific meeting on April 8, 2021 to further discuss this project.

COMEX has decided to write the Provincial Administrator to inform him that the COMEX members find that several of the answers provided by the proponent to questions asked during the hearings were unclear, inadequate, or incomplete.

#2021-0422-02: write the Provincial Administrator to inform him that the COMEX members recommend that the proponent adequately address the questions and concerns expressed by the communities by providing the proper information and improving his communication efforts (questions detailed in the document provided).

**Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator
Send him a follow-up document regarding the public hearings**

c. Meeting of the monitoring committee: Research project CC22.1 – “Portrait climatique EIBJ-Nunavik-AT” (climate change)

The meeting of the monitoring committee has been delayed due to administrative changes. COMEX will be kept abreast of developments by the MTQ.

d. COMEX Annual Report 2020-2021

Robert Joly wrote two texts discussing the issues of 1) cumulative impacts of road transportation and 2) offsetting the loss of wetlands, water bodies and riparian environments. Luc Lainé will write the chairman's message. John Paul Murdoch will write a few paragraphs about La Grande Alliance. Sophie Cooper will add new texts and financial information to complete the Annual Report. A text describing the importance of discussing road transportation in the region will be sent with the final version of the Annual Report.

e. Update on La Grande Alliance: Discussion of April 8, 2021

At the COMEX members' meeting on April 8, John Paul Murdock briefly explained La Grande Alliance (collaboration between the Cree Nation and Québec government to connect, develop and protect the territory of Eeyou Istchee): its creation, objectives, and progress.

f. Email request received by COMEX: Student project – Mine Restoration

The COMEX members discussed the request received by email concerning a student project on the impact of mine restoration on Indigenous communities. It was decided that Sophie Cooper would contact the student and refer him to the COMEX website and the projects that might be of interest for his research.

6) Next meetings

- a. May 27, 2021 – Video conference (Teams)
- b. June 29, 2021 – Video conference (Teams)
- c. July 22, 2021 – Video conference (Teams)

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up: March 25 to April 21, 2021

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - Comments
Éléonore Mine Project, Opinaca Mines Ltd. Ref. No.: 3214-14-042	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Application to amend the certificate of authorization Operation of the storage tailings facility Recommendation	Sent: March 29, 2021 Acknowledgement of receipt: March 30, 2021	
Whabouchi Project – Development and operation of a spodumene deposit, Nemaska Lithium Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-052	Isabelle Petit Nemaska Lithium Inc.	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Planned environmental follow-up in 2021	Sent: March 18, 2021	
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Luc Lainé COMEX		Sent: April 6, 2021 Acknowledgement of receipt: April 6, 2021	
Éléonore Mine Project, Opinaca Mines Ltd. Ref. No.: 3214-14-042	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Application to amend the certificate of authorization Offsetting plan for wetlands, water bodies and riparian environments Recommendation	Sent: April 7, 2021 Acknowledgement of receipt: April 7, 2021	
Construction of forest access roads “H, Section west” and “I,” Matériaux Blanchet inc. Ref. No.: 3214-05-075	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Application to amend the certificate of authorization Extension of a forest road (Phase 2) Questions and comments	Sent: April 7, 2021 Acknowledgement of receipt: April 7, 2021	
Processing of gold ore from the Barry and Moroy projects at the Bachelor mine mill and increase in the milling rate, Bonterra Resources Ref. No.: 3214-14-027	Pascale Hamelin Bonterra Resources	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Additional information	Sent: March 15, 2021	
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCC	Luc Lainé COMEX		Sent: April 19, 2021 Acknowledgement of receipt: April 19, 2021	
Construction of a new wastewater treatment plant Project in Wemindji, Cree Nation of Wemindji Ref. No.: 3214-12-099C	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Luc Lainé COMEX	Environmental and social impact assessment	Sent: April 20, 2021 Acknowledgement of receipt: April 20, 2021	

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up: March 25 to April 21, 2021

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - Comments
Development of a new waste disposal site project in Wemindji, Cree Nation of Wemindji Ref. No.: 3214-16-099.1	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Luc Lainé COMEX	Additional information	Sent: April 20, 2021 Acknowledgement of receipt: April 20, 2021	
Éléonore Mine Project, Opinaca Mines Ltd. Ref. No.: 3214-14-042	Mélicca Gagnon MELCC	Geneviève Pépin Goldcorp Canada Ltd.	Application to amend the certificate of authorization Operation of the storage tailings facility Amendment to the certificate of authorization	Sent: April 21, 2021	

