



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

421st MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE

(Adopted)

DATE: January 25, 2024

PLACE: Video conference (Teams)

PRESENT: Luc Lainé, Chairman
Daniel Berrouard, Québec
Robert Joly, Québec
John Paul Murdoch, CNG
Lucas Del Vecchio, CNG

Sophie Cooper, Executive Secretary

1) Call to order and adoption of the agenda

It was suggested that the James Bay Lithium Mine Project be discussed first to make sure all the members were present. The agenda of the 421st meeting was amended accordingly and then adopted.

2) Adoption of the minutes of the 420th meeting

A correction to item 7b (Temporary suspension of Renard Mine operations) was proposed. The minutes of the 420th meeting were corrected and adopted.

Action: Translate and file the 420th meeting minutes

3) Correspondence and follow-up action

Correspondence and follow-up action from December 14, 2023, to January 25, 2024, are presented in Appendix A.

4) James Bay Lithium Mine Project, Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc.

Ref. No.: 3214-14-055

- a) Follow-up on conditions of the certificate of authorization
 - For information and recommendation

WHEREAS on January 12, 2024, the Review Committee (COMEX) received, for its information and recommendation, six (6) documents for the James Bay Lithium Mine Project. The documents were a requirement of the certificate of authorization issued on December 27, 2023.

The COMEX members noted that the documents were sent to the Provincial Administrator on December 28, 2023. A cursory review of the documents revealed that some were dated February, May, July and October 2023, which means that they likely didn't take into account the conditions of the certificate of authorization.

WHEREAS COMEX recommends that the Provincial Administrator inform the proponent that it needs to update the documents to reflect the conditions of the certificate of authorization and then resubmit them. COMEX will inform the Provincial Administrator that it will begin the review process once it has received all the updated documents. COMEX also recommends that the Direction régionale Abitibi-Témiscamingue et Nord-du-Québec (regional office) be informed of this recommendation.

#2024-0125-01: *write to the Provincial Administrator to inform her that COMEX recommends that she inform the proponent that it must update its documents to reflect the conditions of the certificate of authorization and then resubmit them. COMEX also recommends that the Direction régionale Abitibi-Témiscamingue et Nord-du-Québec be informed of this recommendation.*

Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator
Send recommendation

5) Dewatering of pits J4 and 87 on the former Troilus mine site, Troilus Gold Corp.

Ref. No.: 3214-14-025

- b) Application to amend the certificate of authorization (AMENDCA 3)
 - For recommendation

WHEREAS on October 2, 2023, the Review Committee (COMEX) received a second application to amend condition 6 of the certificate of authorization (CA) for the project to dewater pits J4 and 87 on the former Troilus mine site. Condition 6 stipulated that the dewatering was to begin no later than two years after the date of issue of the CA and be completed within 10 years. Dewatering was therefore to begin by July 29, 2022.

COMEX received the first application to amend condition 6 of the CA on August 11, 2022. The proponent was seeking to postpone the dewatering start date. The application was authorized on November 7, 2022, and the start date for dewatering pits J-4 and 87 was deferred to December 31, 2023. According to the proponent, the start date had to be deferred again (second application for amendment) because forest fires in summer 2023 damaged the infrastructure supplying power to the Troilus mine site, so the scheduled work could not be carried out.

WHEREAS the COMEX members reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and recommend that the Provincial Administrator authorize the requested amendment to defer the start date for dewatering pits J-4 and 87 a second time, to no later than August 1, 2024. However, COMEX recommends maintaining the deadline for completing the dewatering project, that is, within 10 years following the date of issue of the CA (July 29, 2020).

#2024-0125-02: *write to the Provincial Administrator to inform her that the COMEX members reviewed the information provided by the proponent and recommend that she authorize the requested amendment to the certificate of authorization.*

Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator
Send recommendation

5) Other business

a) Meeting between COMEX and the Société du Plan Nord (SPN)

Following the January 8, 2024, meeting between COMEX, the Cree-Québec Forestry Board (CQFB) and the Société du Plan Nord (SPN), Martin Gagnon (SPN) contacted Luc Lainé about meeting with COMEX to discuss the Billy-Diamond Highway. Mr. Lainé will get back to Mr. Gagnon with possible dates.

b) Temporary suspension of Renard Mine operations

On January 19, 2024, COMEX received additional information on the temporary suspension of Renard Mine operations. COMEX will ask the MELCCFP analysts for details about maintaining a skeleton team on the mine site and future environmental and social monitoring.

c) Windfall Mine Project

The executive secretary informed the COMEX members that the proponent sent the Provincial Administrator part of the addendum to the impact assessment in December 2023. The rest of the documents were sent in January 2024. The MELCCFP analysts will check to see that the addendum contains all of the essential information that was missing in the impact assessment, after which the documents will be forwarded to COMEX.

d) Letters from George Lameboy, Chisasibi Eeyou Resource and Research Institute (CERRI)

In January 2024, COMEX received requests to follow up on Mr. Lameboy's letters regarding the 2014 and 2019 eelgrass monitoring reports for the Eastmain-1-A and Rupert diversion project. COMEX will reply to Mr. Lameboy.

e) Projects on the agenda for the meetings scheduled for winter 2024

- Eastmain-1-A and Rupert diversion project
- Planned extension of forest roads "H, Section west" and "I"
- Rose Lithium-Tantalum Project: Monitoring and applications to amend the certificate of authorization
- Whabouchi Mine Project – Application to amend the certificate of authorization

6) Next meeting

The next COMEX meetings will be held on January 25, 2024, March 15, 2024, and March 27, 2024, by video conference (Teams).

Appendix A
Correspondence and follow-up: December 13, 2023, to January 25, 2024

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - Comments
James Bay Lithium Mine Project, Allkem/Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-055	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	COMEX's recommendation	Sent: December 20, 2023 Acknowledgement of receipt: December 20, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Ian Courtemanche MELCCFP	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium	Certificate of authorization	Sent: December 27, 2023	
Éléonore mining project, Goldcorp Canada Ltd. Ref. No.: 3214-14-042	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Geneviève Pépin Goldcorp Canada	Amended certificate of authorization	Sent: December 20, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
Announcement of the newly formed company Arcadium Lithium	Sophie Cooper COMEX	Sarah Maryssael Arcadium Lithium	Announcement of Allkem's merger with Livent	Sent: January 4, 2024	
Rose Lithium-Tantalum Project, Critical Elements Lithium Corporation Ref. No.: 3214-14-053	Nancy Duquet-Harvey CELC	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Additional information – AMENDCA: Borrow pits and work camp	Sent: January 9, 2024	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Luc Lainé COMEX		Sent: January 12, 2024 Received by COMEX: January 12, 2024	
James Bay Lithium Mine Project, Allkem/Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-055	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Follow-up on conditions of the certificate of authorization dated December 27, 2023	Sent: December 28, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Luc Lainé COMEX		Sent: January 12, 2024 Received by COMEX: January 12, 2024	
Renard Diamond Mine Project, Stornoway Diamonds (Canada) Inc. Ref. No.: 3414-14-041	Raphaël Perreault and Patrick Sévigny Stornoway Diamonds	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Notice of temporary suspension of operations	Sent: December 22, 2023	<i>For information</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Luc Lainé COMEX		Sent: January 17, 2024 Received by COMEX: January 19, 2024	

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Correspondence and follow-up: December 13, 2023, to January 25, 2024

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - Comments
Establishment of a new landfill in Wemindji, Cree Nation of Wemindji Ref. No.: 3219-16-002	Howard MacDonald Cree Nation of Wemindji	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator CNG	Application to amend the certificate of authorization dated June 16, 2021	Sent: December 15, 2023	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator CNG	Luc Lainé COMEX		Sent: January 22, 2024 Received by COMEX: January 22, 2024	