



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

422nd MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE

(Adopted)

DATE: February 15, 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

The agenda of the 421st meeting was adopted as presented.

2) Adoption of the minutes of the 421st meeting

The minutes of the 421st meeting were adopted as presented.

Action: Translate and file the 421st meeting minutes

3) Correspondence and follow-up action

Correspondence and follow-up action from January 26, 2024, to February 15, 2024, are presented in Appendix A.

4) Whabouchi Mine Project, Nemaska Lithium Inc.

Ref. No.: 3214-14-052

- a) Application to amend the certificate of authorization
 - For recommendation

WHEREAS on November 9, 2023, the Review Committee (COMEX) received, for its recommendation, a request to amend the certificate of authorization regarding the construction of a permanent camp at the Whabouchi mine site, as well as the construction of an overpass, a bypass, and the widening of the Route du Nord.

The first part of the request is for the relocation of the permanent camp and the dismantling of the temporary camp once the permanent camp is operational. According to the proponent, no additional direct impacts are envisaged, apart from the modification of the landscape by the addition of a new anthropogenic structure and impacts related to waste management and domestic wastewater treatment.

The application also concerns road modifications on the Route du Nord to improve traffic flow and road safety in this sector. Because the mine site is spilt into two sections by the Route du Nord, the construction of an overpass will allow mining trucks to cross the road to access the tailings and waste rock co-disposal zone without blocking traffic on the Route du Nord. Traffic will be controlled by traffic lights, a barrier and/or a traffic controller. The construction of a bypass and the widening of the Route du Nord also aims to improve road safety by allowing trucks to decelerate when arriving at the site or accelerate when leaving in a dedicated lane.

WHEREAS COMEX the COMEX members reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and that, following the analysis of this latest information, the COMEX wishes to obtain certain clarifications from the proponent: a document with the questions and comments to be submitted to the proponent will be attached to the letter addressed to the Provincial Administrator.

#2024-0215-01: *write to the Provincial Administrator to inform her that the COMEX members have reviewed the information provided by the proponent and request additional information to clarify certain aspects of the project (letter with questions and comments in attached document).*

Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator
Send questions and comments

5) Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining project, Critical Elements Lithium Corp.

Ref. No.: 3214-14-053

- a) Application to amend the certificate of authorization
 - For recommendation

WHEREAS on November 7, 2023, the Review Committee (COMEX) received a request to amend the certificate of authorization (CA) for the Rose mining project regarding the addition of borrow pits and the approval of a new worker camp site. Additional information was also received on January 12, 2024.

The proponent would like to operate several borrow pits to meet the project's needs for granular materials. As the proponent had only retained borrow pit B-2 in its impact statement, an amendment to the CA is required to allow the proponent to add more borrow pits to its project. The borrow pits will be used mainly during the construction period, which is estimated to last two years, and then occasionally when granular materials are needed. They will then be closed gradually by section, over a period ranging from a few weeks to a few months, when they are no longer in use.

The request for amendment also seeks approval for the construction of a new camp or lodging for employees, 3 km southeast of the mining complex. It should be noted that at the end of the environmental and social assessment and review process, the proponent had not confirmed the location or construction of a workers' camp. In this context, condition 6 of the certificate of authorization states that ... "The proponent shall submit to the Provincial Administrator, for approval, the information relating to the workers' camp that it wishes to use for the project [...]". The proposed camp will occupy an area of 50,000 m² and will be able to accommodate 250 people during operation and will include an additional 250 temporary rooms for the construction phase. It will be powered by generators during the construction phase and will then be connected to the Hydro-Québec grid by a 25-kV power line. The building will be equipped with a kitchen and dining room that can accommodate 500 people, a wastewater treatment plant, a water treatment plant, a laundry, a reception building, a gymnasium, recreational facilities, an internet connection, and parking.

WHEREAS the COMEX members reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and that, following the analysis of this latest information, the COMEX wishes to obtain certain clarifications from the proponent: a document with the questions and comments

to be submitted to the proponent will be attached to the letter addressed to the Provincial Administrator.

#2024-0215-02: *write to the Provincial Administrator to inform her that the COMEX members have reviewed the information provided by the proponent and request additional information to clarify certain aspects of the project (letter with questions and comments in attached document).*

Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator
Send question and comments

- b) Follow-up to condition 7: Waste management plan
 - For information

WHEREAS on November 21, 2023, the Review Committee (COMEX) received, for information, a follow-up report regarding condition 7 of the certificate of authorization (CA) regarding the waste management plan for the Rose mining project.

Condition 7 states that the proponent must submit, for information to the Provincial Administrator, a document specifying the quantities of waste materials generated on the site and for each phase of the project; confirm the agreements reached with collaborators and the final choice of the existing and authorized site for the disposal of residual and waste materials and its capacity to receive the waste materials generated by the project; and to update its transportation and traffic report by including the cumulative environmental impacts of the transportation of residual and waste materials.

WHEREAS the COMEX members reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and that, following the analysis of this latest information, the COMEX wishes to obtain certain clarifications from the proponent: a document with the questions and comments to be submitted to the proponent will be attached to the letter addressed to the Provincial Administrator.

#2024-0215-03: *write to the Provincial Administrator to inform her that the COMEX members have reviewed the information provided by the proponent and request additional information to clarify certain aspects of the project (letter with questions and comments in attached document).*

Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator
Send question and comments

5) Other business

a) Documents submitted by Galaxy Lithium inc.

The Executive Secretary informed the members of COMEX that Galaxy Lithium, the proponent for the James Bay lithium mine project, has recently submitted several documents to the Provincial Administrator to meet the conditions of the certificate of authorization issued on December 27, 2023. These documents were submitted before the proponent received correspondence indicating that it would need to modify the documents submitted on December 28, 2023, to ensure that they were complete and reflected the conditions of the Certificate of Authorization, and to re-submit them. A cursory review will be performed on these recently submitted documents to ensure that they are also complete.

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

A draft letter, addressed to Mr. Lameboy, concerning eelgrass monitoring in the context of the Eastmain-1-A hydroelectric and Rupert River diversion project was approved by the members of COMEX. The letter will be sent by priority mail.

Action: Send letter to Mr. George Lameboy

c) Projects on the agenda for the meetings scheduled for March/April/May 2024

- Construction of a landfill in Waswanipi (Follow-up to condition 2 of the CA)
- Construction of a landfill in Wemindji (Application of amendment of the CA)
- Eastmain-1-A hydroelectrical and Rupert River diversion project
- Windfall mining project: Addendum of the impact study
- Rose Lithium-Tantalum Project: Monitoring and applications to amend the certificate of authorization

6) Next meeting

The next COMEX meetings will be held on March 27, 2024, April 24, 2024, and May 22, 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	

Appendix A
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	