



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  
427th MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE  
(Adopted)**

**DATE:** August 13, 2008

**PLACE:** Videoconference (Teams)

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

Sophie Cooper, Executive Secretary

**1) August 7, 2024 meeting resumption**

Due to several absences, the meeting scheduled for August 7, 2024 was postponed to August 13, 2024.

**2) Call to order and adoption of the agenda**

Two points for discussion were proposed in varia. The proposals were accepted and the agenda was subsequently adopted.

**3) Adoption of the minutes of the 426th meeting**

The minutes of the 426th meeting were adopted as presented.

**Action: Translate and file the 426th meeting minutes**

**4) Correspondence follow-up**

The follow-up to correspondence between June 28, 2024 and August 13, 2024 is presented in Appendix A.

**5) Whabouchi Mine Project, Nemaska Lithium**

**Ref.: 3214-14-052**

- a) Construction of a permanent camp, viaduct, bypass and widening of the Route du Nord
  - Application to amend the certificate of authorization
  - Further information - Answers to QC01
  - For recommendation

WHEREAS the Review Committee (COMEX) received, on November 9, 2023, a request to amend the certificate of authorization (CA) concerning the permanent camp on the Whabouchi mine site, the construction of a viaduct and bypass road and the widening of the Route du Nord. Additional information was also received on May 8, 2024.

The use of a truck stop as a place to house workers, an existing camp administered by a local contractor and located a few kilometres from the mine, was authorized by the CA on September 8, 2015. This site having been destroyed by fire, the proponent filed a modification application to relocate a temporary camp to the mine site. This modification was authorized in December 2018. This amendment application concerns the relocation of a permanent camp on the mine site. The temporary camp will be gradually dismantled once the permanent camp is up and running. In its application, the proponent specified that it would evaluate the possibility of entering into an agreement with the community of Nemaska to dispose of its household waste at the future landfill site that Nemaska intends to establish, or any other regional alternatives that may be available to the Whabouchi mining company for the management of residual materials.

The application to amend the CA also covers the construction of a viaduct, a bypass road and the widening of the Route du Nord. These modifications will improve road safety in the Route du Nord area, since the mine site is bisected by the road and mining trucks must cross it to access the tailings and mine waste rock co-disposal area. The proposed viaduct project will enable trucks to travel in this area, without blocking traffic on the Route du Nord. Since construction of the viaduct is likely to encroach on 213 sq. m. of wetlands, the developer plans to submit an update to its

wetland and waterbody compensation program, which should cover the new losses incurred by this project.

WHEREAS the COMEX recommends authorizing, with conditions, the amendment to the September 8, 2015 global certificate of authorization issued for the Whabouchi mining project to allow for the development of the permanent camp on the mine site, the development of an overpass and bypass road, and the widening of the Route du Nord.

COMEX recommends the following condition, concerning the construction of the permanent camp on the mine site, to the amendment of the certificate of authorization:

The presence of the permanent camp on the mine site could result in an undue increase in fishing and hunting pressure near the mine site. In this regard, and in keeping with its commitments, the proponent must plan and implement measures from the start of work to make this activity unfeasible for its workers and contractors.

The proponent must submit to the Provincial Administrator, for information, the agreements and commitments made in this regard with the Cree communities. This information must be communicated no later than three months following the issue of this authorization. A follow-up report on the findings and measures taken must also be included in the annual project monitoring report submitted to the Administrator.

**#2024-0813-01:** *to transmit correspondence to the Provincial Administrator informing them that the members of the COMEX have reviewed the documents transmitted by the proponent and that they recommend authorizing, with conditions, the amendment to the September 8, 2015 global certificate of authorization issued for the Whabouchi mining project.*

**Action:                    Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator  
Recommendation**

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

WHEREAS the Review Committee (COMEX) received, on February 22, 2024, a request to amend the certificate of authorization concerning the optimization of mining operations for the Whabouchi mining project. The application includes an update of the general location plan for mining and related infrastructures, an update of water management and a revision of mining and production rates.

WHEREAS COMEX members have reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and, following analysis of this latest information, COMEX wishes to obtain certain clarifications from the proponent. A letter, along with a document outlining the questions and comments to be forwarded to the proponent, will be sent to the Provincial Administrator.

**#2024-0813-02:** *write to the Provincial Administrator informing them that COMEX members have reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and wish to obtain additional information on various aspects of the monitoring projects that they think should be clarified.*

**Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator  
Transmittal of a Request for additional information**

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

**Ref.: 3214-14-025**

- a) Environmental and social monitoring program
  - For information

WHEREAS the Review Committee (COMEX) received, on May 15, 2024, a request to amend the certificate of authorization (CA) in connection with the environmental and social monitoring program for the proponent's pit dewatering project. The purpose of this application is to ensure compliance with the requirements of conditions 1, 3, 4 and 5 of the certificate of authorization.

The proponent plans to update daily monitoring of pH, temperature and final effluent flow, weekly monitoring of several contaminants (metals and hydrocarbons) and monthly toxicity monitoring. These monitoring efforts proposed by the proponent comply with conditions 3 and 4 of the global CA. In addition, the proponent demonstrates its compliance with condition 5 of the CA by maintaining and pursuing consultations with the monitoring committee and taking into account the concerns raised by land users. At a June 2024 meeting of the monitoring committee, a tallyman raised a safety issue and suggested that monitoring of ice thickness in Lake A be added to the monitoring program. The proponent accepted this proposal and incorporated ice thickness monitoring into an updated monitoring program that was submitted to COMEX on August 12, 2024.

WHEREAS the members of the COMEX have reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent for the environmental monitoring program. Although the modifications proposed by the proponent comply with conditions 3, 4 and 5 of the certificate of authorization, the monitoring program omits monitoring of two parameters required by section 2.1.1.1 of Directive 019. To comply with condition 1 of the certificate of authorization, the proponent must add annual monitoring of thiosalts in the effluent and weekly monitoring of total cyanides in the effluent at the same frequency and at the same time as the weekly monitoring of metals and hydrocarbons.

**#2024-0813-03:** *to send correspondence to the Provincial Administrator informing them that the COMEX members have reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and recommend that the proponent be informed that it must add annual monitoring of thiosalts and weekly monitoring of total cyanides to the effluent to comply with condition 1 of the certificate of authorization.*

**Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator  
Write to the Provincial Administrator Send recommendation**

**7) Other business**

**a) James Bay Lithium Mine Project, Allkem/Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc. (3214-14-055)**

COMEX members were informed that Galaxy Lithium has begun several construction activities on the mine site, which is of concern to the Eastmain community. The Executive Secretary will follow up with MELCCFP analysts on the work observed at the mine site.

**b) COMEX Annual Report 2023–2204**

The COMEX 2023-2024 annual report was approved by COMEX members. The Executive Secretary will forward the annual report for translation.

**Action: Translate the 2023-2024 COMEX annual report.**

**c) Presentation at Québec Mines + Energy 2024 and participation in AQÉI**

The proposal for a workshop organized by the COMEX for Québec Mines + Énergie 2024 was not retained. COMEX members discussed the possibility of participating in the Association québécoise pour l'évaluation d'impacts (AQÉI) conference, to be held on November 19 and 20, 2024, either by giving a presentation or taking part in a panel discussion. The Executive Secretary will contact a member of the organizing committee to inquire about this possibility.

**d) Projects on the agenda for the meetings scheduled for June/July 2024**

- Condition monitoring - James Bay Lithium Mine Project, Galaxy Lithium Inc.
- Condition monitoring - Eastmain-1-A and Rupert diversion

**8) Next meeting**

The next COMEX meetings are scheduled for September 24, 2024, October 22, 2024 and November 27, 2024, by videoconference.

Appendix A					
Follow-up correspondence from June 28, 2024 to August 13, 2024					
Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - Comments
James Bay Lithium Mine Project Galaxy Lithium Inc. Ref.: 3214-14-055	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmission of a request for additional information - Follow-up to condition 14 of the certificate of authorization: Fish habitat compensation plan	Transmitted July 9, 2024 Acknowledged July 9, 2024	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium		Transmitted July 23, 2023	
Eastmain-1-A and Rupert River diversion hydroelectric project Hydro-Québec Ref.: 3214-10-017	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Correspondence - Hydrology, hydraulics and heat balance monitoring (2019); Riparian and aquatic vegetation monitoring (2022)	Transmitted July 11, 2024 Acknowledged July 11, 2024	<i>For information</i>
Project to build a new landfill site in Nemaska Nemaska Cree Nation Ref.: 3214-16-079	Julien Rosset Stantec for Nemaska Cree First Nation	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmission of the environmental and social impact study	Transmitted May 24, 2024	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCCFP	Luc Lainé COMEX		Transmitted July 9, 2024 Received COMEX July 11, 2024	
Windfall Mine Project Windfall Mining Group Ref.: 3214-14-059	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmission of a request for additional information (questions and comment)	Transmitted July 16, 2024 Acknowledged July 16, 2024	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Andréanne Boisvert Windfall Mining Group		Transmitted July 24, 2024	
Éléonore mining project, Goldcorp Canada Ltd Ref.: 3214-14-042	Marjorie Bujold Newmont (Canada)	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmission of environmental and social monitoring report 2023	Transmitted July 10, 2024	<i>For information</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Luc Lainé COMEX		Transmitted July 16, 2024 Received COMEX July 19, 2024	

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<b>Project</b>	<b>of the</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Action - Comments</b>
Éléonore mining project Goldcorp Canada Ltd Ref.: 3214-14-042	Geneviève Pépin Newmont (Canada)	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Addendum to application to amend the global certificate of authorization / Expansion of tailings facility	Transmitted July 16, 2024	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Luc Lainé COMEX		Transmitted July 18, 2024 Received COMEX July 19, 2024	
James Bay Lithium Mine Project Galaxy Lithium Inc. Ref.: 3214-14-055	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Follow-up on condition 10 From certificate of authorization: Water treatment plant parameters	Transmitted July 10, 2024	<i>For information</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Luc Lainé COMEX		Transmitted July 18, 2024 Received COMEX July 19, 2024	
Rose Lithium-Tantalum mine project CLEC Ref.: 3214-14-053	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmission of a recommendation - Request to amend the CA (Addition of borrowing pit and approval of new camp) and Follow-up on condition 17: Residual materials management plan	Transmitted July 23, 2024 Acknowledged July 23, 2024	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Nancy Duquet-Harvey CELC		Transmitted August 8, 2024	
James Bay Lithium Mine Project Galaxy Lithium Inc. Ref.: 3214-14-055	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmission of a request for additional information - Follow-up on condition 23: Transportation management plan for the construction phase	Transmitted July 31, 2024 Acknowledged July 31, 2024	<i>For information</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium		Transmitted August 7, 2024	
James Bay Lithium Mine Project Galaxy Lithium Inc. Ref.: 3214-14-055	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmission of a request for additional information - Follow-up to condition 34: Cree culture awareness plan	Transmitted July 31, 2024 Acknowledged July 31, 2024	<i>For information</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium		Transmitted August 7, 2024	

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James Bay Lithium Mine Project Galaxy Lithium Inc. Ref.: 3214-14-055	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmission of correspondence - Follow-up to conditions 31 and 33: Archaeology, heritage and glossary of Cree place names	Transmitted July 31, 2024 Acknowledged July 31, 2024	<i>For information</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium		Transmitted August 8, 2024	
Project to build a new in- trench landfill at Wemindji Cree Nation of Wemindji Ref.: 3219-16-002	Howard MacDonald Cree Nation of Wemindji	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator CNG	Transmitting an application to amend a certificate of authorization	Transmitted July 30, 2024	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator CNG	Luc Lainé COMEX		Transmitted July 31, 2024 Received COMEX August 1, 2024	
Éléonore mining project, Goldcorp Canada Ltd Ref: 3214-14-042	Geneviève Pépin Newmont (Canada)	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Transmission of a request to amend the global certificate of authorization / Drinking water supply	Transmitted July 26, 2024	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Luc Lainé COMEX		Transmitted August 2, 2024 Received COMEX August 6, 2024	
Dewatering of pits J4 and 87 on the former Troilus mine site Troilus Gold Corp. Ref.: 3214-14-025	Mathieu Michaud Troilus Gold	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Updating the environmental follow-up program - Condition 3 of the certificate of authorization	Transmitted July 19, 2024	<i>For information</i>
	Murielle Vachon MELCCFP	Luc Lainé COMEX		Transmitted August 12, 2024 Received COMEX August 12, 2024	