



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
433RD MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE
(Adopted)**

DATE: March 18, 2025

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) Call to order and adoption of the agenda

The agenda for the 433rd meeting was adopted as presented.

2) Adoption of the minutes of the 432nd meeting

The minutes of the 432nd meeting were adopted as presented.

Action: Translate and file the 432nd meeting minutes

3) Correspondence follow-up

The follow-up to correspondence from February 20, 2025, to March 18, 2025, is presented in Appendix A.

4) Extension of Route 167 North to the Otish Mountains, MTMD

Ref.: 3214-05-077

- a) Monitoring of condition 24 of the certificate of authorization issued on December 1, 2011
 - For recommendation

WHEREAS on January 10, 2025, the Review Committee (COMEX) received, for information, the documents requested to meet the requirements of condition 24 of the certificate of authorization issued on December 1, 2011, for the extension of Route 167 North to the Otish Mountains.

Condition 24 stipulated that the proponent, now the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable (MTMD), must work with the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts (MRNF) and other stakeholders, including the Cree Regional Authority and the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Joint Committee, to protect and recover boreal caribou. It must also help implement certain protection and recovery measures identified by these government bodies and stakeholders.

In 2018, COMEX informed the proponent that it was still waiting for the results of the boreal caribou monitoring program. The proponent informed COMEX that discussions had not yet begun with the various stakeholders and indicated that an update on this condition would be provided at a later date. In 2021, MELCCFP clarified the requirements for monitoring boreal caribou, including the requirement that the proponent monitor the status of boreal caribou in the area before and after road construction, consult with tallymen to assess their perception of boreal caribou population trends in the project study area and apply mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proponent has met the requirements by providing the following information:

- Telemetry surveys before, during and after construction.
- A report on the Mistissini tallymen consultations. This report also contains information on caribou sightings.

- A request for information from Stornoway about road accidents. Since 2016, only one road accident involving an animal has been recorded. It was a moose and there were no injuries.

WHEREAS the members of COMEX have reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and consider that condition 24 of the certificate of authorization issued on December 1, 2011, has been satisfactorily met. However, the dust generated by the project is causing a nuisance for families living close to the road. COMEX recommends that the proponent contact the communities concerned to determine whether mitigation measures could be implemented.

#2025-0318-01: *write to the Provincial Administrator informing him that COMEX members have read the documents prepared by the proponent and consider that the requirements of condition 24 of the certificate of authorization issued on December 1, 2011, for the extension of Route 167 North to the Otish Mountains have been met.*

Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator

5) Rose Lithium-Tantalum Mining Project, CELC

Ref.: 3214-14-053

- a) Monitoring of condition 5 of the certificate of authorization issued on October 31, 2022
 - For information

WHEREAS on January 18, 2024, the Review Committee (COMEX) received, for information, an updated report on the physicochemical characterization of the initial soil state. This report was produced to meet the requirements of condition 5 of the certificate of authorization issued on October 31, 2022, for the Rose Lithium-Tantalum Mining Project.

The proponent's report presents the regional and local geology of the study area and describes the work carried out and the methodologies applied to obtain the soil samples. Samples taken from test trenches and boreholes were collected, handled and stored in accordance with the recommendations and procedures of the *Centre d'expertise en analyse environnementale du Québec* (CEAEQ). The report also includes the results of an additional sampling campaign from 2021 to 2022.

WHEREAS the members of COMEX have reviewed the report submitted by the proponent. COMEX considers that the physicochemical characterization of the initial soil conditions has been carried out in accordance with the *Guide de la caractérisation physicochimiques des sols avant l'implantation d'un projet* (*Guide to the physicochemical characterization of initial soil state prior to the establishment of an industrial project*) and considers that the proponent has met the requirements of condition 5 of the certificate of authorization issued on October 31, 2022.

#2025-0318-02: *write to the Provincial Administrator informing him that the members of COMEX have read the report on the physicochemical characterization of the initial soil state submitted by the proponent and consider that the requirements of condition 5 of the certificate of authorization issued on October 31, 2022, for the Rose Lithium-Tantalum Mining Project have been met.*

Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator

6) Éléonore mining project, Goldcorp Canada Ltd

Ref.: 3214-14-042

- a) Application to amend the CA: expansion of the tailings site
- b) Additional information (answers to questions and comments)
 - For recommendation

WHEREAS on July 19, 2024, the Review Committee (COMEX) received, for recommendation, an addendum to the application to amend the certificate of authorization for the expansion of the mine tailings site (MTS) at the Éléonore mine. Further information was received on February 12, 2025.

The Éléonore mine tailings site currently covers an area of 80 ha. The planned expansion, referred to as phase 5, in the application to amend the CA will enable the current MTS to be extended by 20 ha. The expansion includes two construction phases and two operating phases. Construction of cell 5A is scheduled for 2025, with operations expected to begin in mid-2026. Construction of cell 5B is scheduled for 2027, with operations expected to begin in mid-2028. It should be noted that the proponent's original application also included a plan to expand the collection pond. The proponent now indicates that it has revised its calculations and has concluded that it is not necessary to expand the pond for phase 5.

WHEREAS the members of COMEX have reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and, after reviewing this information, wish to obtain certain clarifications. A letter, along with a document outlining a second set of questions and comments to submit to the proponent, will be forwarded to the Provincial Administrator.

#2025-0318-03: *write to the Provincial Administrator informing him that COMEX members have reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and would like to obtain additional information on various aspects of the project that should be clarified (document with questions and comments attached).*

**Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator
Transmit a request for additional information
Forward questions and comments (2nd round)**

7) Windfall mining project, Windfall Mining Group

Ref.: 3214-14-059

- a) Environmental and social impact study
- b) Addendum – Impact study
- c) Additional information (answers to questions and comments)
 - For recommendation

WHEREAS on April 4, 2023, the Review Committee (COMEX) received, for recommendation, the environmental and social impact study for the Windfall mining project. In August 2023, correspondence was sent to the proponent stating that COMEX members considered the impact study incomplete and that the proponent would need to submit all missing information to the Provincial Administrator so that COMEX could continue reviewing the project. On January 29, 2024, COMEX received an addendum to the impact study. An initial series of questions and comments was sent to the proponent in July 2024. On November 7, 2024, COMEX received the proponent's responses to these questions and comments.

WHEREAS the members of COMEX have reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and, after analyzing this information, wish to obtain additional information on various aspects of the project they feel should be clarified. A letter, along with a document outlining a second set of questions and comments to submit to the proponent, will be forwarded to the Provincial Administrator.

#2025-0318-04: *write to the Provincial Administrator informing him that COMEX members have reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and are requesting additional information on various aspects of the project that they feel should be clarified (document with questions and comments attached).*

**Action: Send a letter to the Provincial Administrator
 Transmit a request for additional information
 Forward questions and comments (2nd round)**

8) Other business

a. Projects on the agenda for the meetings scheduled for spring 2025

- Project to extend forest roads H and I – MODCA
- Barry and Moroy gold ore processing project at Bachelor site and increase in milling rate

9) Next meetings

The next meetings are scheduled for April 30, 2025, May 27, 2025, and June 26, 2025, by videoconference.

Appendix A
Follow-up correspondence from February 20, 2025, to March 18, 2025

Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - Comments
Éléonore mining project, Dhilmar Éléonore (formerly Goldcorp Canada Ltd) Ref.: 3214-14-042	Mélissa Gagnon MELCCFP	Geneviève Pépin Dhilmar Éléonore	Modification of holder	Sent February 28, 2025 Received COMEX March 11, 2025	<i>For information</i>
Project to build a new trench landfill in Wemindji, Cree Nation of Wemindji Ref.: 3219-16-002	Luc Lainé COMEX	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator CNG	Transmission of a recommendation to authorize the application to amend the certificate of authorization issued on June 16, 2021	Sent March 14, 2025	<i>For recommendation</i>
Renard diamond project, Stornoway Diamonds (Canada) Inc. Ref.: 3214-14-041	Raphaël Perreault Stornoway Diamonds	Marie-Josée Lizotte Deputy Minister MELCCFP	Update: shutdown of operations	Sent February 28, 2025	<i>For information</i>
	Mélissa Gagnon MELCCFP	Luc Lainé COMEX		Sent March 14, 2025 Received COMEX March 14, 2025	