



la Convention
de la Baie-James
et du Nord québécois

Comité d'examen

Review Committee

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MINUTES OF THE

290th MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE

(APPROVED)

DATE: May 4, 2012

PLACE: Room Murphy 153, Ramada Plaza Manoir du Casino
75, rue d'Edmonton
Gatineau

PRESENT: Pierre Mercier (P.M), Chairperson, Québec
Daniel Berrouard (D.B.), Québec
Robert Lemieux (R.L.), Québec
Brian Craik (B.C.), CRA
Philip Awashish (P.A.), CRA

Executive Secretary: Stéphane Cossette

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and the following agenda was adopted:

- 1) Update on public consultations on the Eastmain-1-A/Rupert hydroelectric development project**
- 2) Other business**
- 3) Date and place of the next meeting**

2. UPDATE ON PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS ON THE EASTMAIN-1-A/RUPERT HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

P.M. said that this emergency meeting had been called following a telephone conversation with Jean Matte of Hydro-Québec on May 2, 2012, in which Mr. Matte asked that the public consultations on Condition 9.2 of the certificate of authorization be postponed. Mr. Matte explained that Hydro-Québec is currently negotiating an agreement with Paul-John Murdoch and the executive committee of the Grand Council of the Crees on social impact monitoring of the Eastmain-1-A/Sarcelle/Rupert project and that it would be preferable to hold the consultations after the agreement is signed. Mr. Matte said that the Crees were part of the “solution.”

Following the telephone conversation with Mr. Matte, the Committee received two letters, one from Marc Dunn of the Niskamoon Corporation, dated May 2, 2012, and one from Malcolm Moses of Waskaganish, dated May 3, 2012. Mr. Dunn and Mr. Moses also asked that the public consultations be postponed, saying that it's the spring goose break and people from the communities won't have enough time before the consultations to read the information documents.

The members discussed whether or not to grant the request. First and foremost, the members agreed that it's not up to Hydro-Québec or the Niskamoon Corporation to influence consultation dates agreed upon with the Cree communities weeks ago. Second, the members unanimously agreed that the consultations should take place as planned because the signing of an agreement between Hydro-Québec and the Grand Council of the Crees, the content of which COMEX knows nothing about, is not a prerequisite for assessing the effectiveness of the mitigation measures already implemented by Hydro-Québec. It has nothing to do with the consultations and, even if the agreement is signed, Hydro-Québec will still have to comply with the certificate of authorization issued on November 24, 2006. Furthermore, the dates of the consultations were agreed upon with the chiefs of the band councils concerned. We have no idea if the chiefs were consulted or not and if they agree with the requests. Therefore, it was agreed to let Mr. Matte, Mr. Dunn and Mr. Moses know that their request has been refused and that the consultations will take place as planned.

3. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING

COMEX will hold its next meeting on May 16, 2012, in Montréal.