



la Convention  
de la Baie-James  
et du Nord québécois

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**Comité d'examen**  
**Review Committee**

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**MINUTES OF THE**  
**291<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF COMEX**

**(ADOPTED)**

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**DATE:** May 16, 2012

**PLACE:** James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment  
boardroom  
383 Saint-Jacques, Office 220

**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

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**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA;**

The meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. The agenda was amended to add items concerning site visits to the Stornoway and Matoush mine projects as well as the planned extension to Route 167-Nord, and was adopted as follows:

- 1) Adoption of the minutes of the 286<sup>th</sup>, 287<sup>th</sup> and 288<sup>th</sup> meetings;**
- 2) Business arising from the 289<sup>th</sup> and 290<sup>th</sup> meetings and correspondence;**
- 3) Blackrock mine project**
  - a) MDDEP's analysis of the impact study**
  - b) CRA analysis of the impact study**
  - c) Postponement of public consultations**
- 4) Bachelor Lake mine project**
  - a) Public consultations**
  - b) Responses to questions and comments**
- 5) Extension of Route 167-Nord**
  - a) Modification to the CA concerning borrow pit operations**
- 6) Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Coordinating Committee (HFTCC)**
  - a) Presentation on the role of the HFTCC**
  - b) Workshop on migratory caribou**
- 7) Waswanipi wastewater treatment**
  - a) Technical meeting**
- 8) Other business**
- 9) Date and place of next meeting**

## **1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETINGS**

The minutes of the 286<sup>th</sup>, 287<sup>th</sup> and 288<sup>th</sup> meetings were adopted with amendments

## **2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE 289<sup>th</sup> and 290<sup>th</sup> MEETINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Members were shown the correspondence sent and received since the last meeting. A list of correspondence is attached to these minutes.

As a follow-up to the meeting held in Gatineau on May 4, a letter was sent on May 7 to the Niskamoon Corporation. A telephone call was also made to Jean Matte of Hydro-Québec last Thursday. Mr. Matte said that the agreement on reappropriation for the Eastmain-Rupert project has not yet been signed. Therefore the presentation that was supposed to take place later today has been canceled. It was reported that discussions have taken place between the band councils regarding the request for the report on the public consultations. However it is hard to confirm this information as most people are still out on the hunt.

An Executive Summary of the report on the status of the woodland caribou has been sent to COMEX. The Cree-Québec Forestry Board will be contacted to find out if there will be a presentation on this subject. We were told that Nadia Saganash of the CRA will be meeting with the Cree hunters association to ask for a moratorium on hunting.

As for the Stornoway mine project, members were advised that a document will soon be available for comments. They were also reminded that public hearings will be held the first week of September.

## **3. BLACKROCK MINE PROJECT**

### **a) MDDEP analysis of the impact study**

MDDEP's analysis of the impact study has reached an advanced stage. COMEX could receive a document for comment soon. The project is not very complex, but there is a lot of information scattered throughout the impact study document. The plan is to visit the mine site at the beginning of July and COMEX will have to contact the proponent at the end of next week to advise them of our intention to visit and the possible dates for public consultations.

### **b) Postponement of public consultations**

Given the announced change to the project in terms of construction of a railway, members were asked whether it might not be preferable to postpone the public hearings. The hearings could be held once the modification to the impact study has been filed. Members agreed that the hearings could be postponed until the last week of October on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. The consultations will take place in the evenings in both Oujé-Bougou and Chibougamau. The Innu community of Mashteuiatsh could be heard at the same time in the consultation process. It was mentioned that the consultations fall under the JBNQA review process and that the COMEX should not

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have to go there. BC said that a public notice could be placed in Lac St-Jean newspapers.

#### **4. BACHELOR LAKE MINE PROJECT**

##### **a) Public hearings**

A reminder was made of the public hearings in Waswanipi on May 22. Reservations for transportation, lodging, technical support, meeting room and interpreters have all been made.

##### **b) Responses to questions and comments**

Members were handed the second set of responses to our questions and comments.

#### **5. EXTENSION OF ROUTE 167-NORD**

##### **a) Modification to the CA**

A request has been received from the MTQ containing seven points. Five of these seven points concern the clarifications we requested in the certificate of authorization. The document supplies this information, which still remains to be validated. The other two points are regarding borrow pits within 75m of waterbodies. The information we were given on these points is relatively general. Since there will be more in future, it is important not to create a precedent. We could ask for some monitoring and have a condition that could require restoration. The information provided about local impacts of operations within 75 m of lakes and streams is poorly documented. Operating a borrow pit causes a drop in the water table, and could cause vegetation to dry out and be more susceptible to windfall. More precise information is needed for each site. A technical meeting could provide possible solutions so that this analysis could be completed. It was proposed that this meeting be held on June 13.

#### **6. HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING COORDINATING COMMITTEE (HFTCC)**

##### **a) Presentation on the role of the HFTCC**

The HFTCC has sent COMEX a request asking to give us a presentation on its role, including consulting them when reviewing projects. It was pointed out that the HFTCC does not have to be consulted on every project, the reason being, to avoid duplication between committees. Moreover, nothing prevents the HFTCC from commenting on projects, and on some issues, the COMEX might seek the advice of the HFTCC. Given the busy schedule the COMEX has for the coming months, such a presentation could not take place before September.

**b) Workshop on migratory caribou**

The HFTCC wants to hold a workshop on the situation of migratory caribou in Nord-du-Québec. The workshop is scheduled for September 11-13, 2012, and all committees created under the JBNQA are invited to participate. The arrangements regarding participation will be sent shortly. It was mentioned that the purpose of our participation is mainly to listen and learn, not to provide elements of a plan for managing the caribou herds.

**7. WASWANAPI WASTEWATER TREATMENT**

**Technical meeting**

The technical meeting on the Waswanipi wastewater treatment plan can be scheduled for the afternoon of May 23 in Quebec City. The meeting might be postponed until the next day if we have to continue to public consultations in Waswanipi regarding the Bachelor mine project.

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

The COMEX will soon receive the documents containing answers to our questions and comments regarding the Mistissini bridge project. The Regional Administrator has already sent us electronic versions and the original documents should be sent soon.

**9. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the review committee is scheduled for June 5, 2012 in Montréal.



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**Correspondence from April 26 to May 15, 2012**

*Correspondence received*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Received from</b>	<b>Subject</b>
April 26, 2012	Jean-François Coulombe	Request for a modification to the CA concerning the project to extend Route 167-Nord
May 2, 2012	Brian Craik	Email from Brian Craik on transmittal of the CEAA analysis concerning the Blackrock mine project
May 2, 2012	Marc Dunn	Request from the Monitoring Committee to postpone public consultations on the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert diversion project
May 2, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt concerning the request for modification to the CA of Conditions 2.3 and 6.5 for the Eleonore mine project
May 2, 2012	Brian Craik	Comments from Brian Craik concerning the requests regarding postponement of public consultations on the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert diversion project
May 3, 2012	Davey Bobbish	Email from the Band Chief of Chisasibi requesting postponement of public consultations on the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert diversion project
May 3, 2012	Malcolm Moses	Request from the Director General of the Band Council of Waskaganish to postpone public consultations on the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert diversion project
May 10, 2012	Kelly Leblanc	Email from Kelly Leblanc regarding transmittal of comments from the CRA regarding the Blackrock mine project
May 10, 2012	Philippe Lemire	Transmittal of additional information concerning the request for modification to the CA for the Route 167-Nord extension project

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Received from</b>	<b>Subject</b>
May 11, 2012	Brian Craik	Email from Brian Craik concerning the final report on the status of woodland caribou

*Correspondence sent*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sent to</b>	<b>Subject</b>
April 26, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding modifications to Conditions 2.3 and 6.5 of the CA for the Eleonore mine project
April 27, 2012	Gérald Lemoyne (CRÉBJ)	Notice of public hearing on the Bachelor mine project
April 27, 2012	Gérald Lemoyne (MBJ)	Notice of public hearing on the Bachelor mine project
May 4, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding authorization of changes to the Smokey Hill fishery site in connection to the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert diversion hydroelectric project
May 4, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding modification of the Hydro-Québec CA in connection with the power line between the Eastmain-1 station and the Eleonore mine site
May 7, 2012	Marc Dunn	Response to the request for postponement of public consultations on the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert diversion project



