



la Convention
de la Baie-James
et du Nord québécois

Comité d'examen
Review Committee

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MINUTES OF THE
296th MEETING OF COMEX

(ADOPTED)

DATE: August 29, 2012

PLACE: Hôtel-Môtel Nordic
Chibougamau

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 a.m. and the following agenda was adopted:

- 1) Call to order and adoption of the agenda**
- 2) Correspondence since the last meeting**
- 3) Extension of Route 167-Nord**
 - a) Status of the situation**
 - b) Applications under review**
- 4) Stornoway mine project**
- 5) BlackRock mine project**
- 6) Public consultations on Eastmain-1-A / Sarcelle / Rupert**
- 7) Mistissini bridge**
 - a) Items to be discussed at a meeting**
- 8) Eleonore mine**
 - a) Request for modification to the CA**
- 9) Other business**
- 10) Date and location of next meeting**

2. CORRESPONDENCE SINCE THE LAST MEETING

A list of correspondence sent and received since the last COMEX meeting is attached to these minutes. An item was added concerning an invitation from Guy Hétu of the MRNF to a presentation for the various committees on September 10 concerning the report on the status of the woodland caribou.

It was noted that the certificate of authorization for the proposed transmission line and substation for Waswanipi has been issued. However it contains an error concerning the location in relation to Waswanipi. Hydro-Québec pointed out the error, noting that they were responsible for it due to an error in the impact study.

3. EXTENSION OF ROUTE 167-Nord

- a) Members were reminded of the various requests that have come from the MTQ. In a discussion with the Administrator, the committee's disapproval of the comments from the MTQ was mentioned, and he was reminded that the information that the MTQ provided concerning borrow pit operations is incomplete. The Administrator has clarified to the MTQ that the laws and regulations apply equally to their operations, and that there will be no exceptions made.
- b) We have been sent a fourth request for a modification to the certificate of authorization along with additional information about the D-93C, D-115 and D-95-100 borrow pits. The fourth application concerns the operation of borrow pits within 75 m of lakes and streams. The information transmitted in the fourth request is insufficient and a request will have to be sent for additional information. A draft recommendation can be prepared for September 7 concerning D-93C, D-115 and D-95-100 borrow pits. A conference call on this draft recommendation is scheduled for September 7 at 11 a.m. The fourth request will be discussed at the same time.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE STORNOWAY MINING PROJECT

Members reviewed the proceedings at the community hearings in Mistissini. There was good participation from the community and the comments made were relevant. Members noted that the proponent had a good attitude towards the community of Mistissini. However, they regretted that the proponent had not brought up the subject of transporting fuel by road to the power plant, and the related accident risk, particularly to the Témiscamie River in ATO park. During the community session, it was mentioned that workers will arrive at the site by airplane. Members were of the opinion that the tallymen should be able to access the mine site in their own vehicles. The proponent said that for the moment, the idea of connecting the mine site to Hydro-Québec's grid has been abandoned and that instead a thermal power plant is to be built. The proponent's argument for dropping the transmission line plan is an economic one. There were not many questions at the session about the environmental impacts, questions focussed mostly on social aspects and job opportunities. The people of

Mistissini reported having difficult accessing the ERA (entente sur les répercussions et les avantages).

It was proposed that the proponent should be asked at the Chibougamau meeting about emergency measures to be taken in the event of a fuel spill along Route 167 or in sensitive areas along the road.

5. BLACKROCK MINING PROJECT

Based on a discussion with a representative from BlackRock Metals, it appears we should have responses to our questions and comments at the end of September. According to BlackRock's overall timetable, they expect to receive authorization from MDDEP in April. As for the public hearings on the project, these have been planned for the end of October. This date might be revised depending on when we receive the answers to our questions and the information about the railroad.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS ON EASTMAIN-1-A

It was decided that a letter will be sent to the communities to set the official dates for the public hearings. There has been a change to the schedule we originally proposed, in particular for the communities of Waskaganish and Chisasibi. It is still expected that we will meet with Hydro-Québec so that they can brief us on the agreement on land appropriation and use. It was proposed that this meeting be scheduled for October 3, but the date will have to be confirmed with the people at Hydro-Québec.

Another meeting is also planned with Hydro-Québec representatives for an update on the organization of the public hearings. This meeting will take place October 10.

7. MISTISSINI BRIDGE

It was proposed that a meeting be held with representatives of the Mistissini Band Council on the planned bridge, the access road and the borrow pit. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the Band Chief proposing that this meeting be set for October 2 or 3 in Mistissini. The following points are to be discussed:

- The cost of alternatives to borrow materials;
- The medium- and long-term plan for development of the community and its infrastructure;
- With regard to maintenance of the bridge, what is the lifespan of the materials given the extreme cold, what sort of work will be required and what will it cost?
- The identification of borrow pits on Category II and III lands, and are there any such deposits that that would be financially more suitable for the planned bridge and road access?
- The policy of the Cree Regional Authority concerning financing of borrow pits on Category II and III lands for the purpose of development in the communities.
- The new accord on the governance of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory could lead to further constraints or opportunities for funding projects. Has this been taken into account?

8. ELEONORE MINE

A request for a modification to the CA arrived recently. It contains four items, and a recommendation needs to be prepared. MDDEP has begun its analysis. Members agreed they wanted to aim for a recommendation by the end of September.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

10. DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

September 27, 2012 in Montreal.

COMEX correspondence - July 19 to August 27, 2012

Correspondence received

Date	Received from	Subject
July 20, 2012	Mireille Paul	Request for a modification to the certificate of authorization concerning extension of Route 167-Nord regarding Condition 21
July 25, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of questions and comments sent to Martin Boucher regarding the Renard diamond mining project
July 31, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the letter to Philippe Mora regarding reimbursement of costs incurred for the report on the Eastmain-1-A/Sarcelle/Rupert consultations
July 31, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of questions and comments sent to Jacqueline Leroux regarding the BlackRock mining project
August 1, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt regarding the recommendations for operation of borrow pits within 75 m - Extension of Route 167-Nord
August 1, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt regarding the recommendation on the stream diversions at KM 129 and KM 141 - Extension of Route 167-Nord
August 1, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt regarding the recommendation about access roads to borrow pits - Extension of Route 167-Nord
August 1, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt regarding the recommendation for operation of borrow pits D-R167A, D-22A and D-22B - Extension of Route 167-Nord
August 1, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt concerning site characterizations for stream crossings in temporary roads - Extension of Route 167N
August 1, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt regarding waste areas between KM 54 and KM 142 - Extension of Route 167-Nord
August 1, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt concerning operation of borrow pits D-93C-ASB, D-95-100C-ASB and D-95-100D - Extension of Route 167-Nord
August 1, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt concerning work in the streambed at KM 141 - Extension of Route 167-Nord

Date	Received from	Subject
August 9, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal of copy of letter sent to Diane Jean concerning the delay in filing of the impact study related to a 161 kV transmission line to supply the Renard mine project
August 9, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal of request for modification to the certificate of authorization concerning the discharge point for industrial wastewater, the capacity of the waste rock piles, the access road to the tailings site and the ore transfer area for the Eleonore mine project
August 9, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal of additional information concerning borrow pit D-22B - Extension of Route 167-Nord
August 9, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal of a fourth request for modification to the certificate of authorization for the MTQ to operate borrow pits D-110 and D-141
August 13, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt concerning the recommendations for crossing of a fen at KM 87 - Extension of Route 167-Nord
August 14, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the modification to the certificate of authorization concerning operation of borrow pit D-22B
August 14, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the modification to the certificate of authorization concerning operation of three sandpits not identified in the impact study
August 14, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the modification to the certificate of authorization concerning stream crossings of the access roads to borrow pits
August 15, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the certificate of authorization concerning construction of the Waswanipi substation and line connection
August 15, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the modification to the certificate of authorization concerning access roads to borrow pits
August 15, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of a letter to Philippe Lemire of the MTQ requesting additional information about the stream crossings at KM 141 and KM 735
August 15, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt concerning the recommendation regarding the stream crossing north of KM 82 - Extension of Route 167-Nord

Date	Received from	Subject
August 16, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the modification to the certificate of authorization concerning stream diversions at KM 129 and KM 141
August 17, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of a letter to Philippe Lemire of the MTQ requesting additional information about borrow pit operations within 75 m of a stream
August 17, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of a letter to Philippe Lemire of the MTQ requesting additional information about a fen crossing at KP 87
August 20, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the modification to the certificate of authorization concerning waste areas 41 and 67 in the right-of-way of the old winter road
August 22, 2012	Josée Crépeau	Transmittal of submission made by the Conférence régionale des élus de la Baie-James for the public hearings on the Renard mining project
August 24, 2012	Albin Tremblay	Transmittal of the 2011-2012 annual report from the Cree-Québec Forestry Board
August 27, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal of additional information concerning operation of sandpits D-93C, D-95-100 and D-115 by the MTQ

Correspondence sent

Date	Sent to	Subject
July 30, 2012	Diane Jean	Request for more information on the operation of borrow pits within 75 m of a watercourse for the project to Route 167-Nord
July 30, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding authorization of roads to borrow pits for the project to Route 167-Nord
July 30, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding authorization of operation of 3 borrow pits not identified in the impact study for the project to Route 1167-Nord

July 30, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding authorization of a stream diversion at KM 129 and KM 141 for the proposed extension of Route 167N
July 30, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding authorization of aires de rebuts 41 and 67 in the right-of-way for the old winter road and application for review of other waste areas outside the old winter road for the proposed extension of Route 167N
July 30, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding authorization to operate borrow pit D-22B and request for additional information on borrow pits D-R167A and D-22A
July 30, 2012	Diane Jean	Request for additional information on construction in the streambed at KM 414 for the extension of Route 167N project
July 30, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding authorization of stream crossing sites for the access roads to borrow pits D-22B, D-43, D-75, D-78-80D and D-95-100B, and request for additional information on the accesses to borrow pits P93, P98 and D-78-for the proposed extension of Route 167N
August 8, 2012	Diane Jean	Request for additional information on the crossing of a fen located at KM 87 for the extension of Route 167N project
August 8, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding authorization of the stream crossing at KM 82 for the extension of Route 167N project