



## Review Committee

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**(ADOPTED)**

Executive Secretary: Stéphane Cossette

## **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 remove Item 10 and was adopted.

- 1) Call to order and adoption of the agenda;**
- 2) Adoption of the minutes of the 291<sup>st</sup> and 292<sup>nd</sup> meetings**
- 3) Correspondence since the last meeting;**
- 4) Extension of Route 167-Nord**
- 5) Mistissini bridge, borrow pit and access road project**
  - a) Follow-up of the meeting of September 18**
- 6) Eleonore mining project**
  - a) Request for a modification to the certificate of authorization**
- 7) Public consultations on the Eastmain-1-A/Sarcelle/Rupert project**
  - a) Update on logistics**
- 8) Follow-up on the workshop on the woodland caribou situation**
- 9) COMEX Secretariat**
  - a) Appointment of a new Executive Secretary**
- 10) Presentation on the agreement reached between Hydro-Québec and the Grand Council of the Cree**
- 11) Other business**
- 12) Date and location of next meeting**

## **2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 291<sup>st</sup> AND 292<sup>nd</sup> MEETINGS**

Amendments proposed to these minutes since the last meeting have been included. New amendments were suggested for the minutes of the 292<sup>nd</sup> meeting, and amended minutes were adopted.

## **3. CORRESPONDENCE SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

A list of correspondence sent and received since the last meeting is attached to the minutes. One item was added – the submission of the Cree Regional Authority for the public consultations on the Stornoway mining project.

## **4. EXTENSION OF ROUTE 167-Nord**

On September 25, 2012, the Department of Transport sent additional information concerning the stability of materials and also the environmental monitoring program they plan for borrow pits that have not yet been authorized. The MTQ's letter stated that the Department intends to carry out the monitoring without supplying any additional information about the biophysical description of the sites. However they specify that they will supply complete information for the borrow pits located north of KM 143. By agreeing to these requests, the MTQ will provide COMEX with the necessary information to authorize 35 borrow pits. The monitoring program proposed by the MTQ is similar to what COMEX proposed for the authorization of borrow pits D-93C, D-95-100 and D-115. Given this, the MTQ proposal is an acceptable compromise that would allow us to authorize operation of borrow pits within 75 m of lakes and waterways. One member abstained from commenting on this. Members also recommended that the MTQ be asked to provide, in its environmental monitoring report, a portrait of the current situation, supported by photos, of borrow pits before operations have begun. In addition, given the information sent regarding stability of materials on esker deposits, it will be specified in the letter accompanying our recommendations that borrow operations be carried out only on eskers.

A Table was presented showing all the requests from the MTQ for modifications to the certificate of authorization. The Table identifies all the locations that have been authorized as well as the ones for which we are awaiting more information.

## **5. MISTISSINI BRIDGE, BORROW PIT AND ACCESS ROAD PROJECT**

A technical meeting was held in Mistissini on September 18 with the consultant and representatives and of the Band Council in attendance. The meeting included a presentation on the design for the bridge construction. According to the Band Council representatives, accessing borrow pit materials near Mistissini is difficult not only because they are scarce, but also because the MTQ are using them for the extension of Route 167-Nord. The costs for the bridge construction and maintenance are equivalent to the costs for transporting materials long distances over existing roads. However, construction of the bridge would open the way

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for expanding the village in this sector. The Band Council would like a decision in early October so that they could start work before winter.

COMEX members were satisfied with the answers received during the meeting and have a better understanding of the rationale for the project. However they think the bridge design is questionable and do not see the need to move the floatplanes below when another location could be used for aircraft landing and takeoff. It could be built lower down which would also reduce construction costs. Likewise, it is not entirely clear that the project has the support of the people of Mistissini. The biophysical aspect of the analysis is not completed, but conditions can be expected in this regard. Members agreed to aim for around October 15 as their target for formulating recommendations. Members were asked to provide drafts of conditions to the Executive Secretary for the purpose of preparing the draft recommendation.

## **6. ELEONORE MINING PROJECT**

We received a request for modification to the certificate of authorization relating to four items, including construction in October of a temporary tailings storage site. It was proposed that members give priority to analysis of this request, and deal with the others later this fall. However, six elements have to be clarified with the proponent before making a recommendation, including the source of the tailings so that we can determine if there is potential for acid mine drainage, as well as storage duration, spot elevation, water treatment, treatment sites, and finally, restoration method. Members agreed to discuss a draft recommendation at the meeting scheduled for October 10.

## **7. PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS ON EASTMAIN-1-A**

We have received confirmation from all communities for the dates of the public hearings. Letters will be sent to each community to formalize everything. The agreed schedule is as follows:

Mistissini: November 6  
Nemaska: November 8  
Chisasibi: November 13  
Eastmain: November 15  
Wemindji: November 20  
Waskaganish: November 22

A public notice will appear in the newspaper *The Nation* on October 5 to announce the hearings. There will be a meeting on the afternoon of October 10 with Hydro-Québec for an update on logistics and another meeting on October 25 for the presentation on the agreement between Hydro-Québec and the Grand Council of the Cree.

## **8. FOLLOW-UP OF WORKSHOP ON THE STATUS OF THE WOODLAND CARIBOU**

This workshop involved an overview of the final report by experts. There are now 600 caribou or fewer in the three James Bay herds. The experts recommended expanding the Assinica national park project and creating two protected areas in the Waswanipi and Nemaska regions. They also proposed an end to the traditional subsistence hunt, modifying

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logging practices to promote caribou, constructing as few roads as possible and reducing traffic on the 167 during calving season to encourage survival of young animals.

#### **9. COMEX SECRETARIAT**

A new Executive Secretary has been hired. On October 1-3 she will accompany Hydro-Québec on a visit to communities involved in the public consultations.

#### **10. OTHER BUSINESS**

An update on the BlackRock mine project should arrive soon. It would be difficult to complete the analysis before the end of October, so it would be best to postpone the public consultations, perhaps until early January.

Metanor recently sent us a document concerning start-up parameters for a cyanide destruction system. This document must be approved by COMEX. A draft recommendation will be prepared for the next meeting.

#### **11. DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING**

October 10, 2012 in Montréal.



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**Correspondence from August 28 to September 21, 2012**

*Correspondence received*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Received from</b>	<b>Subject</b>
August 28, 2012	Paul Linton	Transmittal of a submission from the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay for the public hearings on the Renard mine project
August 29, 2012	Jo-Ann Toulouse	Transmittal of a letter of support for the Renard mine project
August 29, 2012	Régis Simard	Transmittal of a submission from the Table Jamésienne de Concertation Minière for the public hearings on the Renard mine project
August 30, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the modification to the certificate of authorization regarding the stream crossing north of km 82
Sept. 13, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of the 2008 Cree health determinants survey – revised by Hydro-Québec in May 2012 in accordance with Condition 6.1 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project
Sept. 13, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of the monitoring of juveniles of target species in the Rupert River (reduced flow section) in accordance with Conditions 5.18 and 5.25 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project
Sept. 13, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of the monitoring of riparian and aquatic vegetation (volumes 1 and 2) in accordance with Condition 5.19 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project
Sept. 13, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of the follow-up on the Rupert River landscape - 2011 in accordance with Condition 6.37 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project
Sept. 13, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of the follow-up on navigational conditions in the increased-flow sections in accordance with Conditions 6.12, 6.23 and 6.24 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project
Sept. 13, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of the follow-up on fish communities and population dynamics in the Rupert River in accordance with Condition 5.24 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Received from</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Sept. 13, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of the follow-up on the accessibility by fish of the tributaries of the Rupert River Rupert - 2011 in accordance with Condition 5.1 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project
Sept. 13, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of the 2010 follow-up on health determinants for the Cree in accordance with Condition 6.1 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project
Sept. 13, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of 2011 waterfowl monitoring, goose inventory and breeding pairs and broods inventory, in accordance with Condition 5.11 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project
Sept. 13, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of the follow-up on the spawning grounds and runs for brook trout in the Rupert River in accordance with Condition 5.24 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project
Sept. 14, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgment of receipt of the recommendation regarding operation of borrow pits D-93C, D-95-100 and D-115
Sept. 14, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgment of receipt of the recommendation regarding operations by the MTQ of borrow pits D-110 to D-141
Sept. 19, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal for approval of the Plan of operations for a cyanide destruction system, in accordance with Condition 5 of the certificate of authorization for the Bachelor mine project
Sept. 19, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of the Action plan for final effluent, in accordance with Condition 6 of the certificate of authorization for the Bachelor mine project
Sept. 19, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of a letter to Philippe Lemire of the MTQ requesting further information on the operation of borrow pits D-110 to D-141 for the project to extend Route 167-Nord



*Correspondence sent*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sent to</b>	<b>Subject</b>
September 12, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendations regarding authorization of borrow pits D-93C, D-95-100 and D-115 for the Route 167-Nord extension project
September 12, 2012	Diane Jean	Request for additional information regarding operation of borrow pits D-110 to D-115 for the Route Route 167-Nord extension project
September 12, 2012	Emmett MacLeod	Request for a technical meeting about the Mistissini bridge, borrow pit and access road project