



la Convention
de la Baie-James
et du Nord québécois

Comité d'examen
Review Committee

ᑲ · ᐃᑳ · ᐃᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃ
ᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃᐃ
ᐃᐃᐃ

MINUTES OF THE

298th MEETING OF COMEX

(ADOPTED)

DATE: Wednesday, October 10, 2012

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

PRESENT: Pierre Mercier, Chairperson, Québec
Daniel Berrouard, Québec
Robert Lemieux, Québec
Brian Craik, CRA
Philip Awashish, CRA

Executive Secretaries: Marie-Michèle Tessier
Stéphane Cossette

Guest: Alan Penn, CRA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The agenda was amended to include an item on the water supply for the community of Eastmain. The following agenda was adopted:

- 1) Adoption of minutes of the 293rd meeting
- 2) Correspondence since the last meeting
- 3) Waswasnipi wastewater treatment
 - a) Recommendations regarding project authorization
- 4) Water supply of the community of Eastmain
- 5) Bachelor mine project
 - a) Cyanide destruction system
- 6) Eleonore mine project
 - a) Request for modification to the certificate of authorization
- 7) Stornoway mine project
 - a) Recommendation regarding project authorization
- 8) Mistissini bridge, borrow pit and access road project
 - a) Recommendation regarding project authorization
- 9) Extension of Route 167-Nord
 - a) Recommendation regarding project authorization
- 10) Other business
- 11) Date and place of next meeting

1) ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 293RD MEETING

Adoption of the minutes of the 293rd meeting was postponed.

2) CORRESPONDENCE SINCE THE LAST MEETING

A list of the correspondence sent and received since the last meeting was sent to members so that they could read it before this meeting.

3) WASWASNIPI WASTEWATER TREATMENT

a) Recommendation regarding authorization of the project

COMEX will send the Administrator its recommendation for authorization of the project, conditional on the implementation of a monitoring program. The monitoring must be carried out in collaboration with the regional office of MDDEFP due to the experimental nature of the proposed technology, which the Department considers to be a “demonstration project.” The protocol and procedures are to be established between the MDDEFP regional office and the Band Council and the proponent must identify an alternative solution in case the equipment malfunctions.

PASSED.

4) COMMUNITY OF EASTMAIN WATER SUPPLY

Following a recommendation from COMEV, the Administrator sent COMEX a number of questions for the proponent – in this case the Eastmain Band Council – regarding their plan to upgrade the drinking water supply system and the pumping system. The proponent must supply COMEX with this additional information, along with the core document submitted to COMEV. COMEX should make its recommendations within the next 3 or 4 months, insofar as the required information is available.

5) BACHELOR MINE PROJECT

a) Cyanide destruction system

According to one of the conditions of the certificate of authorization, the start-up parameters for a system for the destruction of cyanide in tailings site water have been submitted. Metanor will carry out additional tests this fall to check how effectively the technique meets the standards. Members raised questions about preventive measures, worker safety, the level of risk, the intended frequency of use, whether the method is effective in all seasons, system start-up conditions, whether this technology has already been used elsewhere, etc. Finally, because cyanide destruction using ozone appears to

be a new approach, the committee wondered whether there was a need for a backup technique in case of malfunction. The MDDEFP will seek clarification from the proponent and the regional office. At that point, additional questions could be sent to the proponent, if necessary.

6) ELEONORE MINE PROJECT

a) Request for a modification to the certificate of authorization

At first glance and in light of the information available, the Cree members were supportive of the proposed modifications. COMEX will soon receive additional information from the proponent regarding the part of the request dealing with managing tailings. The four items in the request should be settled at the next meeting.

7) STORNOWAY MINE PROJECT

a) Recommendations regarding authorization of the project

Following answers from the proponent, COMEX members discussed the proposed review report. A second draft of the report will be distributed to members before the next meeting for comments. The committee will have to decide soon whether to authorize the project and on what conditions. Because the committee is in the final stages of its review, we should ask for a copy of the agreement between the Company and the Band Council of Mistissini in the interests of transparency.

The letter of transmittal to Madame Jean should include mention of the need to pay particular attention to the possibility of installing an electrical line (clean energy and abundantly available in the region) rather than using diesel.

8) MISTISSINI BRIDGE, BORROW PIT AND ACCESS ROAD PROJECT

a) Recommendations regarding authorization of the project

Members discussed the biophysical and socioeconomic aspects of the project, and agreed that the project can be authorized. A provision for monitoring suspended solids from the site should be included. Socioeconomically, the project is acceptable, but a context needs to be provided and some conditions will be set. Members will prepare a draft recommendation to be finalized at the next meeting.

9) EXTENSION OF ROUTE 167-NORD

a) Recommendation regarding authorization of borrow pits

A draft recommendation for a monitoring program for borrow pit operations within 75 meters of water bodies was submitted to COMEX members. After some suggestions were made, in particular with regard to the key issues, members agreed on the wording of the recommendation. This decision will allow operation of borrow pits D-R167A, D-22A, D-43, D-75, D-78-80 (A to E), D-82, D-89-92 (A to D), D-94, D-110, D-119 (1 and 2), D-120-123 (1 to 7), D-136 (1 and 2), D-139 (A-1, A-2, C1 and C2), D-140 (1 and 2), and D-141 (A1 and A2).

10) OTHER BUSINESS

In the afternoon, COMEX members will meet Jean Matte, Philippe Mora, Johanne Savard, Lise Pinsonneault and Céline Belzile of Hydro-Québec to discuss the logistics for the public consultations on the Eastmain 1A-Rupert project scheduled for November, in accordance with Condition 9.2 of the certificate of authorization.

11) DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of COMEX is scheduled for October 25 in Montréal.