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**(ADOPTED)**

**DATE:** Thursday, October 25, 2012

**PLACE:** **Hydro-Québec**, 800 de Maisonneuve E, Salle énergie, 21<sup>st</sup> floor  
**Hôtel des Gouverneurs**. 1415 Saint-Hubert St, Sept-Îles Room.

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

Executive Secretary: Marie-Michèle Tessier

## **1) PRESENTATION ON THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HYDRO-QUÉBEC AND THE GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES**

The meeting started at 8 a.m. at the offices of Hydro-Québec, with the members of COMEX, Jean Matte of Hydro-Québec and John Paul Murdoch of the Niskamoon Corporation in attendance. Pierre-Michel Fontaine, of the Direction de l'évaluation environnementale des projets hydriques et industriels of the MDDEFP, participated by telephone.

Jean Matte and John Paul Murdoch gave an overview of the contents of the *Agreement Concerning the Re-Appropriation of Territory Affected by the Eastmain-1-A/Sarcelle/Rupert Project*.

The objectives of the Agreement are as follows:

- to have the Crees assume some of the responsibilities related to human impacts on the environment;
- implementation of a mechanism allowing the Crees to acknowledge the level of achievement/satisfaction regarding the obligations of Hydro-Québec;
- the establishment of a continuous land use and reappropriation fund for as long as the Rupert River partial diversion is in operation;
- the creation of a specific fund for navigation; the commitment by Hydro-Québec to carry out work for the purposes of navigation in the estuary as far as KM 20;
- creation of a special fund for training;
- the complete discharge by the Crees of Hydro-Québec for any obligations that the Crees assume from this point on, for as long as the Rupert River partial diversion is in operation;
- the recognition by the Crees that Hydro-Québec has completed or fulfilled its obligations.

The beneficiaries of this Agreement are the communities of Mistissini, Nemaska and Waskaganish. The division of responsibilities was explained; essentially, Hydro-Québec will remain responsible for the biophysical environment, the Crees will be responsible for the human environment, and the two groups will share responsibilities for issues of navigation. There are 140 obligations attached to the Agreement, of which 49 are completed, 77 are being met and 14 shall be borne by the Crees.

The Niskamoon Corporation stands proxy for the Agreement. It will receive the funds distributed under the Agreement, oversee its implementation and spend the funds in accordance with the provisions. The Corporation is composed of six Cree members and three representatives of Hydro-Québec. It oversees all agreements, past and present, between the Crees and Hydro-Québec.

It was agreed that Hydro-Québec will send COMEX members a copy of their presentation and the obligations attached to the Agreement. During the public consultations in November,

an information board outlining the Agreement and its contents will be on display and Hydro-Québec will be available to answer any questions that may be of interest.

## **2) CONTINUATION OF THE MEETING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The COMEX meeting continued at the Hôtel des Gouverneurs with the following agenda adopted:

- 1) Presentation on the agreement between Hydro-Québec and the Grand Council of the Crees
- 2) Continuation of the meeting and adoption of the agenda
- 3) Adoption of the minutes of the 293<sup>rd</sup>, 294<sup>th</sup> et 298<sup>th</sup> meetings
- 4) Correspondence since the last meeting
- 5) Mistissini bridge, borrow pit and access road project
  - a) Recommendations regarding authorization of the project
- 6) Bachelor mine project
  - a) Cyanide destruction system
- 7) Eleonore mine project
  - a) Recommendation regarding the request for modification to the certificate of authorization (four items)
- 8) BlackRock mine project
  - a) Next steps
- 9) Waswasnipi wastewater treatment
  - a) Recommendation regarding authorization of the project
- 10) Stornoway mine project
  - a) Recommendation regarding authorization of the project
  - b)
- 11) Extension of Route 167-Nord
  - a) Request for modification to the certificate of authorization
- 12) Logistics of the public consultations in November
- 13) Other business
- 14) Date and place of next meeting

**3) ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE 293<sup>RD</sup>, 294<sup>TH</sup> AND 298<sup>TH</sup> MEETINGS**

Adoption of the minutes was postponed until the next meeting.

**4) CORRESPONDENCE SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

A list of the correspondence sent and received since the last meeting is attached.

**5) MISTISSINI BRIDGE, BORROW PIT AND ACCESS ROAD PROJECT**  
**a. Recommendation regarding authorization of the project**

A draft scenario was laid out for members. A letter of transmittal for the project recommendations will be prepared to send with the review report and the attached conditions. The recommendation will be sent to the two administrators soon.

**6) BACHELOR MINE PROJECT**  
**a. Cyanide destruction system**

Details were obtained from the Regional Office of MDDEFP and the planned technology has already been used at other mine operations, apparently with good results. The technology has been proven at similar types of operations, even in winter. Our recommendation will be sent to the Administrator.

**7) ELEONORE MINE PROJECT**  
**a. Recommendation regarding the request for a modification to the certificate of authorization (four items in the request)**

COMEX had asked for additional details, but not all questions have yet been answered. A reminder will be sent to the proponent and the committee will be kept informed of developments, particularly concerning the agreement to be reached with Hydro-Québec about road sharing.

**8) BLACKROCK MINE PROJECT**

**a. Next steps**

The public hearings in Oujé-Bougoumou and Chibougamau on this project could be held in mid-February. Details on the project have been sent to COMEX, and the analysts are reviewing it now. Draft recommendations should be ready in January. The project lies within the territory covered by the Agreement, but the community of Mashteuiatsh of Lac Saint-Jean will, of course, be welcome to speak at the public hearings.

**9) WASWASNIPI WASTEWATER TREATMENT**

**a. Recommendation regarding authorization of the project**

The CRA and the Regional Office of MDDEFP have been asked for an opinion on the draft recommendation. This is being finalized so that a proposal can be adopted at the next meeting.

**10) STORNOWAY MINE PROJECT**

**a. Recommendation regarding authorization of the project**

A second version of the review report is being prepared to include most of the comments received. To facilitate discussion, an English version will be produced. The recommendation from COMEX may be ready within the next few weeks.

**11) EXTENSION OF ROUTE 167-NORD**

**a. Request for a modification to the certificate of authorization**

There could be considerable work cost overruns for this project. The MTQ could attribute these added costs to the delays in obtaining the necessary authorizations. However, the proponent is still responsible for sending us the information requested and that is needed to review these files before making a decision. This file requires continued vigilance.

**12) LOGISTICS FOR THE PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS IN NOVEMBER**

The logistics for the consultations were discussed at the meeting with Hydro-Québec this morning. Philip Awashish will explain the role of COMEX in the Cree language at each of the communities visited.

**13) OTHER BUSINESS**

There will be a meeting with Diane Jean on November 9 concerning Strateco's Matoush project, which is a hot topic since the COMEX report was made public by the media. The Administrator will render a decision on authorization of the project.

**14) DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next COMEX meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7 at the Hôtel Chibougamau.

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**Correspondence from September 22 to October 25, 2012**

*Correspondence received*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sent from</b>	<b>Subject</b>
September 26, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal of additional information concerning borrow pit operations within 75 m of a waterway between km 0 and km 143 for the Route 167-Nord extension project.
September 27, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal, for information, of monitoring of spawning in the created and natural spawning grounds in the Rupert River at the outlet of Lake Boyd, in accordance with Conditions 5.18 and 5.24 of the certificate of authorization for the Eastmain-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert project
October 1, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the modification to the certificate of authorization concerning operation of borrow pits D-93C, D-95-100 and D-115 for the Route 167-Nord extension project.
October 9, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal of additional information concerning the BlackRock mine project.
October 9, 2012	Mireille Paul	Transmittal of additional information concerning the cyanide destruction system for the Bachelor mine project.
October 10, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the modification to the statement of conditions 1 and 2 of the modification to the certificate of authorization for the Eleonore mine project
October 16, 2012	Paul Letendre	Acknowledgement of receipt concerning the request for modification of the CA for operation of borrow pits within 75m of watercourses for the Route 167-Nord extension project.
October 17, 2012	Mireille Paul	Copy of the request for modification to the certificate of authorization for operation of quarry C-02 at the Eleonore mine project.

**Minutes**  
**COMEX – 299<sup>th</sup> meeting**

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*Correspondence sent*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sent to</b>	<b>Subject</b>
September 27, 2012	Richard Shecapio	Confirmation of date for Mistissini public consultations on Eastmain-1-A Rupert project
September 27, 2012	Davey Bobbish	Confirmation of date for Chisasibi public consultations on Eastmain-1-A Rupert project
September 27, 2012	Rodney Mark	Confirmation of date for Wemindji public consultations on Eastmain-1-A Rupert project
September 27, 2012	Edward Gilpin	Confirmation of date for Eastmain public consultations on Eastmain-1-A Rupert project
September 27, 2012	Gordon J. Blackned	Confirmation of date for Waskaganish public consultations on Eastmain-1-A Rupert project
September 27, 2012	Matthew Wapachee	Confirmation of date for Nemaska public consultations on Eastmain-1-A Rupert project
October 12, 2012	Diane Jean	Recommendation regarding authorization of borrow pit operations 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) for the project to extend Route 167-Nord.