

MINUTES OF THE
307th MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE

(Adopted)

DATE: Wednesday, June 12, 2013

PLACE: Romeo & Juliette restaurant, Hotel Motel Nordic
Chibougamau

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

GUESTS: Maud Ablain, MDDEFP
Kelly Leblanc, CRA

Executive Secretary: Marie-Michèle Tessier

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and the following agenda was adopted with changes:

- 1) Call to order and adoption of the agenda**
- 2) Adoption of the minutes of the 305th and 306th meetings**
- 3) Correspondence since the last meeting**
- 4) BlackRock mining project**
 - a) Public consultation held in Oujé-Bougoumou**
 - b) Preparations for the public consultation in Chibougamau**
- 5) Eleonore mining project**
 - a) Request for amendment in relation to residual materials management**
 - b) Request for approval of the monitoring program**
- 6) Bachelor Lake mining project**
 - a) Request for approval of the monitoring program**
 - b) Request for approval of the restoration plan for the mine site**
- 7) Eastmain water supply system**
 - a) Application for a certificate of authorization**
- 8) Eastmain 1-A/Rupert project**
 - a) Public consultations report**
- 9) Whabouchi mining project**
 - a) Application for a certificate of authorization**
- 10) Other business**
- 11) Date and place of the next meeting**

2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 305th AND 306th MEETINGS

The minutes of the 305th and 306th meetings were adopted as presented.

3. CORRESPONDENCE SINCE THE LAST MEETING

All correspondence received and sent since the last two meetings is appended to these minutes.

4. BLACKROCK MINING PROJECT

a. Public consultation held in Oujé-Bougoumou

The public consultation in Oujé-Bougoumou was held on June 11. BlackRock's presentation was not complete and a number of questions were not addressed, particularly in relation to wildlife habitat, the geographical location of facilities, follow-up studies, nearby traplines, the impacts of the project and mining effluent, cumulative impacts, the workforce, etc. Clarifications will be requested at the consultation in Chibougamau.

At the start of the session, Chief Neeposh outlined the historical background to mining activities in the area of Oujé-Bougoumou. Involving Cree communities in mining companies' planning process is relatively new and very important for a project's acceptability.

There were a lot of representatives from BlackRock Metals in the room, as well as around 80 participants from the communities of Oujé-Bougoumou and Mistissini.

The trapline dispute between Mr. Wapachee and Mr. Metabe is an internal matter that needs to be resolved between the parties concerned.

The public seemed to be in favour of, and interested in, the project. The tone was respectful and the consultation went smoothly.

b. Preparations for the public consultation in Chibougamau

The proponent will be asked to provide some clarifications.

The various mines located in the territory will be looking to attract a competitive, qualified workforce.

Economic considerations should be raised during the consultation.

5. BACHELOR LAKE MINING PROJECT

a. Request for approval of the monitoring program

Conditions will be set and the proponent will be asked to provide clarifications, in particular in relation to the frequency of sampling, the follow-up period and the methods used. The review process is in progress.

b. Request for approval of the restoration plan for the mine site

The review process is in progress.

6. EASTMAIN 1-A/RUPERT PROJECT

a. Public consultations report

Corrections will be made to the English version of the report.

In the background written by the Crees, the report will mention that the Crees are proud of the fact that they had been living in the territory for hundreds of years and that their land use had no negative impact on the ecosystem, that it left no trace of their presence. By contrast, since the onset of resource development and exploitation in the 1970s, the territory has experienced rapid change on several levels. Of course, the Crees have benefited from economic diversification, but they must also adapt to the changes brought by a modern lifestyle.

The section containing COMEX's opinion will mention that Hydro-Québec made several attempts to get out of condition 9.2, but complied with the other conditions stipulated in the certificate of authorization. The way in which the Crees and Hydro-Québec work together has evolved and many job opportunities have been created. This section should discuss the major issues addressed during the consultations, such as fishing at Smokey Hill, water quality, eelgrass, etc. An outline for Section 11 (COMEX's opinion) will be prepared and submitted to the members for comment.

7. EASTMAIN WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

a. Application for a certificate of authorization

The project is being reviewed by the CRA and the MDDEFP regional office. Discussions are ongoing and the recommendation will be discussed during a conference call on Monday, June 17.

8. ELEONORE MINING PROJECT

a. Request for amendment in relation to residual materials management

The review process is in progress and COMEX will take stock of the progress at the next meeting.

b. Request for approval of the monitoring program

The review process is in progress and a draft report will be submitted to the members soon with a view to adoption at the meeting on July 4.

9. WHABOUCHI MINING PROJECT

a) Application for a certificate of authorization

COMEX should be able to send the Administrator its questions and comments by the end of July.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on July 4 and 5, in Québec City.

COMEX
Correspondence: April 5 to June 10, 2013

Projects under review – Applications for authorization

- *Hydro-Québec project to build a 161-kV power transmission line to supply power to BlackRock Metals' mining facilities*
 - Additional questions sent
Attention: Clément d'Astous, April 30, 2013 – Acknowledgement of receipt from Paul Letendre, May 7, 2013 – Copy of questions sent by Mireille Paul, May 14, 2013
- *BlackRock mining project*
 - Copy of proponent's responses to additional questions
Sent by: Mireille Paul, May 7, 2013
 - Invitation to the Mayor of Chibougamau to attend the public consultation
Attention: Manon Cyr, May 27, 2013
 - Copy of supplementary information to the impact statement – Geochemical characteristics of tailings, ore and waste rock
Sent by: Mireille Paul, June 7, 2013
- *Whabouchi mining project*
 - Copy of supplementary information to the impact statement – Summary of the impact statement
Sent by: Mireille Paul, May 30, 2013

Applications to amend the certificate of authorization

- *Route 167 North extension (Stornoway Diamond Corp.)*
 - Copy of the proponent's responses to questions and comments (request to amend C.A.)
Sent by: Mireille Paul, April 25, 2013
 - Technical aspects to be discussed during the meeting between COMEX and the proponent
Attention: Clément d'Astous, April 5, 2013 – Acknowledgement of receipt from Paul Letendre, April 10, 2013
 - COMEX's recommendation
Attention: Clément d'Astous, May 15, 2013 – Acknowledgement of receipt from Lynda Roy, May 27, 2013 – Copy of the amendment to the C.A. from Mireille Paul, May 31, 2013

▪ *Eleonore Mine*

- Copy of the additional information pertaining to the site of the industrial wastewater discharge point

Sent by: Mireille Paul, May 7, 2013

- Recommendation regarding the industrial wastewater discharge point

Attention: Clément d'Astous, May 22, 2013 – Acknowledgement of receipt from Lynda Roy, May 29, 2013

- Recommendation regarding the request to amend condition 2.7 of the C.A. in relation to cyanide concentrations in tailings

Attention: Clément d'Astous, May 15, 2013 – Acknowledgement of receipt from Lynda Roy, May 23, 2013

- Copy of the request for approval of the monitoring program

Sent by: Mireille Paul, May 27, 2013

▪ *Eastmain 1-A/Rupert project*

- Copy of two requests to amend the C.A.: fish and spawning ground enhancements (conditions 5.3 and 5.31 – 5.6 – 5.18 and 5.25 – 5.24) and 2013 planning of access roads to traplines and Cree camps

Sent by: Mireille Paul, April 10, 2013

- Recommendation for fish and spawning ground enhancements

Attention: Clément d'Astous, May 15, 2013 – Acknowledgement of receipt from Lynda Roy, May 23, 2013 – Copy of the amendment to the certificate of authorization, June 6, 2013

- Recommendation for 2013 planning of access roads to traplines and Cree camps

Attention: Clément d'Astous, June 7, 2013

Requests for follow-up

▪ *Bridge, borrow pit and access road project in Mistissini*

- Copy of the proponent's responses to conditions of the C.A. (request for approval)

Sent by: Isaac Voyageur, April 12, 2013

- Letter confirming that the information provided by the proponent complies with the conditions of the C.A.

Attention: Isaac Voyageur, May 22, 2013

Correspondence received for information purposes

▪ *Bachelor Mine*

- Comment concerning the raising of the berms on the tailings impoundment

Attention: Clément d'Astous, April 11, 2013 – Acknowledgement of receipt from Paul Letendre, April 15, 2013 – Copy of the comment sent by Mireille Paul, May 23, 2013

- Copy of the proponent's responses to questions and comments on the monitoring program

Sent by: Mireille Paul, May 17, 2013

▪ *Troilus Mine*

- Copy of the 2012 annual report on activities carried out under the post-closure monitoring and environmental inspection program for the mine and Copy of the 2012 annual report on water quality, sediment and benthic community characterization (*Rapport annuel des activités constituant le programme de surveillance et d'inspection environnementale post-fermeture de la mine Troilus pour l'année 2012* and *Rapport de caractérisation annuelle 2012 de la qualité des eaux, des sédiments et des communautés benthiques*)

Sent by: Mireille Paul, April 26, 2013

▪ *Eastmain 1-A/Rupert project*

- Copy of the 2011 report on hydrology, hydraulics and the thermal regime on land (*Suivi de l'hydrologie, de l'hydraulique et du régime thermique en milieu continental – 2011*), submitted in accordance with condition 5.1 of the C.A.

Sent by: Mireille Paul, April 17, 2013

- Copy of the 2012 report on the short-eared owl, great gray owl and Bonaparte's gull (*Suivi du hibou des marais, de la chouette lapone et de la mouette de Bonaparte – 2012*), submitted in accordance with condition 5.1 of the C.A.

Sent by: Mireille Paul, April 17, 2013

- Copy of a letter signed by Mr. Mora concerning the follow-up program for total carbon levels in the Rupert River estuary

Sent by: Mireille Paul, April 10, 2013

- Copy of the 2011 status report on the effectiveness of deforestation using natural agents and on wood debris (*Rapport d'étude sur l'efficacité du déboisement par les agents naturels et suivi des débris ligneux. État de situation – Année 2011*), submitted in accordance with condition 5.1 of the C.A.

Sent by: Mireille Paul, June 6, 2013

- Copy of the 2012 monitoring report on the use of natural lake sturgeon spawning grounds in Rupert River (*Suivi environnemental 2012 de l'utilisation des frayères*

naturelles d'esturgeon jaune dans la rivière Rupert), submitted in accordance with condition 5.1 of the C.A.

Sent by: Mireille Paul, June 7, 2013

- Copy of the 2007-2012 results of tangible measures implemented to enhance the remains discovered during archaeological research (*Bilan 2007-2012 des mesures concrètes mises en place pour la mise en valeur des vestiges découverts lors des recherches archéologiques*), submitted in accordance with condition 6.35 of the C.A.

Sent by: Mireille Paul, June 7, 2013

- Copy of the 2012 report on water quality in Rupert and Nemiscau rivers and total organic carbon in Rupert bay (*Suivi 2012 de la qualité de l'eau des rivières Rupert et Nemiscau et des apports en carbone organique total à la baie de Rupert*), submitted in accordance with condition 5.29 of the C.A.

Sent by: Mireille Paul, June 7, 2013