

1) Call to order and adoption of the agenda

- a. The agenda was adopted with the following items added to "Other business":
 - Discussion on the publication of documents on COMEX's website
 - Invitation to the meeting of the Eleonore environment committee
 - Amendment request from Chapais Énergie

2) Adoption of the minutes of the 367th meeting

The minutes of the 367th meeting were adopted as presented.

Action: Translate and file the 367th meeting minutes

3) Correspondence and follow-up action

Correspondence and follow-up action from October 17 to November 18, 2018 are presented in Appendix A.

4) Project to develop an iron-vanadium deposit, BlackRock Metals Inc.

REF. No.: 3214-14-050

- a. Update to additional analyses
- b. Preparatory meeting with the proponent
- c. Public hearings
 - For discussion

BlackRock's mining project was discussed, in particular the public hearings to be held in Chibougamau and Oujé-Bougoumou on December 3 and 4, 2018. The logistical details of the hearings were discussed.

The MELCC and COMEX are waiting to receive the expert opinions on the supplementary documents submitted by the proponent. Once the public hearings have been held and all the expert opinions on the supplementary documents as well as the proponent's responses to the second series of questions and comments have been received, more questions and comments will likely be sent to the proponent.

5) Eastmain-1-A/Rupert hydroelectric project

REF. No.: 3214-10-017

- a. Letter concerning monitoring of the Rupert River landscape in 2015
 - For information

WHEREAS on September 18, 2018, COMEX received, for information purposes, a letter in reply to COMEX's comments concerning monitoring of the Rupert River landscape in 2015, which marked the end of the monitoring;

WHEREAS the COMEX members reviewed the information provided by the proponent and take particular note of Hydro-Québec's undertakings to continue documenting certain landscape changes, including those related to beach sites identified by Cree users in the areas of Old Nemaska and Lake Nemiscau as well as the site of rock paintings at Lake Nemiscau. This information could be compiled during the other monitoring programs under way that will cover the same areas. Special monitoring of water levels in relation to anticipated impacts and bank dynamics would be of particular interest. COMEX wants to continue being kept abreast of any developments in this regard.

CONSEQUENTLY, the COMEX members decided:

#2018-1119-01: *to write to the Provincial Administrator to inform him that the COMEX members reviewed the information provided by the proponent and take note of Hydro-Québec's undertakings to continue documenting certain landscape changes (detailed in the letter).*

Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator

- b.** Monitoring of juvenile sturgeon and other target species at KP 205 and KP 230 on Rupert River (2016)
 - For information

WHEREAS on October 31, 2018, COMEX received, for information purposes, the 2016 report on monitoring of juvenile sturgeon and other target species at KP 205 and KP 230 on Rupert River under the Eastmain-1-A powerhouse and Rupert diversion project;

WHEREAS the COMEX members reviewed the document submitted by the proponent and, in light of the 2016 monitoring results for juvenile target species in Rupert River and the fact that further monitoring will be conducted in 2018, as recommended by the Monitoring Committee, COMEX decided to wait until the results of the 2018 monitoring of juvenile target species and the monitoring of seagrass beds and fish communities in Rupert River have been received before issuing comments;

CONSEQUENTLY, the COMEX members decided:

#2018-1119-02: *to write to the Provincial Administrator to inform him that the COMEX members reviewed the document submitted by the proponent and will wait until the results of the 2018 monitoring of juvenile target species and the monitoring of seagrass beds and fish communities in Rupert River have been received before issuing comments (details in the letter).*

Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator

6) Troilus mining project, First Quantum Minerals Ltd.

REF. No.: 3214-14-025

- a. Annual report on post-closure environmental monitoring and inspection, 2015
- b. Annual report on post-closure environmental monitoring and inspection, 2016
- c. Annual report on post-closure environmental monitoring and inspection, 2017
 - For information

WHEREAS on April 19, 2017, May 15, 2017 and April 25, 2018, COMEX received the 2015, 2016 and 2017 annual reports on post-closure environmental monitoring and inspection for the Troilus mining project;

WHEREAS the COMEX members reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and note that the site restoration work meets in part the final objectives of the closure plan. While numerous stages in the site restoration work have been completed, certain aspects still need to be improved and completed;

CONSEQUENTLY, the COMEX members decided:

#2018-1119-03: *to write to the Provincial Administrator to inform him that the COMEX members reviewed the documents submitted by the proponent and, although the site restoration work meets in part the final objectives of the closure plan, COMEX is nevertheless requesting certain clarifications, which must be taken into account in future work or included in the next annual report (details in the letter).*

Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator

7) Other business

a. Cost-benefit analysis: proposal for starting to include such analysis in COMEX's project review process

Following the presentation given by Dick McCollough in October 2018, COMEX wants to continue its reflection on the subject and take steps in the short or medium term to include cost-benefit analysis in its project reviews:

- 1) Include cost-benefit analysis in the directives for impact assessment statements: to be discussed with COMEV
- 2) Contact specialists in the field to pursue the matter further
- 3) Contact economic experts at the MELCC and work with them to determine how cost-benefit analysis would benefit COMEX's project reviews and, among other things, define the criteria for deciding whether or not to include cost-benefit analysis in the review process.

Action: Robert Joly will follow up on this matter

b. JBACE's Strategic Plan

After going over the JBACE's strategic plan for the next five years, COMEX wants to meet with the JBACE to discuss issues of interest to both committees, especially modernization and optimization of the environmental and social impact assessment and review procedure.

COMEX will write to the JBACE to see if the two committees could meet in early 2019.

Action: Write to the JBACE

c. Discussion on the publication of documents on COMEX's website

The committee discussed the publication of documents on COMEX's website as well as the environmental assessment register. Several things need to be discussed, particularly the posting of monitoring reports and related documents on the website, transparency and confidential information.

COMEX would like to discuss the matter with the JBACE. It will write to the JBACE to see if the two committees could meet in early 2019.

Action: Write to the JBACE

d. Update to Chapais-Énergie's project

Chapais Énergie is about to submit a request for an amendment dealing with wastewater treatment. Given that the work is to be performed in the coming weeks, the request needs to be dealt with promptly. As soon as the documents have been officially received, COMEX will review the request and hold a special meeting to discuss the matter.

e. Eleonore mining project: Environment Committee on January 23 and 24, 2018

COMEX has been invited to attend a meeting of the Environment Committee for the Eleonore mining project so that it can see the dynamics and discussions first-hand. The meeting is being held on January 23 and 24, 2019, in Montréal. Suzann Méthot is waiting for confirmation from France Trépanier of Opinaca Mines.

8) Next meetings

- a.** January 28-30, 2019, Chisasibi
- b.** February 28, 2019, Montréal
- c.** April 3, 2019, Montréal

Appendix A Correspondence and follow-up: October 17 to November 18, 2018					
Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - Comments
Construction of forest roads “H, Section west” and “I” Ref. No.: 3214-05-075	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Natural environment characterization report (Conditions 5 and 6)	Sent: October 22, 2018 Acknowledgement of receipt: October 23, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Michel Sigouin Eacom Timber Corporation	Additional information (Conditions 3 and 9)	Sent: October 30, 2018 Received by COMEX: October 31, 2018	
Project to mine and process 900 000 tonnes of gold ore at the Bachelor Lake mine site, Metanor Resources Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-027	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Follow-up to condition 18: Updated restoration plan	Sent: October 22, 2018 Acknowledgement of receipt: October 23, 2018	
	N/A	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	6-month kinetic assay report	Sent: August 28, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Suzann Méthot COMEX		Sent: October 22, 2018 Received by COMEX: October 23, 2018	
Project to mine and process 600 000 additional tonnes of ore at the Bachelor Lake property, Metanor Resources Ref. No.: 3214-14-027	Pascal Hamelin Metanor Resources Inc.	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Withdrawal of request to amend the CA to allow milling of Barry ore at the Bachelor Lake mill	Sent: September 20, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Suzann Méthot COMEX		Sent: October 22, 2018 Received by COMEX: October 23, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Pascal Hamelin Metanor Resources Inc.	File closure	Sent: October 22, 2018 Received by COMEX: October 24, 2018	
Whabouchi mining project, Nemaska Lithium Whabouchi Mine Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-052	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Operation and development of three borrow pits (BB-05, BB-06, BB-07) under three	Sent: October 24, 2018 Acknowledgement of receipt: October 25, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Simon Thibault Nemaska Lithium Whabouchi Mine Inc.	hectares – Follow-up to condition 1 of the amended CA dated May 31, 2017	Sent: November 1, 2018 Received by COMEX: November 1, 2018	

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Whabouchi mining project, Nemaska Lithium Whabouchi Mine Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-052	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Residual materials management during the operation phase – Follow-up to condition 17	Sent: October 31, 2018 Acknowledgement of receipt: November 1, 2018	
	Simon Thibault Nemaska Lithium Whabouchi Mine Inc.	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Request to amend the CA Wetland compensation plan	Sent: October 26, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Suzann Méthot COMEX		Sent: November 13, 2018 Received by COMEX: November 13, 2018	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Simon Thibault Nemaska Lithium Whabouchi Mine Inc.	Publication of documents on COMEX's website	Sent: November 13, 2018	
	Simon Thibault Nemaska Lithium Whabouchi Mine Inc.	Suzann Méthot COMEX		Sent: November 14, 2018	
Project to develop an iron- vanadium deposit, BlackRock Metals Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-050	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Request to amend the global CA Questions and comments	Sent: October 25, 2018 Acknowledgement of receipt: October 25, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Jacqueline Leroux BlackRock Metals Inc.		Sent: November 5, 2018 Received by COMEX: November 5, 2018	
	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Jean Rainville BlackRock Metals Inc.	Meeting to plan the public hearings	Sent: October 25, 2018	
	Vanessa Chalifour COMEX	Jean Rainville BlackRock Metals Inc.	Confirmation of the date of the meeting to plan the public hearings	Sent: October 29, 2018 (by email)	
	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Manon Cyr Ville de Chibougamau	Public hearings on the BlackRock mining project	Sent: October 26, 2018	
	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Chief Curtis Bosum Cree Nation of Oujé- Bougoumou	Public hearings on the BlackRock mining project	Sent: October 26, 2018	

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Eastmain 1-A/Rupert hydroelectric project, Hydro-Québec Ref. No.: 3214-10-017	Benoit Gagnon Hydro-Québec	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Monitoring of fish pass at KP 207 on Eastmain River (2015-2016)	Sent: October 1, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Suzann Méthot COMEX		Sent: October 31, 2018 Received by COMEX: October 31, 2018	<i>For information</i>
	Benoit Gagnon Hydro-Québec	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Monitoring of juvenile sturgeon and other target species at KP 205 and KP 230 on Rupert River (2016)	Sent: October 1, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Suzann Méthot COMEX		Sent: October 31, 2018 Received by COMEX: October 31, 2018	<i>For information</i>
	Benoit Gagnon Hydro-Québec	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Monitoring of spawning grounds developed at KP 203 and KP 207 on Eastmain River (2016)	Sent: October 1, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Suzann Méthot COMEX		Sent: October 31, 2018 Received by COMEX: October 31, 2018	<i>For information</i>
James Bay Lithium Mine Project, Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-055	Denis Couture Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc.	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Environmental and social impact assessment	Sent: October 29, 2018	
	Mireille Paul MELCC	Suzann Méthot COMEX		Sent: November 7, 2018 Received by COMEX: November 7, 2018	<i>For recommendation</i>
	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Gail Amyot Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc.	Publication of documents on COMEX's website	Sent: November 8, 2018	
	Gail Amyot Galaxy Lithium (Canada) Inc.	Vanessa Chalifour COMEX		Sent: November 14, 2018	
Renard Diamond Project Ref. No.: 3214-14-041	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Fish habitat compensation program	Sent: October 31, 2018 Acknowledgement of receipt: November 1, 2018	

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Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - Comments
Eleonore mining project, Opinaca Mines Ltd. Ref. No.: 3214-14-042	Suzann Méthot COMEX	Patrick Beauchesne Deputy Minister MELCC	Annual environmental monitoring and follow-up report, 2017	Sent: October 29, 2018 Acknowledgement of receipt: October 29, 2018	
JBACE's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan	Michèle Leduc- Lapierre	Vanessa Chalifour COMEX	JBACE's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan	Sent: October 29, 2018	
Minutes of JBACE meetings	Michèle Leduc- Lapierre	Vanessa Chalifour COMEX	Minutes of JBACE meetings	Sent: November 13, 2018	

