



la Convention
de la Baie James
et du Nord québécois

**Comité d'examen des répercussions
sur l'environnement et le milieu social**

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MINUTES OF THE

391st MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE

(ADOPTED)

DATE:	January 28, 2021
PLACE	Video conference (Teams)
PRESENT:	Luc Lainé, Chairman Daniel Berrouard, Québec Robert Joly, Québec John Paul Murdoch, CNG Brian Craik, CNG Vanessa Chalifour, Executive Secretary

1) Call to order and adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

2) Adoption of the minutes of the 390th meeting

The minutes of the 390th meeting were adopted as presented.

Action: Translate and file the 390th meeting minutes

3) Correspondence and follow-up action

Correspondence and follow-up action from December 16, 2020 to January 27, 2021 are presented in Appendix A.

4) Fénelon mining project, Wallbridge Mining Ltd.

Ref. No.: 3214-14-064

- a. Environmental and social impact assessment
- b. Summary of the impact assessment
- c. Supplementary documents to the impact assessment (report on modelling of atmospheric dispersion of contaminants and technical memo on consultations and land use, English version of the impact assessment and English version of the summary of the impact statement)
- d. Additional information: Request to suspend the project review
 - For recommendation

WHEREAS on December 22, 2020, the Review Committee (COMEX) received a request to suspend review of the environmental and social impact assessment for Wallbridge Mining's Fénelon mining project.

The COMEX members reviewed the proponent's request and are going to put the review of the impact assessment on hold.

#2021-0128-01: *write to the Provincial Administrator to inform him that the COMEX members reviewed the proponent's request and are going to put the review of the impact assessment on hold.*

Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator
Send the letter

5) Processing of gold ore from the Barry and Moroy projects at the Bachelor mine mill and increase in the milling rate

Ref. No.: 3214-14-027

- a.** Environmental and social impact assessment
- b.** Additional information (geochemical characterization)
- c.** Additional information (answers QC01)
 - For recommendation

WHEREAS on November 26, 2020, the Review Committee (COMEX) received, for its recommendation, the answers to the first set of questions and comments regarding the project to process gold ore from the Barry and Moroy projects at the Bachelor mine mill and increase the milling rate.

WHEREAS the COMEX members reviewed the document submitted by the proponent and find that several answers are incomplete. In addition, the following supplementary reports were not provided even though they were requested in the first set of questions and comments:

- Revised restoration plan;
- Environmental characterization for all areas affected by the planned expansion, development, construction or repair work;
- Characterization reports for the sector in which the final effluent is discharged (fieldwork performed in September 2020);
- Detailed dust control plan;
- Revised GHG report (including mitigation measures and follow-up plan);
- Summary map indicating the various sensitive elements near the project site;
- Revision to the hydrogeological modelling report;
- Revision to the atmospheric emissions modelling report;
- Details on the health and safety procedure (incidents with a high number of victims and situations requiring evacuation of patients by ambulance or by air).

#2021-0128-02: *write to the Provincial Administrator to inform him that the COMEX members reviewed the document submitted by the proponent and are waiting to receive the missing documents. Once those documents have been received, COMEX will review the project and send its recommendation as to whether the project should be authorized or not.*

**Action: Write to the Provincial Administrator
Send the letter**

6) Other business

a. Federal consultations on the Rose Lithium-Tantalum and James Bay Lithium mining projects

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada might launch its consultation on the preliminary assessment report for the Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining project in the week of February 22, 2021.

b. Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining project: Organization of the public hearings

Vanessa Chalifour updated the members on the organization of public hearings for the Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining project. They were briefed on the preparatory meeting held on January 20, 2021 with the proponent, Critical Elements Corporation, and the analysts from MELCC and the Cree Nation Government (CNG). All parties seem to have found the experience meaningful. The COMEX members adopted the meeting minutes and Vanessa Chalifour will send them to all of the participants.

Following the preparatory meeting, it was agreed that COMEX, the proponent, Hydro-Québec and the MELCC and CNG analysts would participate in a practice hearing on February 10, 2021 to test all participants' connections and electronic equipment (camera, microphone, video, PowerPoint presentation, etc). A consultant will also be on hand to verify all configurations, answer technical questions and, if necessary, offer advice on how to ensure that the hearings run smoothly. Following the practice hearing, the COMEX members will take a few minutes to discuss the project amongst themselves and finalize the details of the public hearings.

c. Eastmain-1A temporary workcamp: Discussion of the letters received in relation to the project

John Paul Murdoch confirmed that the community of Eastmain and the federal government are currently in discussions about the workcamp. However, the project is not a done deal yet.

d. Construction of forest access roads "H, Section west" and "I": Preliminary discussion of the application to amend the certificate of authorization

Vanessa Chalifour mentioned that COMEX expects to receive the results of the analysis of the application to amend the certificate of authorization before its next meeting on February 24, 2021. The members pointed out that the requested amendment needs to be reviewed taking into consideration progress/developments in respect of planned protected areas in the project area.

e. Meeting of the monitoring committee for research project CC22.1 – “Portrait climatique EIBJ-Nunavik-AT” (climate change)

Vanessa Chalifour will contact the resource person for the monitoring committee to find out what the next steps are and assess the workload involved in COMEX’s participation in the committee in the coming months.

f. Analysis and prioritization of annual and monitoring reports pending review

Considering the number of annual and monitoring reports pending review by COMEX, Vanessa Chalifour proposed an order of priority. The COMEX members approved of the ranking and confirmed that the expected analyses could be more succinct than usual and focus mostly on the issues and conclusions specific to each monitoring report. Lastly, it was proposed that analysis of the monitoring reports, in particular for the Eastmain-1-A/Rupert diversion project, be grouped by theme, including for the reports concerning fish. Vanessa Chalifour will follow up on the matter with the MELCC analysts concerned.

7) Next meetings

- a.** February 24, 2021 – Video conference (Teams)
- b.** March 25, 2021 – Video conference (Teams)

Appendix A Correspondence and follow-up: December 16, 2020 to January 27, 2021					
Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - Comments
Public hearings on the Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining project Ref. No.: 3214-14-053	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Announcement of public hearings on the Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining project	Sent: December 17, 2020 Acknowledgement of receipt: December 17, 2020	
Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining project Ref. No.: 3214-14-053	Luc Lainé COMEX	Jean-Sébastien Lavallée Critical Elements Corporation	Preparatory meeting on the public hearings	Sent: December 17, 2020	
Follow-up on the public hearings on the Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining project	Luc Lainé COMEX	Guy Côté Hydro-Québec	Follow-up on the public hearings for the Rose Lithium-Tantalum public hearings	Sent: December 17, 2020	
Iron-vanadium mining project, BlackRock Metals Inc. (BRM) Ref. No.: 3214-14-050	Luc Lainé COMEX	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Application to amend the global certificate of authorization Follow-up on condition 22 of the amendment dated April 11, 2019 Questions and comments	Sent: December 17, 2020 Acknowledgement of receipt: December 17, 2020	
New landfill site in Wemindji, Cree Nation of Wemindji Ref. No.: 3214-16-099.1	Luc Lainé COMEX	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Environmental and social impact assessment Questions and comments	Sent: December 17, 2020 Acknowledgement of receipt: December 17, 2020	
	Isaac Voyageur Regional Administrator	Deputy Chief Arden Visitor Cree Nation of Wemindji		Sent: December 17, 2020 Received by COMEX: December 17, 2020	
Fénelon mining project, Wallbridge Mining Ltd. Ref. No.: 3214-14-064	François Demers Wallbridge Mining Ltd.	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Additional information on the environmental and social impact assessment Request to suspend the review	Sent: December 17, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Luc Lainé COMEX		Sent: December 22, 2020 Received by COMEX: December 22, 2020	<i>For information</i>
Renard Diamond Project, Stornoway Diamonds (Canada) Inc. Ref. No.: 3214-14-041	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Martin Boucher Les Diamants Stornoway (Canada) inc.	Application to amend the certificate of authorization Environmental and Social Monitoring Program Amendment to the certificate of authorization	Sent: December 16, 2020 Received by COMEX: December 23, 2020	

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Project	From	To	Document	Date	Action - Comments
Construction of forest access roads "H, Section west » and "I," Matériaux Blanchet inc. Ref. No.: 3214-05-075	Michel Sigouin EACOM	Marc Croteau Deputy Minister MELCC	Application to amend the certificate of authorization Extension of forest road (Phase 2)	Sent: November 30, 2020	
	Dominique Lavoie MELCC	Luc Lainé COMEX		Sent: December 22, 2020 Received by COMEX: January 5, 2021	
	Luc Lainé COMEX	Michel Sigouin EACOM	Publication on COMEX's website Application to amend the certificate of authorization Extension of forest road (Phase 2)	Sent: January 6, 2021	
Public hearings on the Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining project	Luc Lainé COMEX	Chief Clarence Jolly Cree Nation of Nemaska	Announcement of public hearings on the Rose Lithium-Tantalum mining projects	Sent: January 20, 2021	
	Luc Lainé COMEX	Chief Kenneth Cheezo Cree Nation of Eastmain		Sent: January 20, 2021	
	Luc Lainé COMEX	Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government		Sent: January 20, 2021	