

Concerns and comments to be presented at the COMEX hearing regarding the impacts of the Whabouchi Project

Name	Freddy Jolly
In the capacity of (ex. Community member, land user, youth, etc.)	Land user
Gender	Male
Age Group (13 to 35, 36 to 64, 65 +)	36 to 64
Submission to the COMEX (in writing or verbally)	In writing and verbally
Comment/concern	Potential flooding of sedimentation basins

Description:
 What will happen if the sedimentation basins flood because of too much rain or snow? ✓

Proposed solution(s)

The sedimentation basins should be located as far away as possible from water bodies (lakes and streams)

Comment/concern	Monitoring of the pit and potential flooding
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Description:
 Once the project is finished, how long will the monitoring continue? What if the pit floods? ✓

Proposed solution(s)

Continuous monitoring and ensure that there is money to fund monitoring for many, many years after closure.

Signature: *Freddy Jolly*

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Name	Freddy Jolly
In the capacity of (ex. Community member, land user, youth, etc.)	Land user (R-21)
Gender	Male
Age Group (13 to 35, 36 to 64, 65 +)	36-64
Submission to the COMEX (in writing or verbally)	In writing / maybe verbally
Comment/concern	Impact on water quality

Description:

I am worried about water quality. How much pollution will there be? I think that the polluted water will flow into Nemaska River, Pontax River and to PK 170. Who will be monitoring the pollution in those rivers and Mountain Lake and Champion Lake? Will Hydro-Quebec continue to monitor that area? Or will it be Nemaska Lithium? Which company will take over the studying in that area? I am worried about the impact on everything that's under the water, like the fish and its food.

Allen Penn from the CRA said during the last community meeting with the federal government that there will be almost no water pollution in Mountain Lake because there is so much water in that lake and the polluted water will be diluted. But did he think about the pollution that's already in the water from the Rupert Diversion Project? I am sure that the water is already affected, although I never saw the water testing results. I think Hydro Quebec doesn't want to show us those results. And 25 years of pollution going into our lakes, rivers and streams is a long time, even if they say it's only small amounts.

Proposed solution(s)

I want the community to be involved in the water monitoring process. Also, the results of the water testing should be made available to the public so that everyone can see the results.

Comment/concern	Integration of Cree knowledge in the baseline environmental and social impact studies
<p>Description:</p> <p>The way that I feel about the scientists from down south, CRA people like Allan Penn, and even the COMEX, is that they're trying to brainwash the Cree people with their science. The same thing happened with Hydro-Quebec and the Rupert Diversion Project. I don't see enough evidence of the scientists using our traditional knowledge, especially on the environmental studies. It's like they're pushing away our knowledge of the land with these studies that they're doing. I was a tallyman for 19 years. I have experienced a lot of these development projects and their studies. As a hunter, trapper, and fisherman, I do not believe the scientist. They do not live on the land and so they have no real experience out there in the bush. Our elders are the true scientists. The knowledge that the elders have is passed down to the hunters, trappers and fishermen.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Proposed solution(s)</p> <p>I want to see more of our traditional knowledge used for the environmental studies. That means more land users should be involved in collecting baseline data on the environment.</p>	
Comment/concern	Did Nemaska Lithium conduct further studies on the new impacted area (regarding the new project design)?
<p>Description:</p> <p>I have a question about the new project design. I want to know if there were studies done on the new impacted area. That area where the waste rock and tailings pile will be moved, on the north side, there are two small lakes and small creeks that join to the east side of the mine where there is a bigger lake. From there a river joins down to Mountain Lake. I am worried about Mountain Lake, Nemiscau River, and Pontax River that flows into Champion Lake.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Proposed solution(s)</p> <p>Make the results of the environmental studies on the new impacted area available to the public so that we can see what the impacts on the new water bodies will be like.</p>	

Comment/concern	Mercury levels in Spodumene Lake
<p>Description:</p> <p>Also, I heard that Nemaska Lithium said in one of its reports that Spodumene Lake has high level of mercury. Is it because of the drilling and blasting that they've been doing since 2010? Did Nemaska Lithium pollute the land in that area before it began the environmental studies?</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Proposed solution(s)</p> <p>Make the water testing results for Spodumene Lake available to the public and explained in a way that we can understand. I would like to see the results showing before and after they started drilling to see changes in water quality.</p>	
Comment/concern	Impact of explosive residues on water and land
<p>Description:</p> <p>What about the explosive residues that could land in the water? What is in those explosives? When I met with Daniel Greene (Société pour Vaincre la Pollution) two years ago he was talking about ammonium nitrate from the dynamite and how it could impact the water. Did Nemaska Lithium do studies on that?</p> <p>And what about other types of residues that fall in the water and on the land? Like the plants and blueberries that grow near the mining site, we won't be able to eat those anymore. Just like when Hydro-Quebec told us not to eat the blueberries that grow near the power lines.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Proposed solution(s)</p> <p>Use something to cover over the blasting area to minimize the spread of airborne particles like explosive residues and mineral dust.</p>	
Comment/concern	Health impacts of drilling and blasting
<p>Description:</p> <p>I am sure that the dust from the drilling and blasting and also the increased traffic will impact the air and land nearby. It will affect workers' health. People who work in the mine will get sick.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Proposed solution(s)</p> <p>Provide information on the health impacts of open pit mining on workers</p>	

Comment/concern	What does the labour market in Nemaska look like?
<p>Description:</p> <p>I think that the Crees will do most of what is considered as labour work like removing the topsoil on the construction site and janitorial and catering jobs. The rest of the jobs will be for experts from the south. I don't think that the Crees have enough training and work experience to work all those 25 years in the mine.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Proposed solution(s)</p> <p>We need to study the labour market in Nemaska, and we need to start this now. We have to be honest with ourselves about the potential job opportunities at the mine, especially concerning the youth. We need to speed up the training programs in our community and get more people ready (even if the project does not go through, we need more education and training opportunities).</p>	
Comment/concern	Labour protection of Cree workers at the mine
<p>Description:</p> <p>Wemindji workers got laid off from Tawich Construction at the Eleonore site a few months ago. How come they weren't protected from being laid off? In the Chinuchi Agreement that we signed, who will we hire to represent the Nemaska Cree workers? We have to avoid repeating the type of mistakes like the ones that happened at Eleonore.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Proposed solution(s)</p> <p>Make sure that the committee members chosen to represent Cree workers are serious and experienced individuals.</p>	
Comment/concern	Distribution of benefits
<p>Description:</p> <p>The people that live on the land are the ones that are most impacted. Those that will make money from this project are the CRA, Band Council and shareholders.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Proposed solution(s)</p> <p>Each member of the community should receive free shares. That would make it fair for everyone.</p>	

Comment/concern	The Chinuchi Agreement does not represent the community of Nemaska
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Description:

I believe that the Chinuchi Agreement is not a real agreement because community members did not vote on this project. Most of us are not even well informed about this project. Because of this, the Crees will still be the same people in the future because we do not know how to help each other. We don't know each other because our leaders are splitting the Cree Nation. There is no honesty. The governments need money and that's why we agree to these projects, to pay our bills. Is this what you call agreement? All the agreements that the Crees sign, it's just for the money because we have no education. We only look at the money. We are all going to be stupid Indians in years to come.

Proposed solution(s)

Every agreement and proposed resource development project should from now on prioritize community consultation from the very beginning of the negotiation process. The Cree Nation of Nemaska leadership needs to show transparency and good will towards its members.

We also have to find a way to better educate the community. Nemaska has already gone through this process with the Rupert Diversion project, but we still lack education on how these development projects work.

The Cree leadership has to find other ways of making money, not just with resource development projects. How much land do we have to destroy? Will this ever stop?

Signature: *Freddy Jolly*