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Kativik environmental quality commission
Commission de la qualité de l'environnement Kativik

MINUTES

OF THE

275th meeting

April 19, 2023

Videoconference

ADOPTED

Meeting summary

The 275th meeting was held by videoconference on April 19, 2023.

Present: Pierre Philie David Annanack
Daniel Berrouard Charlie Arngak
Cynthia Marchildon
Thérèse Spiegele
Murielle Vachon

Executive Secretary: Florian Olivier

PROJECTS AND OTHER MATTERS

DISCUSSIONS OR DECISIONS

Project of widening and replacement of guardrails on the access road to Quaqtaq's airport by MTQ (3215-07-010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Commission decided not to submit the project to the environmental and social impact assessment procedure.
Project to Deploy Two Wind Turbines with a Battery Energy Storage System at the Nunavik Nickel Mine, by Tugliq Energy in partnership with Canadian Royalties Inc. (3215-10-016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• After examining the preliminary information, the Commission decided to sent the proponent a series of questions and comments

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Correspondence

Follow-up of the correspondence can be found in Appendix B of this document

3. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting 274

Minutes adopted

NEW DOSSIERS

4. Expansion of the Existing Quarry as part of a Resurfacing Project of the Kuujjuarapik Airport Runway by the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité Durable (3215-03-012)

4.1. Request of exemption – preliminary information

Task: For discussion, decision

The works planned for this expansion are in line with MTMD's direction to improve airport services and ensure user safety. All airports in Nunavik under the MTMD's jurisdiction have a gravel runway. Recurrent maintenance at these airports includes resurfacing aircraft manoeuvring areas with granular material approximately every 10 years. In addition, in Nunavik, the MTMD makes the quarries under its responsibility available to third parties, in order to meet community needs. In Kuujjuarapik, the community wishes to obtain supplies from the quarry involved in this project as soon as possible. To meet the needs of the community and MTMD in the coming years, the quarry must therefore be expanded.

The needs for the next resurfacing are estimated at 30,000 m³, corresponding to the net volume remaining in the current quarry (30,739 m³). The desired expansion will make it possible to produce materials for short-term needs, but also for future community projects, as well as the multi-year maintenance of the airstrip and access road.

The area of the proposed quarry and expansion is a rock outcrop and the suggested boundaries are further than 30 m from wetlands and water bodies.

Finally, the quarry is adjacent to Kanajuk Avenue and therefore no access road will have to be built. This is a main road, suitable for truck traffic.

Considering that the works will be carried out in an already disturbed area and considering the priority use of the airport for the needs of local communities, the project is deemed acceptable from an environmental and social standpoint.

The Commission decided not to submit the project to the environmental and social impact assessment procedure.

Action: send a letter to the Administrator: exemption

5. Project to Build a New Access Road in the Northern Village of Aupaluk, by Hydro Québec (3215-05-010)

5.1. Request of exemption – preliminary information

Task: For discussion, decision

The current site of the Aupaluk thermal generating station is inadequate to meet the Northern Village's future operating needs. In addition, its configuration has several problems and limitations. Its geographical location makes it difficult, if not impossible, to carry out the growth projects that will be required in the future to operate this plant. Located near the bay, it will also be more prone to the effects of climate change, which pose a risk to the facility's longevity.

Thus, Hydro-Québec projects the construction of a new 1,975 kW thermal power plant. Scheduled to be commissioned in early 2027, this plant will enable Hydro-Québec to supply the Northern Village of Aupaluk in electricity. The access road will connect the site of the future power plant to the existing road network.

The project involves the construction of an access road from the site of the new Aupaluk generating station, which will be commissioned in early 2027, to an existing service road. The length of the road will be approximately 300 m and the surface will have an average width of 7 m. The right-of-way will be 8.8 m with shoulders. Some grading work will be required for construction. The granular material required for the construction of the access road would come from a quarry or borrow pit located approximately 1 km west of the work site.

After analysis of the preliminary information and discussion, the Commission decided it needed more information in order to render a decision on the submission of the project to the environmental and social impact assessment and review procedure. Thus, the Commission decided to address the proponent the following series of questions and comments:

- QC -1.** The proponent mentioned that an ecological characterization study was conducted in late 2022 and early 2023 and that a waterway would potentially be affected by the works. However, no additional information was presented regarding this characterization. These details will be necessary to complete the analysis of this project's impacts. Thus, the Commission asks the proponent to file the environmental characterization.
- QC -2.** The proponent indicated that the materials required to build the access road would come from a quarry or borrow pit located approximately 1 km west of the work site. The Commission asks the proponent to indicate whether these operations will be new as well as their size, whether they have been authorized, and the current owner(s), if any. A map showing the location of these operations must be provided.
- QC -3.** The proponent mentioned that the Aupaluk Landholding Corporation adopted a resolution approving the choice of the site that has been recommended for the construction of the new thermal power plant, including the construction of an access road. The Commission asks the proponent to file this study.

Action: send a letter to the Administrator: questions and comments

6. Varia

6.1. Mineral exploration

Members discussed mineral exploration in Nunavik and Labrador. David Annanack and Charlie Arngak shared their concerns about mineral exploration and felt that communities should be more involved and informed about it. Cynthia Marchildon will share information on this issue from the Salluit 2023 mining forum. The Commission decided to contact Makivvik to discuss the matter.

7. Next meetings

Next meeting will be held by videoconference on May 23, 2023.

DOSSIERS UNDER ANALYSIS

Environmental monitoring report 2021 Raglan Mine Project, phases II and III by Glencore (3215-14-019)

Environmental and social monitoring report 2020, direct shipping ore project, project « 2a » (Goodwood) by Tata Steel Minerals Canada, (3215-14-014)

Raglan Mine Project, phases II and III by Glencore – follow up to conditions 1 and 3 of the certificate of authorization of July 11, 2017 (3215-14-019)

Raglan Mine Project, phases II and III by Glencore - follow up to conditions 4 of the certificate of authorization of July 11, 2017 (3215-14-019)

Nunavik Nickel Project by Canadian Royalties Inc. Annual report (3215-14-007)

Nunavik Nickel Project by Canadian Royalties Inc. Phase 2b Delta (3215-14-007)

Nunavik Nickel Project by Canadian Royalties Inc. Underground mining of the Méquillon deposit and new mining infrastructures at the Ivakkak Site	MELCCFP to KEQC	follow up of the conditions of the CA	rec'd March 27, 2023		
Underground Mining of the Mesamax Deposit, Expansion of the Mesamax Waste-rock Stockpile, Operation of the Expo Quarries 2 and 2b, Operation of Esker 2b and Construction of Two Helipads	MELCCFP to KEQC	Complementary information (answers to the Q&C)	rec'd March 28, 2023		
Innavik Hydroelectric Power Project in Inukjuak	MELCC to proponent	Follow up on condition 4 of the CA of August 29, 2019	rec'd Mar.31, 2023		
Innavik Hydroelectric Power Project in Inukjuak	KEQC to MELCCFP	Follow up on condition 13 of the CA of August 29, 2019	rec'd Mar.31, 2023		