



**MINUTES FROM THE CONFERENCE CALL ON MARCH 14, 2013
(ADOPTED)**

PRESENT:

Kativik Regional Government (KRG) appointee Michael Barrett

Government of Canada appointees

Claude Abel
Thessa Girard-Bourgoïn, Vice-Chairperson

Gouvernement du Québec appointees

Paule Halley
Sylvie Létourneau, Chairperson
Vacant

Executive Secretary

Stephanie Benoit

Environmental Analyst

Nancy Dea

ABSENT:

Adamie Kalingo, KRG appointee
Betsy Palliser, KRG appointee
Gilles H. Tremblay, Government of Canada appointee

OBSERVER:

Benjamin Patenaude

On March 14, 2013, the Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee (KEAC) held a conference call to discuss the remaining agenda topics from the 135th meeting.

1. Mining Activities

- a) Draft Regulation to amend the *Regulation respecting Mineral Substances, Other Than Petroleum, Natural Gas and Brine*

On February 7, 2013, Martine Ouellet, Minister of Natural Resources, announced the publication of a draft regulation to amend the *Regulation respecting Mineral Substances, Other Than Petroleum, Natural Gas and Brine*. The amendments in particular would ensure that mining companies provide a deposit before a project is approved to cover 100% of the costs for site restoration and for the first years of operations. The current regulation stipulates that companies are only required to cover 70% of these costs. The members expressed their approval of these amendments.

- b) Mining Exploration on Category I and Adjacent Lands

At the 134th meeting of the KEAC, the environmental analyst was asked to determine if the topic of mineral exploration on Category I and adjacent lands had been included in past KEAC briefs. The environmental analyst reported that the most relevant KEAC brief was a 2007 document regarding mining transportation infrastructure development in Nunavik. In this brief, the KEAC made recommendations with regards to the kinds of projects to be included in or omitted from environmental and social impact assessment and review under schedules 1 and 2 of Section 23 of the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement* (JBNQA). No reference was however made to the provisions contained in Section 7.1.12 b) of the JBNQA that refer to mineral exploration on Category I and adjacent lands.

A member pointed out that it appears the provisions contained in Section 7 are not being communicated to project proponents nor are they being applied systematically. This is critical as, at present, there is an increasing amount of mineral exploration activity in Nunavik, some of which may be occurring close to villages. The members agreed to draft a letter to the deputy minister for the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement, de la Faune et des Parcs (sustainable development, environment, wildlife and parks, MDDEFP) regarding the application of Section 23 of the JBNQA for mining projects on or adjacent to Category I lands.

- c) MDDEFP Certificate of Authorization – Tata Steel Minerals Canada Ltd.

The KEAC was informed that, on January 11, 2013, the MDDEFP issued a certificate of authorization to Tata Steel Minerals Canada Ltd. for its direct-shipping iron-ore mining project (Project 2A) near Schefferville. A member indicated that, further to the conditions contained in the certificate of authorization, an environmental monitoring committee made up of representatives of the mining company and the KRG had been set up. It was noted that this is the first time such a committee has been set up in Nunavik and could set a precedence for future projects in the region.

A member also pointed out that, at present, the mining company has not entered into talks with the Makivik Corporation to negotiate an impacts and benefits agreement for Nunavik Inuit.

2. Environmental Assessment Pamphlet

At the 135th meeting of the KEAC, the members discussed the possibility of developing a training program for Nunavik Inuit regarding the different environmental assessment and public consultation procedures applicable in the region. The environmental analyst asked the members if a pamphlet-type guide should be developed to complement the training program. The members requested that the environmental analyst prepare a pamphlet prototype in collaboration with a consultant and obtain a quote for total production costs for the next KEAC meeting.

3. 136th Meeting of the KEAC

The members discussed logistical aspects of the 136th meeting to be held in Umiujaq from June 17 to 21, 2013.



Benjamin Patenaude
Executive Secretary
January 20, 2014