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COMMISSION DE LA QUALITÉ DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT KATIVIK
KATIVIK ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

171ST MEETING

Montreal
November 20, 2008

STATUS: (ADOPTED)

Minutes of proceedings of the 171st meeting of the KEQC held in Montreal on November 20, 2008.

PRESENTS: Peter Jacobs, Chairman
Daniel Berrouard, Québec
Mireille Paul, Québec
Pierre-Michel Fontaine, Québec
Putulik Papigatuk, KRG
David Okpik, KRG
Eli Aullaluk, KRG
Joseph Annahatak, KRG
Édith van de Walle, Québec

OTHERS: Stéphane Cossette, MDDEP
Lorraine Brooke, KRG consultant
Scott Heyes, University of Melbourne
Martin Tremblay, Executive Secretary

The KEQC held its 171st meeting in Montreal on November 20, 2008. The members met with KRG consultant Lorraine Brooke and Stéphane Cossette of the MDDEP to discuss the environmental and social impact study for the Tursujuq national park project. Subsequently, the members followed up on files from their last meeting and they completed their review of ongoing projects. The KEQC's next meeting is scheduled to take place in January 2009 in Kuujjuaq.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the 169th and 170th meetings

The minutes of proceedings of the 169th and 170th meetings were adopted.

3. Main points of the last meeting

a) Modification of a mining pit at Donaldson, Xstrata Nickel: The KEQC's decision was transmitted by letter to the Administrator.

b) Landing strip expansion and quarrying at Puvirnituk, MTQ: The KEQC's decision was transmitted by letter to the Administrator.

4. Tursujuq national park project, MDDEP and KRG

The public consultations scheduled for the communities of Whapmagoostui, Kuujjuaraapik and Umiujaq between November 19 and 21, 2008, were postponed to an undetermined date due to a last-minute announcement by major stakeholders from Umiujaq that they could not be present. KRG consultant Lorraine Brooke and Stéphane Cossette of the MDDEP presented the final version of the environmental and social impact study for the Tursujuq national park project. Ms. Brooke and Mr. Cossette discussed in particular the main issues related to the use of Inuit and Cree harvesting areas, the boundaries of the park project, relations between Inuit and Cree, expected economic spin-offs, the planning and decision-making mechanism, community infrastructure and services, and opportunities that will be generated for youth. Mitigation and support measures to respond to these issues were also presented. Ms. Brooke and Mr. Cossette also tabled an assessment of the expected economic spin-offs of the park project.

Action: The members agreed to analyze the environmental and social impact study and the economic spin-off assessment for the Tursujuq national park project. Questions related to these new documents could be transmitted to the Administrator. Subsequently, the KEQC will decide whether or not it is still necessary to conduct the public consultations that had been planned.

5. Xstrata-Nickel

a) Environmental monitoring report for 2007: Having reviewed the report, the KEQC deemed the document to be satisfactory.

Action: None.

b) Information purposes, Xstrata's brief concerning the KEQC decision on the Nunavik Nickel project.

Action: No immediate action was required. Notwithstanding, acknowledgement of receipts will now be returned to any individual or organization that transmits correspondence to the KEQC.

c) Deception Bay fish habitat compensation plan: The Deception Bay fish habitat compensation plan is intended to compensate for the loss of habitat that resulted from the wharf construction carried out by Xstrata Nickel in 2007. The compensation plan includes the repairing of damaged culverts on a tributary of the Deception River and the creation of spawning habitats for arctic char by placing materials conducive to spawning in areas where the substrate is currently not suitable for this purpose. In particular, the project proposes to restore and improve former access by arctic char to the network of creeks and ponds connected to the Deception River system. According to one KEQC member, the selected sector is not suitable for the proposed project. To complete its analysis, the KEQC will request additional information. The proponent will be asked to justify the area selected for the arctic char habitat compensation plan, describing in particular the area's capacity to receive the proposed project.

Action: A letter concerning the KEQC's request for additional information will be transmitted to the Administrator.

6. Bridge construction at Kangiqsujuaq, KRG

The KEQC was informed of a bridge construction project planned by the KRG for the Northern Village of Kangiqsujuaq. The bridge will be located in the eastern part of the village and will improve circulation on both sides of the creek. The KEQC decided that the project should be exempt from an environmental and social impact study.

Action: A letter concerning the KEQC's decision will be transmitted to the Administrator.

7. KEQC communications strategy

In order to keep the general public in Nunavik informed of the projects under study by the KEQC, to enhance public involvement in the assessment of these projects, and to provide follow-up on decisions, the KEQC drafted a communications strategy. The strategy was approved by the members.

Action: The communications strategy will be posted on the KEQC's website.

8. KEQC report, update

An initial draft of the KEQC report was presented to the members. It was agreed that Scott Heyes would be hired to complete the final layout. It was also agreed that the deadline for any final modifications to the report would December 5.

Action: If they have not already done so, each member will provide their input prior to December 5.

9. KEQC secretariat

Martin Tremblay will resign from his position of executive secretary on December 19, 2008. The members agreed that the executive secretary position at the KEQC and at the KEAC should ideally be held by one individual. The main duties of the executive secretary should be focussed on scientific expertise and not on logistical duties such as making flight and hotel reservations, etc. The members agreed that a part-time administrative secretary should be hired by the two organizations to handle meeting and public consultation planning. In the meantime, the KEQC secretariat will need to be temporarily operated by the KRG or the MDDEP. Mr. Tremblay accepted to continue to be responsible for the preparation of meeting agendas and minutes of proceedings until March 31, 2009.

Action: A letter concerning this situation will be transmitted to the Administrator.

10. Varia

None.

11. Next meeting

It was agreed that the KEQC's next meeting would be held in Kuujuaq in January 2009.



Martin Tremblay
Executive Secretary
Kativik Environmental Quality Commission
November 28, 2008

Meeting 171st – 171^e réunion

November 20, 2008 – 20 novembre 2008

9:00 a.m.

Address – Adresse
Montreal (downtown):
“Bateau Mouche” Room
Hôtel Maritime Plaza
1155 Guy St.

Agenda – Ordre du jour

1. Adoption of the agenda – Adoption de l’ordre de jour
2. Adoption of the minutes of the 169th and 170th meetings – Adoption des comptes rendus des 169^e et 170^e réunions
3. Main points of the last meeting – Principaux points de la dernière réunion
 - a) Modification of a mining pit at Donaldson, Xstrata Nickel – Modification d’une fosse à Donaldson, Xstrata Nickel
 - b) Landing strip expansion and quarrying at Puvirnituk, MTQ – Agrandissement de la piste d’atterrissage et exploitation de carrières à Puvirnituk, MTQ
4. Tursujuq national park project, MDDEP and KRG – Projets de parc Tursujuq, MDDEP et ARK
5. Xstrata Nickel
 - c) Environmental monitoring report for 2007 – Rapport de surveillance environnementale 2007
 - d) Information purposes, Xstrata’s brief concerning the KEQC decision on the Nunavik Nickel project – Pour information, le mémoire d’Xstrata concernant la décision de la CQEK pour le projet Nunavik Nickel
 - e) Deception Bay fish habitat compensation plan – Plan de compensation pour l’habitat du poisson à Baie Déception
6. Bridge construction at Kangiqsujuaq, KRG – Construction d’un pont à Kangiqsujuaq, ARK
7. KEQC communication strategy – La stratégie de communication de la Commission
8. KEQC report, update – Mise à jour du rapport de la Commission
9. KEQC secretariat – Secrétariat de la Commission
10. Varia – Varia
11. Next meeting – Prochaine réunion