

Environmental Assessment

The **Joint Assessment Committee** (the Committee) was created in 2019 to complete an environmental assessment of this project. Committee members were appointed by the Cree Nation Government and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada. The Committee has completed its assessment and has consolidated findings in a draft report.

The purpose of the Report is to summarize the information gathered by the proponent, and present the Committee's analysis of that information. Importantly, the Report considers the project's potential to cause significant adverse environmental effects (as defined in the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*). The Report is based on the opinions of federal experts as well as consultations with Cree communities (conducted in 2019 and 2020). After analyzing various components, the Committee reached conclusions about the project's potential effects and the proponent's mitigation measures (methods to avoid or reduce negative effects). A draft of this report was published on March 17, 2021, and it now requires the review of Cree Nations and the public.

Objectives of the consultation sessions

- Present the conclusions of the Report
- Explain the potential conditions that the proponent will have to respect if the project is authorized
- Enable members of Cree Nations to ask the Committee and federal experts questions about the Report and potential conditions
- Collect community feedback on these documents

Community feedback will be used to adjust and finalize the Report and potential conditions before they go to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change for decision-making on the project.

How to participate

You can submit **written comments** on the Report and potential conditions. **Deadline: May 28, 2021**

- Use the "Submit a comment" feature on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry at www.canada.ca/ciar (Project Reference Number: 80005).
- Send an e-mail to the Agency at iaac.minerose-rosemine.aeic@canada.ca.
- Submit your comments by mail: 901-1550 d'Estimauville Ave, Québec, QC, G1J 0C1

You can also provide feedback during **virtual information sessions** to come. During an information session, you can express your comments orally or type comments in the chat box.

This is the fourth and final public comment period for the environmental assessment of this project.

Guiding topics

The Committee would like to know your thoughts on the Report. In particular, we would like to know if you consider that the effects are properly detailed, and the mitigation measures are sufficient for these components:

- Fish and fish habitat, migratory birds, and species at risk (see chapters 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3)
- Cree land use (see chapter 6.1)
- Cree health (see chapter 6.2)
- Cree cultural and natural heritage (see chapter 6.3)
- Socio-economic effects related to a change in the environment (see chapter 6.4)
- Cree rights as per the *James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement* (see chapter 8)

Your comments and suggestions about ways to avoid or reduce the negative effects of the project are welcome. They will assist us in drafting the final report.

Next steps: Following the comment period, the Committee will use the feedback of Cree Nations and the public to prepare the final report and potential conditions. The Minister will use these documents to inform his decision on whether the project can proceed.