

**BUREAU D’AUDIENCES PUBLIQUES
SUR L’ENVIRONNEMENT**

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 Mme GISÈLE GALLICHAN, commissaire
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 Mme PAULE HALLEY, commissaire

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AU QUÉBEC**

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MOT DU PRÉSIDENT

LE PRÉSIDENT :

5 Si vous voulez prendre place, nous allons commencer s'il vous plaît. Reprise de l'audience publique sur la gestion de l'eau au Québec.

Your have this kind of thing if you want to, just remind to put on the table when -

10 J'ai le plaisir de vous accueillir à cette rencontre d'audience publique sur la gestion de l'eau au Québec. Comme vous le voyez, c'est une rencontre conjointe de la Commission responsable de l'enquête et de l'audience au Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement, et d'un groupe de trois personnes du Comité consultatif de l'environnement Kativik.

15 Pourquoi nous travaillons d'une manière conjointe, parce que le bureau d'audience a reçu mandat de tenir audience sur l'ensemble de la question de la gestion de l'eau au Québec, mais il y a aussi une Convention de la Baie James et du nord québécois qui prévoit des modes de consultations particulières pour les peuples, les nations situées sur le territoire, donc avec les Cris d'un côté et avec les Inuit de l'autre.

20 Dès le départ de la Commission, la Commission du Bureau d'audiences a rencontré le Conseil consultatif pour l'environnement de la Baie James pour la partie crie et le Comité consultatif de l'environnement Kativik pour la partie inuite pour établir des formes de collaboration.

25 Nous avons convenu d'abord d'une forme de collaboration pour la première partie de l'audience, ce qui a amené le groupe que vous voyez ici, à une ou deux personnes près, à visiter deux communautés sur le territoire, à savoir Kuujjuak et Kuujjuarapik.

30 Pour la seconde partie des mémoires, nous avons décidé de poursuivre l'expérience et d'auditionner les mémoires venant de la communauté d'une manière conjointe. Cette façon de collaborer nous a semblé la plus intelligente et la meilleure permettant à la fois de respecter la juridiction et la spécificité de chaque instance, le Bureau d'audiences de son côté et le Comité consultatif de l'environnement Kativik de l'autre, et en même temps de faire une économie de démarches et de recherches communes. Nous verrons après l'expérience si c'était la meilleure

35 manière de faire mais dans l'état de nos réflexions, nous pensions que c'était une bonne façon raisonnable d'agir. Je remercie d'une manière particulière les gens qui ont aujourd'hui accepté de venir présenter le mémoire à Montréal et qui auraient peut-être préféré que le mémoire soit présenté sur le territoire. Je vous remercie d'être venu.

40 Pour le déroulement de l'assemblée, je voudrais juste vous identifier les personnes qui sont au service de l'assemblée. Alors à la sténotypie, madame Lise Maisonneuve; au soutien technique, monsieur Daniel Moisan et Georges Leclerc; à l'arrière à l'accueil, monsieur Serge Labrecque, agent d'information, la coordonnatrice du secrétariat, madame Anne-Marie Gaulin,

45 et notre analyste, monsieur René Beaudet. Je signale qu'il y a de la traduction, donc deux personnes sont à la traduction, madame Monayem et madame Beaulne.

Pour le déroulement de cet après-midi, essentiellement, il y aura un mémoire. Il y aura donc une présentation du mémoire et ensuite des questions qui seront posées par les différents commissaires. Je pense que l'idée est d'essayer de comprendre le mieux possible la situation
50 qui est exposée et de voir ensemble les meilleures solutions ainsi que les meilleures pistes d'une politique de l'eau qui tiennent compte à la fois des institutions en place et de la particularité du territoire.

55 I made the first introduction as the President of the Commission of the BAPE. I will ask to Tom Grey to make his own introduction. Mr. Grey, please.

MR. TOMMY GREY, Chairman:

60 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to say thank you very much for having us here to participate with you when you hear the public hearing. I will say a few things like: since I am the Chairman of the Kativik Environment Advisory Committee, what our mandate is. I should have this memorized by now but since I don't but I'll read on a piece of paper. So bear with me.

65 Oversees administration and management of environmental and social protection regime established by Section 23 of the James Bay North and Quebec agreement.

Advise the responsible government of major issues respecting the implementation of the environmental and social protection and land use regimes.

70 Ensure efficient operation of environmental and social impact, assessment and review procedures (hereinafter referred to as the "assessment of review procedure").

75 Recommend changes to environmental and social impact assessment and review procedure or examine changes proposed by third parties.

Advise responsible government and the KRG during the formulation of amendment of the environmental and social laws, regulation and policies as well as land use regulations and procedures.

80 Review laws, regulation policies and administration procedures dealing with the environmental and social milieu and land use.

85 This is as a committee, we are three representatives from Kativik Regional Government and we have three representatives from the Provincial Government and three from the Federal Government. And also the Committee may provide also technical assistance and municipal corporation in KRG.

90 Our management plans for crown forests and forest operations must be submitted to the Committee for its consideration and commitments before they are approved.

95 All Committee decisions and recommendations are communicated to the government of Quebec and Canada and local and regional administration concerned for their attention, information and for appropriate action.

100 This is our mandate as Advisory Committee. I would just like to say that as Chairman, I have a colleague who is a representative from the Quebec Government and also I have one on the right and also a colleague who is a representative from the Federal Government. I think that my speech ends. Back to you.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

105 Thank you Tommy. Just to understand who is who at the here: from Kativik, Mr. Tom Grey, Mr. Yves Désilets et madame Marie-Paule Halley. And from the BAPE, monsieur Camille Genest et madame Gisèle Gallichan et moi-même.

So, I am very proud to invite the Kativik Regional Government and Makivik Corporation to give their briefs, please.

110 **MARK T. GORDON:**

Hi gentlemen, I'll go first. My name is Mark Gordon.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

115 Mark Gordon?

MARK T. GORDON:

120 Vice-President of Makivik Corporation. I'm from the Community of Quaqtaq. We had submitted some comments to you several weeks ago when you were in Quaqtaq so we are following up with the written submission that we presented plus our comments will be only a summary of what we have given you.

125 Naturally, water is very important source in our area in terms of it being a natural resource and when we have our very few natural resources that we can take advantage of, it certainly is a very important one.

130 This brief is submitted jointly by the Kativik Regional Government (KRG) and Makivik Corporation. These two organizations represent, each with its own mandate, the interests of Nunavik, the region that lies north of the 55th parallel in Quebec. While you may regard that as northern Quebec but for us we call it Nunavik.

Our fourteen communities are in that region.

Allow us to first reaffirm that the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement is a treaty protected under Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution, which confirms the rights of Nunavik Inuit to land and resources north of the 55th parallel in Quebec. Water being one of the main resources, the Inuit consider that their constitutional consent is a prerequisite to any significant government decisions regarding Nunavik water resources.

It should also be noted that Section 23 of the James Bay North Quebec Agreement provides for the Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee, which as stipulated in Section 23.5.24. In part it reads: "(...) shall be a consultative body to responsible governments and as such shall be the preferential and official forum for responsible governments in the Region concerning their involvement in the formulation of laws and regulations relating to the Environmental and Social Protection Regime (...)".

Consequently, the present consultation should have been carried out in Nunavik under the responsibility of the Advisory Committee. The marginal involvement of the Advisory Committee in this process is diminishing the role of the committee established by treaty and leaves out Inuit and non-Inuit expertise on 30% of the Quebec land mass.

This marginalization is obvious in the Public Consultation Document which focuses on southern Quebec, and in the Regional Water-Resources Profile, which fails to mention major rivers in Nunavik, such as the Povungnituk and Deception Rivers.

These documents also put Nunavik in the so called Region 10. Such labelling does not reflect the social, political and economic reality of Nunavik. It lumps together the areas that have little in common with our region and that fall under different jurisdictions. When we mention Region 10, this is the region north of the 55th which we call Nunavik, the James Bay area. An area such as Radisson, LG-2, and the nearby communities. Yet, the JBNQA is very clear on this matter: the Kativik Regional Government have jurisdiction over the territory north of the 55th parallel. Moreover, on November 5th 1999, the Inuit signed an accord with Quebec and the federal government concerning the creation of a commission on the establishment of a Nunavik self-government, not a Region 10 self-government.

Nevertheless, we believe that the work of the Commission on Water Management in Quebec is important not only to the Inuit but to the population of Quebec as a whole. Consequently, we decided to submit this brief to you, to express our views on this matter.

I'll just mention briefly what Nunavik is. Nunavik covers the region north of the 55th parallel in Quebec with a surface area of 500,164.15 km². It is bordered by Labrador, Hudson Bay, Hudson Strait and Ungava Bay. We have fourteen Inuit communities in Nunavik with a population totalling almost 9,420 which is probably growing at a rate 2.6% per year. The Inuit population is very young, 41% of them being under 15 years of age. There are no roads in

180 Nunavik outside the villages. We have not any road connection to the south. The communities are linked to southern Quebec by air year round and by sea during the summer. Communities are linked to one another by air transport provided by an Inuit-owned airline, as well as by snowmobile in winter and boat by summer.

185 The James Bay and Northern Quebec agreement was signed in 1975. It was considered the first modern land claims agreement in Canada. It is a treaty within the terms of the Canadian Constitution, and serves as an economic, political and legal framework for the James Bay and Nunavik territories. The Kativik Regional Government was incorporated in 1978. It provides technical assistance in a variety of fields to Nunavik municipalities and exercises municipal powers over lands where there are no legally-constituted northern village corporations.

190 Created in 1978, Makivik represents the Inuit with all respects on all matters relating to their social, cultural, economic and political rights, including treaty amendments and negotiations, environmental impact assessments, negotiation of impact and benefit agreements, social and environmental research, renewable resources development and a various local and regional economic development activities.

195 The JBNQA agreement defines the context for discussions with governments and development promoters. With this tool, the Nunavik Inuit can play a major role in the economic and social development of their territory, in the protection of its environment and the management of its renewable and non-renewable resources.

200 Let us now turn to the subject of water resources in Nunavik. We will first reveal the state of the drinking and waste water in the various communities. Then we will discuss sustainable government for the region and thirdly we will put forward recommendations in that alleviating problems and achieve sustainable government in Nunavik and I'll have Johnny go through these sections. Nakurmik.

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

Nakurmik Mark, thank you. Mark, I would like to take this opportunity as well to thank the Commission for giving us the opportunity to present our views and recommendations. So, I start where Mark took off and I will start with the drinking water called the analysis.

At the moment under the testing and analysis program, the drinking water monitoring program in Nunavik has many irritants, several of which flow from current regulations that do not take into account the northern reality. For instance, weather conditions and transport constraints are such that, too often, water samples cannot reach the lab within the prescribed 48 hours. And if they are in transport more than 48 hours, the samples are rejected when they reach - finally reach the lab and our Regional government has no choice in this case to be on the safe side to give a notice to boil their water. And the current monitoring program is not doing the work it is suppose to do.

And in fact, not only are the current regulations inadequate to protect the health of northern village residents, they also undermine the confidence of the population in the quality of drinking water being delivered to them. Because of the extreme weather conditions, some communities have to constantly issue notices to boil water because their samples could not reach the laboratory in time. And you have been up north so you know the situation when we've got no air traffic for a couple of days, everything gets bogged down and then samples are discarded because of the time delay.

And at the present time, northern villages do not have the means at their disposal to check in a timely fashion the salubrity of their drinking water. To correct this situation, we suggest that each water plan be equipped with a Colilert system, which allows to perform 24-hour tests for total coliforms and E. Coli. This technology, approved by the United States EPA and Health Canada, is already being used in over 200 aboriginal communities in Canada. And in James Bay area, it is being used in the Cree communities, which are under federal jurisdiction and not in Nunavik because we are under provincial jurisdiction at the moment. It's not approved by the provinces, by the province of Quebec. So I'll explain a little bit more on this later.

And on the waste water treatment. The situation in Nunavik in terms of waster water treatment is dismal to say the least. Only a handful of the 14 northern villages of Nunavik have an engineered water waste treatment facility and that is usually just a hole on the ground, a lagoon and several municipalities including the largest community Kuujjuak discharge their raw sewage directly to the ground and most are just dumping at the local garbage dump.

Some municipalities went ahead and built their own sewage lagoons. Although such municipal works lack in many ways from a technical standpoint, they nevertheless remain and eloquent proof that northern villages are very concerned with the potential impact of the raw sewage on their health and their environment. So therefore, it is essential that all northern

villages in Nunavik be equipped with adequate waste water treatment facilities to protect both human and environmental health.

On sustainable development. Sustainable development of Nunavik is our goal of the 1987 United Nations World Commissions on Environment and Development - defined sustainable development as development which ensures that the use of resources and the environment today do not damage prospects for their use by future generations.

The same approach is being proposed to this Commission. The Inuit would like to be part of a decision-making process that defines the future of Nunavik rivers. On the master plan in Nunavik, the Kativik Regional Government has drawn up a Master Plan in the Kativik Region and it is the first step in a concerted management process of lands and resources, and constitutes the basis for the management of all activities in the territory.

The plan advocates a global approach adapted to the unique scope of Nunavik, to the diversity of its environment and to the sometimes divergent interests of residents and various other users. It was established through consultations with local communities, regional organizations, various other groups such as government and other public organizations. And that was done between 1991 and until last year when it was finally approved, many, many years behind schedule.

The master plan proposes the establishment of a network of protected areas and sites esteemed to be of regional interest including parks, ecological reserves, wild life sanctuaries and protected zones. This network would be comprised of areas that are important for the development or protection of biological resources that include unique landscapes representative of Nunavik or that contain remarkable, rare or endangered plant or animal species.

The Canadian Heritage Rivers Systems (CHRS) was officially created in 1984, and Quebec proposed that the Jacques-Cartier River be designated as a Heritage River in 1987. While this has not yet been done, we believe that some of the rivers in Nunavik merit the same consideration, since many of them are still in their natural and pristine state and should be protected.

Except for the Koksoak and its tributary the Caniapiscau River, which was diverted by Hydro-Quebec to create the reservoir of the same name, and the Deception River, which was dammed by Falconbridge for the Raglan mine project, few other lakes and rivers have been directly impacted by major development projects. These rivers are still being used for subsistence activities, outfitting and adventure tourism.

The Koksoak, the Caniapiscau and Deception Rivers are used for multiple purposes. This multiple-use concept is one that the Inuit are ready to study further and that could eventually be applied to certain areas of Nunavik.

Nunavik's vast river system is valued for its past and present use for Inuit subsistence activities. Given their ecological and cultural value as well as their potential for hydroelectric development, the rivers of the region should certainly be classified so as to prevent conflicts among user groups. Also, several rivers have great economic, recreational and tourism potential, particularly with respect to outfitting operations.

In short, a system combining all these categories should be developed for the rivers of the region. And with regards to mining and outfitting activities, we know there are hundreds of abandoned mining sites that are in the area. We will have a much clearer number within, hopefully within another year. An exact good idea of the number but I can say they are hundreds of sites, abandoned sites in our region which need cleaning.

Prior to this signing of the James Bay Agreement in 1975, there were a series of camps established by companies engaged in mining activities north of the 55th parallel. Most of them seem to have been operated with little or no monitoring by the government of Quebec. In many cases, when exploration activities ceased, installations and materials in isolated sites were simply abandoned. We've got many documented cases of these sites. Even with the implementation of the environmental regime and the municipal status of the Kativik Regional Government north of the 55th parallel, little or no resources have been provided for a systematic and comprehensive inspection and clean-up of old mining exploration sites.

I should elaborate further and say: no resources have been provided to the Kativik Regional Government to monitor the situation. And this problem also applies to outfitting camps. Each year, the mobile camp policy of the government authorizes each outfitter to build a maximum of 12 mobile camps for caribou hunting. And the location of these camps varies from year to year depending on migration patterns of caribou. Since 1988, when the mobile camp policy was first implemented, some 2,000 sites have been operated by various outfitters within the prescribed zone. Since no resources have been made available for inspection and monitoring activities, it is unknown whether outfitters properly clean up the camp sites at the end of the hunting season.

This doesn't happen from what we've seen in the region. There is a - many sites that have been abandoned by outfitters that were operating or either have gone bankrupt or have gone to another site and not bother cleaning up because of the cost and the fact that there is no follow up done to see if in fact these sites have been cleaned up.

I'll go to our recommendations. Our recommendations are these: on the drinking water, with respect to drinking water, we recommend that Hydro-Quebec unconditionally approve Rate G drinking water treatment plants operated in northern villages.

At the moment, I'll give you a specific example: in order to protect the water plants or the water pipelines from the lake to the water plant from freezing, we've got to provide electricity to heat the - with electrical cables to heat the pipeline.

Our water pipeline in the communities is perhaps the most vulnerable component of the water distribution system and like other components, there is no backup. For this reason, considerable effort was made to at the design and the construction stage to minimize the possibility of freezing. A constant flow is usually kept in the water line. Heat exchangers are used and heating cables turn on automatically when the water temperature falls below a set value. The current interpretations of the regulations by Hydro-Quebec representative on the use of feeding cables in northern villages in Nunavik is of a major hindrance and a concern.

Electricity in Nunavik is produced by power plants using generators, using diesel generators. A significant fraction of energy up to 65% is lost in the process of converting fuel into electricity. And so, in order to use that electricity efficiently, we're forbidden to heat our houses with electricity. So we have no alternative but to use diesel furnaces, fuel furnaces or water boilers. And Hydro-Quebec goes further by denying the general rate to municipalities when heating cables are used to protect their water pipelines and hence the water supply of the community. This introduction is based on the ground that it would contravene the Hydro-Quebec by-law number 642 establishing electricity's rates for customers of autonomous electrical systems.

In 1996, Hydro-Quebec representatives went even as far as threatening not to connect the two water plants newly-built in Ivujivik and Quaqtaq because heating cables were part of the electrical system. And the regulation, however, clearly states that the Rate G which is .07 cents per kilowatt/hour is applicable in industrial and commercial appliance, to appliances to store food which we feel water is, to us it's water, so that should apply. And in appliances used by light industry for manufacturing applications which is what water plants in Nunavik do by transforming raw watering to drinking water through a treatment process which at the moment is adding chlorine to the water. And Hydro-Quebec could however build 50 - roughly 59 cents per kilowatt/hour to municipalities if heating cables were used.

The (KRG) has contested Hydro-Quebec's interpretation on several occasions but to no avail. It is important to emphasize the fact that heating cables along municipal water pipelines are temperature-controlled; in other words, they are activated only when necessary. And it must also be understood that the use of heating cables cannot be avoided because there is simply no other technology on the market that would perform the tasks under similar conditions.

Finally, it should be stressed that the power demand for heating cables along the water lines, perhaps equivalent of 10 stoves at most, would not put undue stress on the electric grid, and that in any case, simple systems can be put in place to cut off power from electric grid and activate the generator at the water plant, if need be.

Even though, we've had recent cases to where we've been having this problem right from the beginning. Over the past number of years, water plants have been built in all the - most of the communities now, there is really now Kuujjuarapik picked to some extent and Kangiqsujaq in the northern Hudson Strait do not have water plants and we are still having this same problem with Hydro-Quebec on the electrical issue.

380 So this should be - this is one of our major recommendations that this ambiguity be
eliminated once and for all and that Hydro be asked to provide this rate to all the northern
villages, especially for water plants and that we don't - that regional government doesn't waste
time back and fourth arguing over this issue. We are talking, the most basic need that we have
385 to fight with Hydro each time we are building a new water plant.

And that, our other recommendation is that funding be provided to train water plant
operators. At the moment, after the plant is built, there is employees that are trained by the
contractor in operating the water plant, but like everywhere else, there is a turnover of personnel
390 and that there is no ongoing training. If there is a new employee, then there is no funds available
to train that person adequately.

We try and scrounge here and there to come out with a program, but there isn't a
program in place that would satisfy the communities. If a person quits or is forced or has moved
395 to another community or takes another job, then they will be - at least, the person will be trained
properly. We have had cases of some municipalities where water - the pipeline has frozen
because the person didn't have the proper clue of what was required or what the instruments
were doing in the water plant. So, I think it is very, very important that there be funds set aside,
available specifically to make sure this type of thing doesn't happen. When a water plant pipeline
400 freezes in the middle of winter it's a very very costly measure to try and melt the pipeline and the
money that would have been set aside for training can easily pay for the training that is required
to maintain it in optimum condition.

And our other recommendation is that the use of Colilert method for bacteria monitoring
of water, drinking water be approved. I think we mentioned this to you and gave an example
405 when you were in Kuujjuak. We don't, at the moment we don't know of any other system in
place that could provide what we are looking at besides the Colilert system and the municipality
would be able to do the monitoring themselves instead of waiting for a hospital in Val-D'Or or in
Kuujjuak to say your drinking water is fine, that usually happens one week later. So we could
410 have the result within 24 hours.

So this is what we would like to see as well and this would make life much easier for
everybody in the community. Just think of all the work that is involved everywhere to collect from
the water plant, from the water truck, from the house. Put it all together and sometimes if the
415 person doesn't close the sample properly, it's contaminated already, so it's of no use and like we
mentioned, if there is a weather problem, the plane can't get in, you've lost your samples. And
then if you're lucky, then you have to wait one week or more to get your result. So I don't think
anybody should be forced to live in a situation like this especially if there is technology available
to take care of that.

420 So this is our other recommendation and that a preventative maintenance and
mechanical upgrade programm be created and supported. Like I said, after the plant is built,
the municipality is given the plant and more or less told: good luck!

425 We try and help through the Kativik Regional Government, but it's usually up to the
municipality to look after all the operation and maintenance cost. We are limited, meaning the
municipalities are limited in terms of what they can do as well. When their taxation role is done,
it's more or less with a ceiling that's given to them by the government. Especially the smaller
communities don't have a lot of flexibility, in terms of putting aside money for preventative in
430 operation of water plants. Most of the money is going to delivering water and picking up sewage
and garbage. The very basic services the municipalities are providing is going to those services
and not a whole lot of preventative maintenance is done.

435 So there has to be some flexibility there that anything related to something as basic as
giving proper water to the citizens should be recognized and supported and not having to
scrounge whenever they have a problem within their water plant operation. And that the
government regulating bodies should respond faster to the emergence of new technologies. The
Colilert is a good example.

440 I won't go further than that, but it shouldn't take years to have something as simple as
this Colilert system in place in the municipalities, especially if it's being used in other parts of the
country or in another country as well. And that sufficient funding be provided to ensure the
construction of waste water facilities in all Northern villages in Nunavik.

445 We have a program in place that should alleviate some of the problems we are facing
through our infrastructure program. We initially had asked for 72 million to upgrade the water
sewage roads, dump sites in our region, but we got 45 million for the 14 municipalities over the
next 5 years to upgrade the basic systems, but we want to make sure that we are trying to do
with the funds we have but if we have problems, these funds won't be sufficient. But we would
450 like to see support from the Commission that - we are not asking for swimming pools or libraries
or recreational centres, even though we would like those as well, we are still scraping the
bottom of the barrel trying to deliver water and collect sewage and have proper facilities to
dispose of the sewage. So I think these are very basic needs that any individual should support
especially when we are still having a difficult time providing these very basic services. So these
455 are our recommendations on the drinking water aspect and once again, I would like to thank you
again for having the opportunity and I'll turn it over to my colleague Mark T. Gordon.

Mr. MARK T. GORDON:

460 Yes, I'll just continue with the recommendations on sustainable development and keep it
short. We recommend that the Quebec Government provide funding already identified by Kativik
Regional Government and Quebec in order to implement the Kativik Regional Master plan.

465 We recommend that a task force be created with adequate funding with representatives
from the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Parks, Makivik
and the Kativik Regional Government to coordinate the authorization process for government

projects in Nunavik and to explore the possibility of delegating to the Kativik Regional Government the issuing of permits for mining exploration and outfitting activities.

470 We recommend the Commission acknowledge in its report the mandate of the Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee so that it may play a leading role in any future consultation process.

475 We also recommend that the Quebec Government establish, in collaboration with Makivik and the KRG, a three- to five-year program for the identification and clean-up of the many abandoned exploration sites for mining.

480 We recommend that a mechanism be put into place for yearly inspection of mining exploration camps and outfitting operations to ensure compliance with basic environmental standards.

And finally, we recommend both levels of government undertake Phase 2 of the Marine Infrastructure Construction program. We will end our presentation here and if there is any questions, we will be glad to answer them if we are able to.

485 **MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:**

490 We don't have any problem with that. Thank you very much for this brief and for coming here to present your brief. I would ask you my first question, opening the series of questions that anyone wants to ask you. You speak about the use of the Colilert method for bacterial monitoring. Could you give us an idea of the costs of this changing from the status quo you have now to this new method? Do you have any evaluation of the cost of this for switching from one form to the other?

495 **MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:**

From what we have heard, it wouldn't be any more costlier than what it's costing now.
So it would be -

500 **MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:**

It would be the same price.

505 **MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:**

Right, if then it would probably be even less if you eliminate all the packaging to the municipalities and the stuff that is being sent to the hospitals and all that. From what we've seen it, initially, it would be more or less the costs.

510 I have just been told by our engineer that for each system, for each municipality, the system costs roughly 5,000 \$ per municipality.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

515 Okay, for the installation.

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

Yes, for the Colilert system.

520 **MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:**

5,000 by community, but after that the price will be the same for the operation.

525 **MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:**

Yes, it is very inexpensive to operate.

530 **MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:**

Okay. Thank you.

Mr. MARK T. GORDON:

535 We're not talking major dollars here.

MRS. GISEÈLE GALLICHAN, Commissioner:

How does it go. What is the process of this system? Is it internet system?

540

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

No.

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MRS. GISELE GALLICHAN, Commissioner:

Is it communication electronic, electronical system. How does it go?

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

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From what I was told, the testing is done by the people that are operating the plant and then, it's simple enough that from I have been told the last time you were in Kuujjuak about the system, that you don't need a whole lot of gadgets to get to your results. If we're talking that it's being used in over 200 aboriginal communities all across Canada. It's simple enough that any person that's trained would be able to operate it.

555

MRS. GISELE GALLICHAN, Commissioner:

Okay. So if I have a problem, I will say it in french but I try in english. So it doesn't mean that the person who is in charge has to send this by telephone or line to a laboratory somewhere else. The person can on the place make the monitoring herself or himself.

560

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

Yes.

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MRS. GISELE GALLICHAN, Commissioner:

Is that what I understand?

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MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

But, yes it's able to be done within the municipality.

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MRS. GISELE GALLICHAN, Commissioner:

And with the training?

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

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With the training. We are asking for proper training of water plant operators so this would be all included in what we're asking for that proper training be given to water plant operators which includes all what we're talking about.

MR. TOMMY GREY, Chairman:

In the 80's, I travelled with a Quebec Government body called SQAÉ and they said, next year, we're going to build you a waste water management system in your communities. Has that process gone on or has it just disappeared?

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

The other waste water. We signed with the Government for an infrastructure program and starting now and into next year, we're doing plans and specs for most of the communities to come out with a waste water treatment program which would be more or less in lagoons which is the most inexpensive way to go about with the meagre resources we have.

This is Jean Corbeil. He is our engineer in charge of our public works for the Kativik Regional Government. Maybe he could explain a little bit more of the sewage treatment plants that we're envisioning for Nunavik.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Bonjour!

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Bonjour!

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Alors on a donc signé en avril un programme d'infrastructures municipales, d'amélioration des infrastructures municipales pour toutes les...

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

J'aimerais juste vous identifier comme il faut, s'il-vous-plaît?

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Jean Corbeil.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Jean Corbeil. Oui.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Je suis le chef du service de travaux publics municipaux pour la région Kativik.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Très bien.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Alors donc, on a ce nouveau programme, qui est un programme quinquenal d'amélioration et d'entretien des infrastructures municipales. Un des points les plus importants de ce programme-là est de justement répondre aux besoins en matière de traitement primaire, en tout cas, des eaux usées. On a déjà fait d'ailleurs, on a fait des évaluations des besoins dans chacun des 14 villages. On a eu des rapports là-dessus. Nos consultants nous ont fourni des choses il n'y a pas si longtemps.

On commence, dans un mois ou deux, on va commencer à lancer des études de plans et devis pour la construction d'étangs aérés ou des étangs d'oxydation dans tous les villages qui n'en n'ont pas déjà. Parce qu'il y a quelques villages où il y a déjà de telles installations et il y en a 2 qui ont des installations, 2 seulement sur quatorze qui ont des installations qui sont à peu près adéquates, en tout cas qui sont fonctionnelles correctement.

Il y a un autre village qui est Salluit où il y a un problème particulier à cet égard-là de topographie et qui permet pas ou à date, en tout cas, très mal de faire un étang aéré à cause de l'espace relativement horizontal que ça prend pour en construire un, alors on regarde un système de traitement mécanique ou biologique autre pour ce village-là.

Mais le programme est enclenché, mais il faut savoir qu'on ne fera quand même, avec les fonds qui nous ont été fournis, qu'on ne fera quand même qu'un traitement primaire. C'est-à-dire, on aura qu'un seul étang par village. Et où il y aura une déposition des matières délétères, l'eau qui s'échappera ou qu'on vidangera une fois par année ne sera pas dommageable pour l'environnement mais ne sera quand même pas une eau parfaite. Idéalement, ça prendrait un traitement, un étang secondaire ou peut-être même tertiaire. Mais on n'a pas les fonds dans le programme actuel pour faire ça.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Pour revenir à ce moment-là à la question du Colilert, on a bien compris que ça serait un investissement de 5,000 \$ par village et que les frais d'opération seraient les mêmes comparativement au système qui est en place.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

C'est exact.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

C'est bien ça.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Oui, c'est exact. C'est un petit appareil, c'est un petit "kit", c'est vraiment pas grand chose.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

C'est un petit "kit", il me semble.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Il y a une lecture digitale, je pense, du compte. Je ne suis pas familier personnellement avec cet appareil-là, mais il y a une lecture digitale de la qualité de l'eau finalement là, puis alors on sait tout de suite sur place si l'eau est acceptable ou pas.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Très bien.

Messieurs les Commissaires, monsieur Genest.

M. CAMILLE GENEST, commissaire:

Messieurs, merci pour votre intéressante présentation. J'aimerais vous poser une question sur le tourisme dont vous avez parlé un petit peu dans votre mémoire mais sans développer dans votre présentation. Alors ma question c'est quelle est l'importance de l'eau dans le développement de l'industrie touristique au Nunavik? Est-ce que les parcs comme le Parc Pingualuit et la classification des rivières comme rivières du patrimoine peuvent être des facteurs influençant le choix du Nunavik comme destination touristique?

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

710 From what I know of Pingualuit, it's one of the cleanest lakes in the world second from what we've heard to one in Japan and that's one of the reasons why they want to protect it that is to keep it pristine and clean. And the same with the rivers. We're able to drink out of our river systems or our lakes for that matter without checking for coliform or - and that stuff we're - at the moment we're able to drink naturally without getting sick.

715 So this is a type of thing we want to do is to protect the environment and I think we've got the tools necessary, but we don't have the funds to implement our regional master plan.

M. CAMILLE GENEST, commissaire:

720 Merci.

MR. MIKE T. GORDON:

725 Just to add. When the Government issues permits either for mining exploration sites or other activities, they go through the process of collecting the fee, but they never go back to the mining site, exploration site to find out if that operator followed the regulations to clean up, to take out his garbage, so there is no way of knowing what that particular exploration site is. And we have spent a fair amount of time trying to identify ourselves various sites which could contaminate the rivers, either the wildlife that we have surrounding the rivers or the lakes. And some of these sites go back many years and if they have left chemicals or other hazardous products, these things should be cleaned up, because the waters in our region once contaminated could be very hard to clean up because of the environment they are in.

MME PAULE HALLEY, commissaire:

735 J'aimerais, si c'était possible, illustrer davantage les difficultés de mise en oeuvre du plan directeur, du master plan qui a été adopté il y a un an.

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

740 We've got no funds available to hire someone to look after our regional master plan. That's basically it, it's a funding issue. With the governments, we have very specific agreements at the regional governments. At the moment we have roughly thirty-two different agreements with the governments and each envelopes is for a very specific item, and we can't use that envelope to hire let's say a regional master plan person that would do nothing else but work on that. It's a funding issue.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

750 Je voudrais revenir sur la première recommandation. I would go back to the first
recommendation you have. And I want to understand the more, because as you write in your
brief in the G rate for the I think it's a industrial rate, in Quebec, it is about .07 cents for a kilowatt
and you do pay .56 cents for kilowatt. Is that -

755 **MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:**

At the moment, at the moment after discussing with Hydro, we're at the moment at .07
cents.

760 **MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:**

Yes.

765 **MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:**

But it's always a discussion that comes up every time we're putting water plants. The
policy of Hydro-Quebec is still there regardless, we want to make sure that it is eliminated. That
for this type of issue, to give you another example: in our region we're not allowed to heat - heat
our buildings with electricity.

770 **MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:**

Yes, I do.

775 **MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:**

And if we - as well, if we go to a certain consumption of kilowatt/hour, the Hydro
automatically adjusts it to .26 cents per kilowatt/hour for individuals, but for the commercial
aspect, Jean would like to elaborate a little bit further on that.

780 **MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:**

Please.

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M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Hydro-Quebec ne souhaite pas, et on les comprend un peu là, ne souhaite pas qu'il y ait une généralisation de l'utilisation d'éléments chauffants électriques. Ça coûte à Hydro-Quebec ,58 cents le kilowatt/heure pour produire l'électricité par les groupes électrogènes dans les...

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M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Ça c'est le prix qu'Hydro-Québec -- coût de production.

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M. JEAN CORBEIL:

C'est le coût de production.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

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O.K..

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

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Hydro-Quebec est tenue de vendre sa production au même prix dans toute la province. Donc, ce que ça lui coûte .58 cents à produire, elle ne peut le revendre que .07 cents. On comprend un peu qu'Hydro cherche à minimiser la consommation. C'est bien clair, c'est bien compréhensible. Mais pour certaines applications, on n'a pas le choix, comme dans le chauffage ou le dégelage de nos conduites d'eau. Entre la prise d'eau des lacs ou des rivières, qui peut être à 3, 4, 5, 7 kilomètres du village, et un poste de distribution dans le village où les camions vont se remplir, bien, ça nous prend un tuyau. Et ce tuyau-là, très fréquemment...

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M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

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Vous êtes obligés de chauffer les fils pour chauffer les tuyaux.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

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Oui. Très fréquemment dans du pergélisol et donc, bien, c'est gelé en permanence et s'il n'y a pas suffisamment de débit ou si on préchauffe l'eau, l'eau est légèrement préchauffée à la station de pompage, mais s'il y a un problème de préchauffage à la station de pompage, l'eau va geler dans la conduite. Puis il y a pas d'autres façons de la dégeler qu'avec des câbles chauffants. Il y en a pas qui fonctionne, on en n'a pas trouvé qui fonctionne encore. Alors donc, dès qu'on branche un câble chauffant, Hydro-Québec réajuste la facturation à ,58 cents le kilowattheure.

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M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Parce que c'est du chauffage.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Pas juste pour la consommation du câble, pour toute la consommation de la période de l'installation en question.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Parce qu'elle considère que c'est du chauffage et du chauffage, elle ne veut pas que vous en fassiez.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Voilà. Alors on aimerait bien les convaincre, vous pourrez peut-être nous aider, mais les convaincre que au fond on utilise ces câbles chauffants-là parce que c'est pour un besoin essentiel. On n'utilise pas l'électricité pour chauffer ces câbles-là juste parce que ça nous tente pas de faire autre chose, là, c'est qu'on n'a pas le choix.

Et puis quand un tuyau gèle, qu'un tuyau est enfoui à 2, 3 mètres de profondeur dans du pergélisol, bien, il reste gelé jusqu'au mois d'août, septembre de l'année prochaine ou l'année suivante là où finalement on peut creuser jusqu'au tuyau pour le dégeler autrement. On peut pas creuser l'hiver, c'est gelé dur, bien sûr, alors il faut donc attendre que le sol en surface dégèle, et bien, ça, ça se produit en juillet, août, septembre.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Et Hydro-Québec n'a pas trouvé le moyen d'isoler un compteur pour faire que...

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Non, pas encore. C'est ça. Alors dans certains villages justement où Johnny Adams mentionnait tantôt, Quaqtaq et Ivujivik, où Hydro a menacé de ne pas raccorder l'usine d'eau, c'est qu'on avait dans ces deux cas-là, on avait des systèmes automatiques de mise en marche des câbles chauffants.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Oui.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

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Et ça a été un peu compliqué, finalement ils ont accepté de le raccorder. Mais dans d'autres endroits, ce n'est pas une mise en marche automatique, c'est une mise en marche manuelle, alors quand la température de l'eau dans le tuyau descend en bas d'un certain seuil, il y a une alarme sonore, il y a quelqu'un qui se pointe au poste et qui met en marche les câbles chauffants. Alors c'est un problème, puis c'est un problème généralisé dans 13 de nos 14 municipalités. Kuujjuaraapik n'a pas ce problème-là, mais c'est la seule.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

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Et les maisons individuelles des villages sont chauffées comment? Elles sont chauffées à l'huile?

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

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Elles sont chauffées au mazout, c'est ça. La plupart utilisent, la plupart des bâtiments utilisent des fournaies à air forcé, à air poussé. Il y en a d'autres, particulièrement des bâtiments institutionnels utilisent des chaudières avec des mélanges d'eau-glycol, ce n'est pas vraiment juste de l'eau là, mais toujours un chauffage au mazout pour les chaudières là. Alors il y a pas de chauffage électrique.

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M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

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C'est tout de même un étrange paradoxe, qu'un lieu qui sert de source d'alimentation d'électricité si largement pour le sud, que localement on soit obligé d'un côté de la produire avec du mazout et de l'autre côté d'interdire aux gens d'en utiliser. C'est un paradoxe.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

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Oui.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

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On comprend qu'il y a des raisons techniques mais c'est paradoxal d'un point de vue extérieur.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

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Oui.

MRS. GISÈLE GALLICHAN, Commissioner:

Mr. Adams, Mr. Gordon this time, this will be a tough question for me in english, so I'll speak in french, you have your earphones, it's okay.

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Dans votre plan directeur, Master Plan, est-ce que toutes les questions de l'eau sont aussi tenues pour compte? Est-ce qu'elles font parties de ce que vous avez comme Master Plan?

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MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

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Everything has been included in the Master Plan. I say they were roughly 8 years, 7, 8 years of consultations within the region. And not only within the region but all of the Quebec Government departments had their input into that as well. So that's why there was such a long time to finally finish the Regional Master Plan.

MME GISÈLE GALLICHAN, commissaire:

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Et cela inclut les problèmes d'infrastructures et aussi la qualité de vos cours d'eau, et est-ce que cela inclut aussi l'utilisation de vos cours d'eau et je dirais la vocation de vos cours d'eau, même s'il s'agit de rivières que vous considérez patrimoniales. Est-ce que, dans le Master Plan, toute cette question globale est incluse?

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MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

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The sites which the region thought were significant have been identified, for instance, like potential parks for example, have been identified or communities that thought an area was significant have been identified. All that has been pretty well covered, but it's a tool for the region to have a say, an input in what is going on within our own region.

Because at the moment, we're being by-passed on many fronts, on many activities going on in our region and some of which, like we've mentioned here, mining exploration, outfitting, different activities in our region that we don't have any say in.

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MME GISÈLE GALLICHAN, commissaire:

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Alors dans cette perspective, j'aimerais que vous nous décriviez davantage ce que vous nous avez exprimé comme voeu, je dirais de collaboration et de discussion régulière sinon permanente avec les autorités gouvernementales du Québec pour tous ces développements que vous envisagez.

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

Well, I guess the first one would be to have the resources to start implementing our Master Plan and after that closely behind would be the environment to a clean-up of the area, of the region. And after these things are resolved then, we can start to look at the sites that have been identified for future, possible future development. Parks for example, because right now, there is only one site that has been identified by the Government which is Pingualuit, but we feel we have other sites that need warranting as well that should be seriously looked at in the future as well.

MR. MIKE T. GORDON:

Maybe I'll just add that when we talk about water treatment plants, we not talking about a facility that you have in Montreal, Quebec City or the larger municipalities here in the South. The funding that we get it's minimal and it's just to add chlorine to the water. We don't have filtration plants, even though we would like it but there is no funding available. So the idea that the water being safe to drink, chlorine just kills organic matter. So that's the idea of more or less your water purification.

MRS. GISÈLE GALLICHAN, Commissioner:

We do not like chlorine as well.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

On se rend compte du problème que monsieur Gordon a soulevé, particulièrement au printemps lors de la fonte des neiges. Alors évidemment, notre eau, elle est bonne à boire parce qu'elle est chlorée, mais on voit bien qu'il y a des particules en suspension dans l'eau parce qu'il n'y a pas de filtration et on voit dans nos réservoirs domestiques dans les maisons, on voit ce qui s'accumule sur les parois puis au fond des réservoirs. Alors que si l'eau était filtrée, on aurait une plus belle qualité d'eau en tout cas.

MME PAULE HALLEY, commissaire:

J'essaie de mieux comprendre les difficultés de mise en oeuvre du plan directeur, Master Plan. Est-ce qu'à cette étape-ci de la mise en oeuvre, c'est des ressources professionnelles d'élaboration de la réglementation des villages et d'administration régionale, qui sont à cette étape-ci de la mise en oeuvre du plan directeur, qui constituent les principales difficultés à cette étape ici?

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

995 All of the above. So it's a funding issue. If we are given the proper resources, all those
will follow but it's a funding issue. What you've described, it's because there is no funding. It's
sad in a way that the region has spent so much energy and effort in coming out with his Master
Plan and then after finally it's approved, we thought "wow" it's, finally the last stage by the
Minister of Municipal Affairs signing it, we thought that was finally the last hurdle in implementing
1000 it but, we realize that it's more or less the same pattern, the past number of years where we
worked on it, many people have worked on it many years. We finally finished it. It finally
became law and then it's dead again because there isn't any funding to activate it.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

1005 Juste revenir à l'utilisation du Colilert. Est-ce qu'il y a une résistance au plan, au plan du
ministère de la Santé du Québec, est-ce qu'il y a une controverse de spécialistes sur l'efficacité
de cette technologie? Ou si c'est simplement une question de coût d'investissement de base?

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

1010 Je ne pense même pas que ce soit une question de coût d'investissement de base parce
que, dans notre nouveau programme d'infrastructures, on a prévu de toute façon, on s'est dit le
Ministère va l'approuver un de ces jours, on va planifier déjà de faire les investissements. Je ne
pense pas que ce soit une question d'argent, je pense que c'est une question purement
1015 administrative là, c'est une question d'approuver le système, d'approuver le test et c'est tout.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

1020 C'est ça. C'est ça, mais est-ce qu'il y a une résistance d'ordre idéologique ou de
technique ou médicale, par exemple, est-ce que le ministère a des doutes sur l'efficacité de
cette méthodologie-là? Est-ce qu'il y a une controverse sur la méthodologie?

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

1025 Je n'en sais rien, pas à ma connaissance en tout cas.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

1030 Vous ne savez pas.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

Mais je ne sais pas.

1035 **M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:**

Parce que vous dites que c'est approuvé ailleurs aux États-Unis ou au Canada, donc, il semble que ce soit une technique relativement connue et utilisée.

1040 **M. JEAN CORBEIL:**

Oui, exact. Exact.

1045 **M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:**

Mais on ne sait pas le niveau de la résistance à faire le changement.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

1050 Je ne sais pas s'il y a une ligne...

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

1055 Si c'est une question de procédure ou une question d'entente contractuelle avec les hôpitaux ou autres.

M. JEAN CORBEIL:

1060 Je n'en sais rien.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

Très bien.

1065 **M. JEAN CORBEIL:**

Désolé.

1070 **M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:**

D'autres questions? Allez-y madame.

MME PAULE HALLEY, commissaire:

1075 Est-ce qu'il serait possible de nous expliquer en quoi constitue la phase II du programme de quai maritime? Qui est la dernière recommandation. Merci.

MR. MARK T. GORDON:

1080 Yes. Under the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement, it was foreseen and agreed that the Government would built a proper Marine facilities in each village so that the people that do use the water in the boats, that they have access to going to the community when the tide is out or to offload the ships when the ships are coming in with, during the sea lift - but with the lack of funding, it was downgraded from a wharf program into a boat shelter program so that they
1085 were shelters made if the water was turning rough because of the wind, the boats would be anchored in a safe harbour and also have easier access with the loading ramp to put the boat in the water.

So we are in the process of building Phase I which is just a boat shelter program and a
1090 loading facility. And Phase II would be to built more of a marine infrastructure facility where the ship itself could go closer to the community to offload its cargo.

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

1095 Next year will be the 25th anniversary of the signing of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. And the infrastructure program was a big part of the treaty where the governments were supposed to built these marine infrastructure facilities.

Over the past number of years, the governments had spent a few million dollars on
1100 studies and consultations in all the 14 municipalities. From the consultations, there was a program that was brought forward where it would have cost 120 million dollars to built these facilities in the communities. And then, when they found out the cost for those 14 communities, they said: that's too much. So they went back and reduced that programm down to 80 million for the 14 communities. They still said: we don't have enough money.

1105 So, now, there is commitment for 30 million that could do maybe 5 if we are lucky, 5, 6 communities. But that still leaves a lot of unfinished commitments on the part of both governments.

1110 This is over a period of 10 years as well that we are looking at in providing these marine infrastructures. One community has been finished which is Kangiqsualujjuaq, but all the expectations of the communities had to be downgraded and the, basically we ended up with the breakwaters protection for the boats very basics stuff. Commitments had to be taken back and downgraded.

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MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

One of your recommendation is this one: the Commission acknowledged in it's report the mandate of the Kativik environmental advisory committee so that it may play a leading role in the future consultation process. We did try to work together with the Kativik Advisory Committee. We went in two of your committees. How do you - what is your opinion about the experience we shared together on this type of consultation, if I would - what will be the future you want?

MR. MARK T. GORDON:

Under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, section 23.5.24, in part it states that the consultative body is responsible to government and as such, shall be the preferential and official forum for responsible governments in the Region concerning their involvement in the formulation of laws and regulations. We think that these - we have 14 communities, we know that with limited budgets and resources, that you cannot go through all or meet everybody that might have a common - it has been fortunate that we have Makivik which represents the Inuit people. The Kativik Government which represents both Inuit or non-Inuit and that we were able to make presentations.

There was really nobody else, but I'm sure that there are other people that do have their own views and comments and they had been given the chance to make their views known. So we are just saying that, I could have been better if there were more involvements from the public sector than for us to travel to Montreal to make our presentations.

This is not really our idea of true consultation.

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

The other thing in regards to the - our commissions and talking KAC, KQC and so on, it's clear where their jurisdiction is, and my guess it was helping on your part to acknowledge that they have a role to play. They are responsible in their region and that should be more enforced to the government as well.

We have the same problems we are having in terms of getting basic funding even for our environmental commissions. So I mean, it is going on 25 years and we haven't really stepped beyond that. We are still talking the same problems over and over. Were they acknowledged in the treaty that they would be responsible, but they are not given the tools to do their job properly.

So this has to be re-emphasized over and over until they have the proper tools. The problems we are facing aren't going to go away, the environmental issues we are facing now could have been prevented if the commissions and the Regional Government were given the funding necessary to monitor what is going on in the region. They are the body to do it, but they are not given the resources to do it.

M. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, président:

I'll continue in french for my question. Est-ce que vous croyez que pour la consultation, il eut été préférable qu'une commission ou le Comité Kativik visite les 14 communautés de votre Nation?

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MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

That certainly would have made a difference as well, because a lot of the communities felt left out in the process -

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MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

Okay.

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MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

Without having a say. They have got some through us but, the communities would -

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

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They were a little bit frustrated.

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

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Yes. They would like to be involved in the process as well.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

Okay.

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MR. MARK T. GORDON:

Or if there had been better communication to the communities and informed them though of the process you are taking so that if somebody wants to travel either down to Kuujjuak or another community nearby, that would have been possible.

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MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

Okay. Thanks.

MR. TOMMY GREY, Chairman:

As signatories to the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, are you ready to make your resolution concerning Colilert to the Makivik Government asking them to change the drinking water regulation or go through Kativik Environment Advisory Committee in order to get the process going?

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

To answer Tommy's question, with our joint presentation, we have mentioned the fact that the Kativik Environment Advisory Committee should have been the consultative body responsible for the type of hearing that was happening but because of your mandate as well, that was not possible, but in our future - in the future, we would like to reiterate that the bodies that are identified under the treaty should be involved fully in the process of Nunavik.

So that's just to re-answer Tommy's question in Inuktitut.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

Yes, and what is the answer in English?

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

Yes, so since I didn't see any Inuktitut translators here, I decided to answer in English.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

So, gentlemen, I want to thank you very deeply for coming here even if it is in Montreal. And the - I think it's a beginning of a maybe a new way of understanding and to making a common research on the positive solutions to the problem you are facing.

Alors, je tiens à remercier les représentants de l'administration régionale Kativik et de la Corporation Makivik de leur contribution à l'audience, de nous avoir exposé d'une manière aussi globale l'ensemble des problèmes de la région et des pistes de solutions qui se dessinent en ce qui concerne la gestion de l'eau. Pour ma part, je tiens à remercier aussi tous les gens que -- oui, excuse me, yes, you want to speak, go.

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

1240 Since you were able to answer, I mean ask many questions, I would like to have the opportunity to ask a least one question.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

1245 Oh yes. That's surely.

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

1250 With the presentations we have done, when would we expect to see your recommendations into the process?

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

1255 We cannot tell you exactly today what will be our recommendations but, in our report, there will be a section on the work we are doing together and there will be there certainly a few recommendations, but I'm am not able to tell you what it will be at this moment.

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

1260 I'm not asking what it will be but when?

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

1265 When, oh when. Our report is supposed to be ready on the 15th of March 2000. But I hope it will be ready at this time. It is suppose to be. Okay?

MR. JOHNNY ADAMS:

1270 Okay. Thank you very much.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

1275 Thanks. Do you want to -

MR. TOMMY GREY, Chairman:

1280 Yes, I want to ask you Mr. Chairman, as both parties are working together, can you keep us informed as to exactly when the first draft is going to come out, this way we can take a look at it with our people and -

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

1285 Absolutely, absolutely. This section of our report will be a common section, so we will make a draft to help everyone to work easier, and we will have an exchange and a meeting if necessary, so it will be, I'm sure, a consensual writing for these sections of our report. It will be very specifically identified on these topics. Okay. Is that right.

MR. TOMMY GREY, Chairman:

1290 Yes.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

1295 I wish to thank you very much. You want to say a word to the community.

MR. TOMMY GREY, Chairman:

1300 I would just like to say, it was a pleasure seeing different faces today, this afternoon, and well, we will see you again soon.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

1305 A few words in Inuit, maybe.

MR. TOMMY GREY, Chairman:

1310 Nakurmik.

MR. ANDRÉ BEAUCHAMP, Chairman:

1315 Thanks.

1320

Je, soussignée, **LISE MAISONNEUVE**, sténographe judiciaire, certifie sous mon serment d'office que les pages ci-dessus sont et contiennent la transcription exacte et fidèle des notes sténographiques prises par moi au moyen du sténomasque, le tout conformément à la Loi.

ET J'AI SIGNÉ:

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LISE MAISONNEUVE, s.o.