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Projet d'aménagement d'un complexe
hydroélectrique sur la rivière Romaine
par Hydro-Québec

Basse-Côte-Nord 6211-03-005

Envoi par courriel

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Objet : Projet d'aménagement d'un complexe hydroélectrique sur la rivière Romaine

Monsieur,

En référence au projet précité, la commission d'examen conjoint, chargée de l'étude de ce dossier, vous soumet la deuxième série de questions de citoyens (questions 19 à 39) annexées à la présente, pour lesquelles elle compte sur votre collaboration afin que l'information demandée soit rapidement rendue disponible, compte tenu de la deuxième partie de l'audience débutant le 1^{er} décembre 2008.

Nous vous remercions de l'attention que vous porterez à cette demande et vous prions d'agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de nos sentiments les meilleurs.

Monique Gélinas
Coordonnatrice du secrétariat de la commission

- 19 Section 2.4.1.2, volume 1 of the EIA states that the electricity will be exported to New York and the New England states. However, the Romaine project does not qualify for the Renewable Portfolio Standards nor for Renewable Energy Certificates adopted by 25 states including New York and the New England states, which are presently the largest importers of electricity from Hydro-Quebec. Where will the energy be exported to if these states can't accept it under these standards ? (Andrew McMartin)
- 20 In calculating the net effects of greenhouse gas emissions released by this project, is the proponent going to account for the CO₂ released by the cement production for the construction of the dams, the long term effects of the swamped landscape in regards to their role in the global system as a carbon sink, and the effects of the major industries that currently use Quebec hydro-electricity ? If your answer is no, why not account for these significant greenhouse gas producers that are created directly from your project ? Will there be another public hearing after the net greenhouse gas emissions calculations are released ? (Morgan Moores)
- 21 The proponent states in section 12.4.2.6 that it is not necessary to prescribe flooding flows to maintain riparian zones because reservoir overflow will cause sufficient flooding. Does the proponent guarantee that these floods will occur even if the predictions for the frequency and volume of overflows do not come true, because (for example) of changing water availability due to climate change ? (Andrew McMartin)
- 22 Section 26.1.2.1, volume 4 of the EIA describes the potential of winter habitats in pertinent study areas for moose, notably are the high percentage of areas for Romaine-1 and 3. How will these potential habitats change because of the project ? (Matthew Tunis)
- 23 Est-ce que le projet pourrait couper la route des orignaux vers la Minganie ? de Longue-Pointe à Aguanish ? Les peuplements d'orignaux de la Minganie suffiront-ils à maintenir le cheptel ? (René Desbiens)
- 24 Why hasn't the proponent discussed in section 19.2.3, the possibility of increased fine sediment due to road building, and logging ? (Matthew Tunis)
- 25 There is no specific reference in section 12.4 to the effects of the ecological flow on the brook trout or fallfish, even though they are two of the six important species identified by the proponent in section 12.4.2.1. How will the proposed ecological flow affect these two species, and why were they left out of the assessment ? (Colin Smith)
- 26 Section 12.4.2.4 outlines the difficulty of preserving northern pike, and that the proponent does not plan to retain this species in the river. The proponent claims that this is good, as it will benefit atlantic salmon. However, removing a predator will affect more than one species. What effect does the proponent expect this loss to have on the rest of the ecosystem ? (Colin Smith)

- 27 In section 23.2.1, the proponent claims that fish populations downstream of Romaine-1 will not change much. However, in section 12.4, the proponent says that northern pike will be lost from this section of river. Why isn't the loss of northern pike considered a change to the fish population ? (Marc Leckman)
- 28 Why did the proponent not include an evaluation of how daily fluctuations in water flow will species other than Atlantic salmon in section 12.4.2.7 ? (Michael Robinson)
- 29 How will daily fluctuations described in section 12.4.2.7 affect benthic fauna, plants, fish, and mammals living downstream of Romaine-1 ? (Michael Robinson)
- 30 In section 23.2.1, the proponent claims that the surface area of habitat in the reach below Romaine-1 will not change. However, maps 23-4, 23-5, 23-6, 23-7, 23-8, and 23-9 show that there are numerous backchannels in this reach of river. Has the proponent taken bathymetry measurements at the entrance to each backchannel to ensure that the new flows will not result in the closing of these backchannels ? If so, where are the results, and if not, how can the proponent be sure these backchannels will not close ? (Karin Zientek)
- 31 I was wondering what the short and long term effects the frequent presence of helicopters has on animal populations, given that they expand the range of disturbances during their period of their use ? (Britt Lehmann-Bender)
- 32 Why does the proponent not include data regarding the cumulative effects of widespread damming on the Côte-Nord, or at least cite research addressing this issue ? (Michael Robinson)
- 33 Quelle est la vitesse de conception qui a été utilisée pour concevoir les plans et devis. Si la vitesse varie, quelle est la répartition en kilomètre (exemple : 10 km = vitesse de 50 km/h, 60 km = vitesse de 40 km/h, etc.) ? (André Vigneault)
- 34 Afin de traverser la rivière Romaine au PK3, est-ce que Hydro-Québec pourrait faire agrandir le pont de la route 138 pour permettre aux motoneigistes de traverser la rivière en toute sécurité sans raccourcir la saison de motoneige ? Actuellement, le pont de la rivière Romaine, à la route 138, ne peut être partagé par des voitures et des motoneiges. (André Thériault)
- 35 J'aimerais connaître la ventilation et le total des coûts, de la conception, à l'impression, jusqu'à la publication du cahier publicitaire de 8 pages intitulé « LE PROJET DE LA ROMAINE DE LA PURE ÉNERGIE » daté du 25 octobre 2008 et publié par Hydro-Québec, entre autre, sur la Côte-Nord, dans le Journal de Montréal et dans le Journal de Québec. (Denis McCready)
- 36 J'aimerais connaître le nombre de copies totales distribuées par Hydro-Québec et ses partenaires et la liste des journaux ou autres (ex: publisac) qui ont publié ce cahier. (Denis McCready)

- 37 La section 2.4.4.1, volume 1 de l'ÉIE stipule que la construction du complexe de la Romaine devrait créer ou maintenir un total d'emplois de 33 410 personnes-année. Cependant, quel pourcentage de cette main-d'œuvre sera des travailleurs de la construction du Sud du Québec ? (Chris Leckman-Fernandes)
- 38 Will Hydro Quebec provide Job opportunities, Short term and Long term, to the Aboriginal Citizens of the Lower North Shore ? The Aboriginal Citizens I speak of are the « Metis » registered with Le Secrétariat de la Nation Métis du Québec Région Basse-Côte-Nord and their respective communities from Kegaska to Blanc Sablon. (Bryce Fequet)
- 39 Will Hydro Quebec provide compensation to the Metis of Le Secrétariat de la Nation Métis du Québec Région Basse-Côte-Nord ? (Bryce Fequet)