

BRIEF

CONCERNING THE PROPOSED MINING PROJECT
(Projet minier aurifère Canadian Malartic)
BY
OSISKO MINING CORPORATION

SUBMITTED TO:

BUREAU D'AUDIENCES PUBLIQUES SUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT (BAPE)

Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement
Édifice Lomer-Gouin
575, rue Saint-Amable, bureau 2.10
Québec (Québec) G1R 6A6

Att: Monsieur Pierre Fortin, Président du BAPE

PREPARED BY:

LONG POINT FIRST NATION
112 KAKINWAWIGAK
ANISHNABE AKI
J0Z 2J0

April 8th 2009

Introduction

The Long Point First Nation is a proud member community of the Algonquin Nation and is extremely concerned by the overall development taking place on its ancestral territory. We must inform you that the proposed mining project by Osisko is situated within the traditional territory of the Algonquin Nation. Therefore, based on this exceptional circumstance, the Commission is fully responsible to remind the Crown (both federal and provincial governments) of its legal and constitutional obligations to consult and accommodate the Algonquin Peoples in order to address their concerns and interests adequately and in a meaningful manner.

Summary

On behalf of Long Point First Nation, I would like to express some point of views concerning the public hearings and the impact it is having on Long Point's traditional territory, cultural values, traditional way of life, livelihood, hunting & fishing areas and other specific characteristics. As stated in my recent letter dated on March 5th 2009, we expect a specific and meaningful consultation with our community since this legal obligation was constitutionally determined within the guiding principles by the Canadian judicial system, more specifically through Supreme Court decisions.

When I appeared in front of the panel on March 11th, 2009, I was harshly forbidden to express my community's views on the process of the BAPE's public hearings and the obligation to proceed with specific and meaningful consultation about this project with Long Point First Nation people. You were totally insensitive, unwilling or open to listen to my intervention and I must admit that your attitude was quite rude and disrespectful. One must understand that the BAPE's rules must be adjusted to certain legal and local principles and situations and that it be culturally sensitive. The Anishnabe First Nations made their point on this. You indicated that we could address this issue on the second part of these hearings by presenting a "mémoire" and this is exactly what we are doing.

I would like to draw your attention on another point that is crucial. When you questioned the environment department representatives why they did not enter into a process of consultation with the Anishnabe Peoples and more particularly towards Long Point First Nation and you were supposed to provide me with an explanation letter within a short delay regarding this matter. Unfortunately, this was not done. Why? As we understood your instructions, when asked to deliver some information or documents, the civil servants were supposed to act accordingly and promptly. You must understand that we are seriously questioning this lack of follow up as well.

On the "merits" of the impacts of Osisko's project on my community, I want to underline and specify that Long Point First Nation has always been transparent and honour its own obligations and duties. For several years, our nation has taken different initiatives to open the dialogue and conclude agreements and letters of understandings with the Government of Quebec or with different departments and agencies. For your

information, we are currently negotiating natural resources issues within a mediation process with the Government of Quebec and have successfully concluded a Framework Agreement and five (5) specific Letters of Understandings. As a result, Long Point First Nation, the forest industry namely Domtar Inc, MNRF and the Commission Scolaire of Mont-Laurier have realized an important road construction project for the benefit of everyone concerned. These processes were deliberated, negotiated and mutually agreed by all the parties involved.

I cannot see why you would not ensure and guarantee LPFN that a meaningful consultation and negotiation process is undertaken with Osisko and this must be an essential component of your conclusions and a pre-requisite before a licence of exploitation is issued and/or delivered to Osisko. In order to do so, you must take specific means to get in touch and meet with LPFN representatives and the Council.

Conclusion

LPFN would be able to provide sound and relevant comments on the impacts of the Osisko project on its inhabitants and territory had it been provided with proper resources. As already underlined, LPFN has established a contact with Osisko's senior management in order to address the consultation aspect and to conclude relevant agreements.

LPFN is aware that there may be additional delays incurred but it cannot be held responsible for it. LPFN is very much open to participate in the development of the process, establishing the mechanisms and timeframe to complete it, conditional that sufficient financial resources be made available.

Let me stress that LPFN is very aware of the overwhelming challenges and the various aspects regarding the components of this project and the impacts this will have on LPFN's aboriginal rights and title. Therefore, we expect to be treated with honour and dignity so that we can explain thoroughly the impacts and effects that this project will have on our traditional way of life. In addition, this process must be conducted in traditional Algonquin language and in english.

Respectfully Yours,

Steeve Mathias
Chief of LPFN