

**NIOCAN Clears a Milestone in its Project Permitting Process With  
the Quebec Agricultural Land Protection Commission (CPTAQ).**

MONTREAL- CPTAQ has approved Niocan's (TSE : NIO) request for operating permits on 9.4 hectares of agricultural land required for the operation of a proposed ferroniobium complex in Oka Quebec.

The final step in the approval process is a review of all aspects of the project by the Quebec Ministry of the Environment. It is anticipated that this Fall, the Ministry will issue a Certificate of Authorisation to proceed with the project.

Niocan has already received its permits from the Ministry of Natural Resources: the mining lease, authorisation for the project's infrastructure and authorisation for its tailings disposal site.

Niocan is pleased with the CPTAQ's decision, which emphasizes a close working relationship with the local community.

Niocan is a mining company with proven and probable niobium reserves for a minimum of 17 years of operation with a recovery value estimated at \$1 billion. The company's focus is on the production of ferroniobium. Ferroniobium is used in the production of special alloys used in the aerospace industry, turbines and in high resistance usage in the automotive, construction and pipeline industries.

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