



RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

PETITION No.: **421-00887**

BY: **MS. QUACH (SALABERRY—SUROÏT)**

DATE: **NOVEMBER 15, 2016**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **SERGE CORMIER**

Response by the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

Protection of the environment

ORIGINAL TEXT

REPLY

Section 180(1) of the Canada Shipping Act, 2001 grants the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans authority to take the necessary response measures, on reasonable grounds that a vessel has discharged, is discharging or is likely to discharge a pollutant. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard has exercised this authority with the M/V Kathryn Spirit and has taken measures to minimize and prevent pollution damage from the vessel – this includes the stabilization measures completed July 22, 2016 and the construction of a temporary embankment surrounding the M/V Kathryn Spirit to isolate it from the marine environment which is underway.

Further to this, the Department is taking the necessary steps to have the vessel permanently removed from the shore of Lac St-Louis in Beauharnois, Québec.

The Department is working closely and collaboratively with the Province, other federal departments and Indigenous People to ensure mitigation measures are in place to minimize any impacts that may arise from the construction of the embankment, dismantlement and permanent disposal of the vessel, and removal of the embankment.

All phases of this initiative will be in strict accordance with health and safety, and environmental best practices, standards, laws and regulations.

The Canadian Coast Guard continues to monitor the situation to ensure that appropriate measures are taken to protect the environment and minimize risk to Canadians.