

From: Save our Seas and Shores Coalition
Sent: Tuesday, July 04, 2017 4:16 PM
To: Tessier, Scott
Cc: Kelly, Sean; Hicks, Darren; Gulf NS Herring Federation
Subject: Electromagnetic surveys in the Gulf of St Lawrence

Re: EMGS, Inc., Western Newfoundland Controlled Source Electromagnetic (CSEM) Survey, 2017 Gulf of St. Lawrence

Dear Mr. Tessier,

We are in receipt of the C-NLOPB's correspondence dated June 14, 2017. On behalf of Save our Seas and Shores Coalition and the Gulf NS Herring Federation, we wish to advise the C-NLOPB that we are vehemently opposed to any exploration and development in the highly sensitive Gulf of St Lawrence.

In the early 1990's, due to the extreme vulnerability of the Worlds' Oceans, the UN Convention on Biodiversity implemented the Precautionary and Ecosystem approaches to world oceans management.

These precautionary and ecosystem approaches have been implemented into Canada's Oceans, Fisheries and Environmental Acts. The precautionary and ecosystem clauses state that in the absence of definitive science, precaution MUST apply. These clauses also make clear that it is up to the proponent to PROVE their actions will be harmless, not the other way around.

Your environmental assessment in no way proves the safety of electromagnetic surveys or its impact on herring (which winter in the Gulf near Old Harry) or any of the thousands of species that spawn, nurse and migrate in the Gulf of St Lawrence year around.

If the C-NLOPB proceeds with electromagnetic exploration in this vulnerable ecosystem without proving its harmlessness, which you have failed to do, you will be violating domestic and international law.

This is not the first time you have violated domestic and international laws.

We wish to remind you that the C-NLOPB recklessly authorized seismic in 2010 in the Laurentian Channel while endangered blue whale were migrating through, after being warned against doing so by whale researchers and in so doing, violated domestic and international marine laws.

Please be advised we will continue to record your unlawful conduct.

Harlequin duck are endangered. Right whale. The endangered Leatherback Turtle has been on this earth for one hundred million years. They were here on earth with dinosaurs.

We have told you before but let us tell you again. Given the endangered species that live and migrate through the Gulf of St Lawrence every year, it is our coalition's position that the survival of these rare species and all living species takes precedence over EMGS surveys and seismic surveys.

Offshore oil and gas development should not happen in the Gulf of St Lawrence. It is one of the most sensitive and precious ecosystems on this earth.

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