

Jean-Etienne Solomon
From: jean-etienne solomon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 7:54 PM
To: Information
Subject: Attention: Elizabeth Young

Hi,
My name is Jean-Etienne Solomon,
I'm from Magdalen Islands (îles-de-la-Madeleine) where you are going to ask the islander on their concerns about the project of Old Harry petroleum platform.
In the moment, I am studying law in France and I won't be able to assist to this meeting, which is very important to me.

First, I would've like to say that, like many other islanders and citizens, I try to be updated at my best on this project, but I have to tell that information took a very long time to arrived to us, to be analysed and is still hard to understand.

I can't pretend I am an expert in petroleum affair, far from it, but I'm very involve, and i read everything that i find on it.
All of that, because I am very very worried about Old Harry project.

Second, it could be hard to understand for people that doesn't live on Magdalen Islands, but it is important to say, we are a very strong community, on a really fragile piece of paradise, where erosion eats our island, where rise of the sea makes problem each year and where the recent lack of ice in winter removes a the best natural protect we had forever.

Last year, we lived a 1/3 of electricy polt felt after a storm.
More than half of the island was cut from electricity, in the middle of winter, in the middle of Saint-Laurent Gulf
We have many problem with the fishing industry : prices are going down with lobster, the cod has almost disappeared, the seals are overprotected, and we have to deal with Europe blocus every year.

Fishing is one of the 2 majors pilliar of our economy.
The second is tourism.
Magdalen are known everywhere in the world.
We are often reconized like the most beautiful place in the province.
Tourism and fishing are two extremely fragiles indutries.
These seasonal industries are threatened by Old Harry Pretroleum project.

Yes, I am really worried about a spilling.

I don't know how many people will assist at the meeting this week, but many things will be told.
I don't know how many people will assist at the meeting, but I know that there no sociability acceptance on this project.
Many of the islander are fishermen, shy people, many are studying outside the island, many are too young to tell about it.
But for what I've seen the last year about schist project and petroleum affair, there is no consensus on this question.
We are worried for our future; we are trying for years to fix our fishing industries; to reach a sustainable development on the island (our waste, our energy, wind power, erosion, etc).

why say yes to oil shale and say no to shale gas?
The engineer-geologist Marc Durand said that the risks of these two industries are the same:

Jean-Etienne Solomon

« Dans les deux cas, la fracturation hydraulique demeure la seule façon d'extraire ces hydrocarbures. » Québec a imposé un moratoire sur cette pratique pour extraire le gaz de schiste. Une étude environnementale stratégique devrait énumérer les risques associés à ce type d'exploitation. « Si ces investissements-là sont faits avec une intention de recourir à de la fracturation hydraulique alors là je dis attention danger parce que c'est vraiment quelque-chose pour lequel il y a beaucoup trop d'inconnus, c'est de l'expérimentation », ajoute Marc Durand.

« On estime que la fracturation hydraulique permet de récupérer 20 pour cent du gaz de schiste mais ce taux de récupération chuterait à seulement 4 pour cent pour le pétrole de schiste. » <http://www.radio-canada.ca/regions/est-quebec/2012/10/12/001-environnement-schiste-sirois.shtml> <<http://www.radio-canada.ca/regions/est-quebec/2012/10/12/001-environnement-schiste-sirois.shtml>>

This simulation made by the Suzuki Foundation showing the effects of a possible leak. This is reminiscent of the incident happened in the Gulf of Mexico in May 2010.

In addition, such an incident, even calculated a lesser extent remains, according to several assessments, is really risky for coastal areas of Quebec and the Maritime provinces. Imagine also a leak in the winter, where the current moves towards the coast. Unlike the situation in the Gulf of Mexico "cleaning" would prove to be much more complex with a Gulf partially frozen. I invite you to watch this video, made by experts, simulating a leak on a smaller scale than the Gulf of Mexico, but no less alarming.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJURUEfmEr8>

I plan to make a return on my island.
I am studying environmental law and I can't wait to get back on my paradise, help to improve our environmental projects and being part of our collective challenges.
I can't wait to have a family, raise a kid on a land of nature, peace and tranquility.

But I can wait for energy that are dangerous to get out from to earth and our ocean.
And I can wait for good technologies to come and I can wait for a real need of those resources, even if I think they are not part of our future.

I ask you to listen carefully at the voice (writing) of a french speaker that is very worried about the petroleum project of Old Harry.
And I sure you will notice it at the meeting of the locals on the Magdalen, but it is clear that there is no social acceptability on this project.
But we are yet really concerned by the consequences of that industry that is currently coming toward us.

Thank you so much for reading me,
and I will be please to answer you about anything on this question.
Thank you for coming to hear what Magdalen have to say.

Please confirm that you received that mail,
Have a great day,

Sincerely,
Jean-Etienne Solomon

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