



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: **THE HONOURABLE MARC GARNEAU**

Response by the Minister of Transport

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

Protection of the environment

ORIGINAL TEXT

REPLY

On February 1, 2016, a working group consisting of representatives of the federal and provincial governments, the municipality of Beauharnois and the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, among others, was set up to find a permanent and safe solution to the problem posed by the Kathryn Spirit. The working group concluded its work in July 2016 and submitted its report recommending dismantling the Kathryn Spirit on site in dry dock by embankment.

Pursuant to section 180 of the Canada Shipping Act, 2001, the Canadian Coast Guard is entitled to take all reasonable measures that it considers necessary to remedy the situation and a probable danger of pollution. To this end, in collaboration with federal, provincial and municipal partners, the Coast Guard has awarded a contract to construct a berm to isolate the Kathryn Spirit from the marine environment. The project is progressing on schedule. All necessary permits have been, or are in the process of being, awarded and plans and specifications for the berm are being finalized. The construction work itself will thus begin as planned in early January, after the construction leave.

The construction of the berm is in line with the recommendation of the working group and will lend itself well to a next step for the long-term solution for the ship which is its dismantling. In this regard, the Coast Guard is developing, in collaboration with Public Services and Procurement Canada, a request for proposals to dismantle the Kathryn Spirit. According to the timetable, the dismantling contract will be awarded in the spring of 2017 so that work can begin as soon as possible.