

**PRESS RELEASE
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**VICTORY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS : TRANSCANADA SUSPENDS
PROPOSED DRILLING AT CACOUNA, QUÉBEC**

Montreal, September 23, 2014 - The Quebec Superior Court granted an interlocutory injunction to stop drilling works undertaken by TransCanada Pipelines in Cacouna harbour, right in the middle of the St. Lawrence belugas' essential habitat. The injunction was requested by environmental groups and citizens concerned about the impact of drilling on this endangered species.

For Michel Bélanger, counsel for the applicants: "This decision demonstrates the relevance of this legal approach to ensure the strict implementation of Quebec's environmental laws. This should be fairly straightforward when we are dealing with an endangered specie such as the belugas of the St. Lawrence. "

The judgement highlights the unexplained decision of Quebec's Ministry of Environment authorizing the work without obtaining the scientific advice it had requested. Drilling works are suspended until October 15.

The next step in this long process, or the permanent injunction, will allow the court to hear the testimony of key players to understand what really happened within the Quebec government, which claims to endeavour to exploit oil according to the highest environmental standards but nevertheless allowed drilling to go forward during the summer at great risk to the belugas.

Applicant organizations are the Quebec Centre for Environmental Law (CQDE), the David Suzuki Foundation, Nature Québec, the Society for Nature and Parks Canada (SNAP), citizen France Dionne and scientific Pierre Béland. Although not parties to the litigation, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF-Canada), Rivers Foundation and Greenpeace argue that this approach is necessary because of significant adverse impacts the works could have on this species in decline.