

Statement

GREENPEACE

Trudeau must reject Energy East after Montreal communities say no

21 January 2016 (Montreal) – In reaction to the announcement made today by the Montreal Metropolitan Community (MMC) rejecting TransCanada’s Energy East pipeline project, Patrick Bonin, a Greenpeace Climate and Energy campaigner, said:

“This decision proves once more that Energy East is a very risky project that is not acceptable to Quebecers and is incompatible with the plan to build a 100% renewable energy future. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau must keep his promise to reform the environmental assessment procedures in Canada and ensure that the evaluation of this pipeline will not go forward until the process put in place under the Harper government is reformed.

“Trudeau already said that pipelines projects must be accepted by the local communities before they get approved. MMC’s decision is a clear no to TransCanada’s project, which means that it cannot go forward”.

According to a poll conducted by SOM last November, 57% of the residents in Quebec and 60% of the Montreal population said that they were against the Energy East project. The survey also showed that 58% of Quebecers think that the federal government must stop the environmental assessment process and reform it to guarantee that the outcome is based on scientific basis and public interest.

Last September, Greenpeace presented to the MMC during the public consultations that were organized on the island and in surrounding cities on the pipeline. In its document, Greenpeace presented a list of science-based arguments explaining why tar sands expansion must be stopped in order to fight climate change and protect the environment, people’s health and the economy.

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