



**Green Coalition News Release**  
**for immediate release**

**Green Coalition expert reports uncover negligent environmental assessment process by Quebec Environment Ministry in the destruction of wetlands in the Saint-Laurent Technoparc.**

**Montréal February 8, 2017 :**

In September 2016 the Green Coalition requested a preliminary injunction to halt the ongoing work to extend boulevard Alfred Nobel and other intrusions into the wetlands then being carried out by the borough of Saint-Laurent to facilitate the development project known as the Éco-campus Hubert Reeves.

The request was judged to be urgent but was not granted when, during the hearings, lawyers for the Ministère du développement durable, de l'environnement et de la lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec (MDDELCC) submitted a list of studies on which they had apparently based their decision to grant Certificates of Authorisation for the project.

The Green Coalition subsequently commissioned analyses of these studies by two independent experts which identified major faults and irregularities in the studies, faults and irregularities that were never submitted to the first Judge by the MDDELCC.

The expert reports clearly demonstrate that the Technoparc studies were exclusively conducted by and for the real estate promoter and were outdated, incomplete and totally inadequate to support the granting of the certificates.

In particular they were mostly conducted in the fall when Birds and other Fauna is absent or less active and they failed to take account of the impact of the project on fragile wetlands and biodiverse habitat that has become critical to many bird species including the Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) which is identified as threatened under the Species at Risk Act and was discovered nesting there in the spring of 2016.

The federal government has since identified at least 5 threatened or vulnerable bird species in the Technoparc wetlands without any concern given by the Technoparc, City of Montreal or MDDELCC.

*"It is sad to see that in all cases where there is organized destruction of the last pieces of our environment, our governments are consistently burying their heads in the sand. The Technoparc is another sad example where citizens have to do*

*protect our children's rights, while our government collects our taxes and does nothing ..."* adds Gareth Richardson, president of the Green Coalition.

The Green Coalition is a non-profit association of individual members, local environmental groups that has been working for over twenty five years to promote the conservation, protection and restoration of the environment in the Montréal region.

Copies of the expert reports can be viewed at [www.technoparcoiseaux.org](http://www.technoparcoiseaux.org)

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