

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada Questionnaire
Addendum submitted on October 15, 2021

Meltech Project – Industrial building – Montréal-Trudeau Airport

8. Does your department or agency have information about the interests of Indigenous groups in the vicinity of the Project; the exercise of their rights protected by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982; and/or consultation and accommodation undertaken, underway, or anticipated to address adverse impacts to the section 35 rights of the Indigenous groups.

In response to the posting in the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada and a meeting with Aéroports de Montréal (ADM), the Mohawks of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) provided comments in a letter addressed to ISED and ADM on July 22, 2021. The MCK indicated that they assert aboriginal title and rights to their traditional territory and bodies of water, which overlap with the footprint of the proposed project. Furthermore, they assert stewardship rights and responsibilities as inherent and aboriginal rights, including over the land and water resources on their traditional territory. They also assert other rights, including, but not limited to: fishing, hunting, gathering and commercial trading rights as inherent and s.35(1) rights under the *Constitution Act* (1982). The MCK are also concerned that the development will impact their ability to practice stewardship rights.

SIF undertook an analysis of Aboriginal rights using the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System (ATRIS). This analysis indicated that the Mohawks asserted rights on a vast parcel of land including the site of this project through comprehensive land claims on January 10 and January 27, 1975. They were informed on March 20 and May 9, 1975 that the claim was not accepted for negotiation. In addition, the Algonquin Anishinabeg Nation also known as the Algonquins of Western Québec asserted aboriginal rights and title on April 21, 2010. The Crown has not recognized this assertion and ATRIS does not indicate that there are any negotiations underway.

The project consists in the construction of an industrial building on lands in an industrial park leased by the ADM to the Recipient. This land used to be part of a golf course until approximately 1992. To our knowledge, the Indigenous people are not using the site for hunting, fishing, gathering, nor commercial trading rights.

The project site has been subject of an ecological study which concluded that concludes that no sensitive species, no sensitive habitat or protected area is present in the work area. More specifically, this study also concludes that the proposed project site does not have the qualities of critical habitat for the monarch butterfly.

Blais, <Original signed by>
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