

Energy Supplies Emergency Act

and bring into production Canada's oil and gas resources. It is not, however, intended in any way to displace the private sector.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Look what has happened to the Liberals!

Mr. Speaker: May we have order?

Mr. Nowlan: There is none over there.

An hon. Member: Get to the part about the election.

Mr. Hees: I am glad the Prime Minister has a sense of humour.

Mr. Trudeau: For a time I thought I might at least succeed in unifying the Tories, but I see from some of their faces that they are not unified even on this issue.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: Nor is it intended to discourage investment by foreign companies which will continue to be welcome. The company will be ready to enter into joint ventures with other firms in that industry as well as with the provinces, both in exploration and in development. The government will, however, look to this corporation to contribute to an increased Canadian presence in petroleum exploration and development.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nowlan: Are you going to move its head offices to Vancouver, too?

An hon. Member: Move it to Mount Royal!

Mr. Trudeau: It will, in its joint ventures, attempt to involve smaller Canadian-controlled firms which currently find it difficult to sustain costly and lengthy development efforts. It will thus ensure for Canadians a more significant role in the development of their own resources.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Where is Jim Richardson?

Some hon. Members: What about Turner?

Mr. Trudeau: If you will allow me, Mr. Speaker, I will re-read the last phrase. I should like it to be on the record that the hoots of the Tories are opposing this phrase—"It will thus ensure for Canadians a more significant role in the development of their own resources".

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You don't know how or where!

Mr. Trudeau: They are doing it again, Mr. Speaker, but I will not read it for a third time.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

Mr. Hees: Once more, with feeling.

An hon. Member: We did not believe it the first time.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Trudeau: En français, then.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): It is even worse than—

[*English*]

Mr. Trudeau: In our future self-sufficiency, it is the government's hope that a significant role may be played by resources on the Atlantic continental shelf. While exploration has proceeded there it has not been as rapid as we would wish. I doubt if it has been delayed by the failure thus far to reach agreement with the five eastern provinces on offshore oil administration. We are, I think, much closer to agreement and I hope it may be achieved soon. In future exploration and development, there will be a positive role for the national petroleum company, either acting alone or through joint ventures with oil companies.

Any oil policy must, if it is to be effective, take account of the larger energy picture. It should be so designed as to be consistent with the conservation and prudent use of all sources of energy while at the same time encouraging the substitution of relatively more plentiful resources for relatively scarcer ones.

Canadian natural gas is already supplying a substantial portion of our energy needs and some of those of the United States. Enormous quantities of gas are available to be transported from the far north. A major development is the proposed gas pipeline up the Mackenzie Valley to move Alaskan gas to United States markets and at the same time to make it possible to move Canadian northern gas to Canadian markets. While this project must, of course, be submitted to the usual regulatory proceedings and cannot go ahead until it has been approved by responsible Canadian authorities, the government believes that it would be in the public interest to facilitate early construction by any means which do not require the lowering of environmental standards or the neglect of Indian rights and interests.

● (1640)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: I can see no reason why Canada could not give suitable undertakings as to the movement, without discriminatory impediment, of Alaskan gas through a pipeline across Canada to United States markets provided all public interest and regulatory conditions are met in the building and operation of the pipeline. An undertaking of this sort would, of course, be reciprocal, with the same assurance being given to Canada regarding our oil and gas shipments through the United States.

The development of nuclear power in Canada presents a third major potential source of energy which may be of considerable assistance in achieving the goal of security and self-sufficiency in oil. The success of the Ontario Hydro reactor at Pickering has shown beyond a doubt the soundness and viability of Canadian atomic energy technology. Ontario and Quebec already have nuclear reactors and more are being or will be built in those provinces. In