

Eldorado Nuclear Limited

provided by the Government estimates the cost of that to be \$100 million. Most of the responsibility for that will be left with the Government of Canada and not charged against the sale of the current corporation.

That does not seem to make much sense in that the Government of Canada will be left with all of these costs. The Minister will sell the company and get his cash, but the Government has not spelled out what it will do about the environmental clean-up of the low-level wastes in and around Port Hope or what it will cost. There is a formula presented in the documentation as to the sharing of that cost, but it appears that most of that will be left with the Government of Canada rather than charged against the Eldorado sale itself.

It is not even clear whether the Government is going to carry that out. The Prime Minister made a commitment in 1984 to do it. There has been a task force appointed and a proposal made for that environmental project, but no actual decision has been made on whether that task force report is to be acted upon in any way. Clearly the Tories have a bad record as far as Eldorado resources and the entire uranium mining industry is concerned. In 1979 when they came into power they immediately decided to put the new refining operation at Port Hope, even though the uranium in Ontario was being produced in the Blind River-Elliott Lake area.

When the Liberal Government came to power in 1980 we immediately acted upon a policy and commitment which we had made in the 1980 election campaign that we would locate refining and upgrading facilities for natural resources in and near the communities where those minerals were being processed or mined. That policy has resulted in a great deal of benefit for the town of Blind River. The \$150 million refinery established there has created 180 jobs, provided important income for the community, and has provided a major industry for that town which lost its main sawmilling operation 10 years ago.

The other aspect in play in this agreement is that in the free trade agreement the Government gave up the further upgrading policy of the Government of Canada, that being that we would process and upgrade our uranium resources and other natural resources within our own country. In the free trade deal we gave up the right to that policy and could well face the prospect of the loss of the processing of uranium in our own processing facilities which could cost the Government several hundred million dollars. The idea of processing our uranium in the United States or European countries does not make sense, especially since the Government of Canada has gone to the expense of building major refining and processing industries in our country.

It is interesting to note that in establishing its refinery in Blind River, Eldorado resources brought in people from all over Canada; some from Port Hope, some from the Ottawa area, some from Uranium City. It has developed a very good working relationship with that community. It is often described as a model corporate citizen. I suppose there are

always some tensions between a major player and municipal corporations, but I think that on the whole the arrangement in Blind River has been excellent. There has been great co-operation in assisting, through corporate donations, in the provision of major facilities such as their sportsplex, civil recreation facility, and golf course. They have played a major role in the community. I think that it has been a model relationship and one that has been extremely helpful. I would hope that in the divestiture, those commitments and promises made through the policies of Eldorado resources to provide assistance to the communities, both in recreation and in civic development, will be maintained. That would be a major concern of my constituents and of the residents of the Town of Blind River.

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We know that under this divestiture the ownership of the company will move to the shareholders of the Saskatchewan Mining Development Corporation. The headquarters will move from Ontario to Saskatchewan and 61 per cent of the control will be moved with it to the Saskatchewan Mining Development Corporation. There must be a firm and determined commitment from the new corporation that will be created, Eldorado Resources, to maintain those responsibilities to the community.

It is interesting that in the free trade agreement, which the Government has been ballyhooing in its \$12-million advertising campaign designed to sell it to Canadians, not once has it been mentioned that we are giving up our policy of further upgrading uranium resources in Canada. Surely every Government of the past has struggled to do further upgrading of resources, but that will be given up, supposedly in return for improved access to the U.S. market.

This week we heard that the United States Senate has already passed a resolution which will impose penalties on United States utilities that use foreign uranium to meet more than 30 per cent of their needs. Of course, this resolution has not been passed by the United States Congress yet so it has not become law, but we are still very unclear on whether or not there will be total access.

A legal injunction is now before the Supreme Court of the United States. That court may rule on a previous decision of a lower court in that regard as well. Clearly, wide-open access to the United States market is in question. If the United States is not competitive, I do not think that we will ever have it.

If the Bill to which I referred is voted down in Congress, and if the legal questions before the Supreme Court of the United States are ruled on in a certain way, there will still be no guarantee that inefficient U.S. producers in New Mexico and those states which have imposed dumping duties on western Canadian potash will not do the identical thing to uranium. As long as the Americans are getting their share of the market and are able to compete, the markets will somehow stay open. However, if they are not, there will be countervailing duties.