E3. How is CTBT related to Canada's nuclear policy?

Canada's nuclear policy is to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy with like-minded states and ensure Canadian nuclear exports are used only for peaceful, non-explosive uses, to support strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and to further arms control and nuclear disarmament efforts. Canada will authorize nuclear exports to non-nuclear weapon states only when such a state has made a binding commitment to nuclear non-proliferation through becoming Party to the NPT, or an internationally equivalent agreement, and thereby accept International Atomic Energy Agency fullscope safeguards. In addition, any state wanting nuclear cooperation with Canada must conclude a legally binding bilateral Nuclear Cooperation Agreement which contains further nuclear non-proliferation assurances.

The CTBT makes an important contribution to furthering our nuclear policy. The Treaty limits the ability of the five declared nuclear-weapon States to develop additional nuclear weapons, which in turn provides them with reciprocal assurances, thus encouraging them to further nuclear weapons disarmaments initiatives. It deters other states that may consider developing nuclear weapons programs. Ratification of the Treaty is a further demonstration of a country's commitment to nuclear non-proliferation.