

Consortium to drill for oil

The federal government will issue four exploration agreements to an all-Canadian consortium, comprising Petro-Canada Exploration Incorporated, Bow Valley Industries Limited and Husky Oil Operations Limited for a \$500-million exploration program.

In its exploration the consortium will use the newly arrived, Canadian-built semi-submersible drilling rig, the *Vinland*, which began work on the Scotia Shelf this summer. The agreements cover an area of about 1.7-million hectares located approximately 30 kilometres to the north of Sable Island, off Nova Scotia.

The agreements will each run for three years, and will require the group to drill a total of up to eight exploratory wells, with at least one on each exploration agreement area. The group will also have to conduct a minimum of 3 000 kilometres of seismic work in the area over the first two years.

Lands returned

Exploration agreements designate the blocks of land the companies will work, and set out the process by which the lands are returned to the Crown for further disposition. By the end of the second year of these four agreements the exploration group will have relinquished 75 per cent of the lands.

The interest held in the exploration group by each member is Petro-Canada Exploration Incorporated, 50 per cent; Bow Valley Industries Limited, 25 per cent; and Husky Oil Operations Limited, 25 per cent. The members' high Canadian ownership rate is expected to allow them to benefit from the highest level of incentives offered under the Petroleum Incentives Program. The group has advised that it has offered Nova Scotia Resources Limited, the provincially-owned natural resource company, a 10 per cent working interest option in the consortium. Petro-Canada and Bow Valley will each be the operator, or lead company, for drilling activities in two of the agreement areas.

The group will ensure that Canadians, particularly Nova Scotians, will be given a fair and competitive opportunity to provide goods and services for the exploration program, and that significant job opportunities for area residents will result. The companies are committed to maximizing the number of Canadians involved in their activities. The *Vinland* manpower complement of 104 persons

will be approximately 63 per cent Canadian when the rig begins operation, and is expected to rise above 90 per cent by 1983.

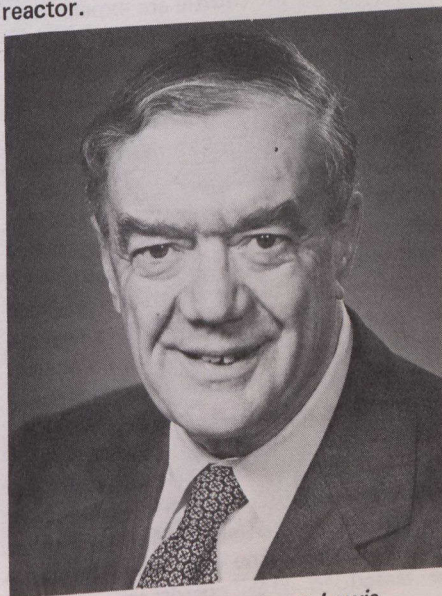
The future employment benefits of this ambitious drilling program are enhanced by a training agreement recently signed by Bow Valley and the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission (CEIC). Under this \$1.4-million program, Canadians — primarily Nova Scotians — are being trained in western Canada, in Port Hawkesbury on the Strait of Canso, and on the *Bow Drill 1*, which is currently drilling for Petro-Canada and a group of Canadian companies offshore Nova Scotia.

Canadian receives top award in nuclear science

A Canadian researcher has become the second Canadian to receive the Enrico Fermi Award, the top award in the field of nuclear science.

Dr. Wilfred Bennett Lewis, 73, of Deep River, Ontario, received the gold medal and \$25 000 for his leadership in Canada's heavy-water reactor development program and his work in devising the CANDU nuclear power generating system.

The award, presented to 22 other scientists in the past 26 years, was awarded to Dr. Lewis by representatives of the United States Department of Energy in a special ceremony at the Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) nuclear laboratories in Chalk River, Ontario, where the Canadian scientist had worked on the CANDU power reactor.



Dr. Wilfred Bennett Lewis

The citation signed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan praised Dr. Lewis "for his dedicated support of heavy-water-moderated reactors for research and power generation; for his inspiring leadership of Canadian nuclear energy development; and for his contribution to the use and control of atomic energy".

Dr. Lewis, who began his work in nuclear research at AECL in 1952, supported using heavy water, an isotope which proved to be better at moderating neutrons in an atomic reaction than the ordinary water used in systems developed in the United States and Britain. He also preferred the use of zirconium as the metal for building reactors because of its strength and resistance to weakening by neutrons produced by atomic reactions.

The Canadian scientist retired from AECL in 1973 but continued to serve as an adviser to the United Nations until 1978. He believed that atomic power should be used for peaceful purposes and served on the International Atomic Energy Agency, a nuclear-control organization, for 20 years.

Insurance agreements signed

The Canadian Department of External Affairs has announced the signing of two bilateral foreign investment insurance agreements, one with Papua New Guinea and the other with Sri Lanka.

Tied directly to the Export Development Corporation's investment insurance program, the agreements are designed to foster increased trade and investment, with each of the countries.

The agreement between Canada and Papua New Guinea was signed by Canada's High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea, Raymond C. Anderson and Papua New Guinea's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Noel Levi. The second agreement was signed in Colombo, Sri Lanka by Canada's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, Robert W. Clark and the Sri Lankan Secretary to President Jayewardene, W.M.P.B. Menikdiwela.

The agreements facilitate insurance of investments under the Export Development Corporation's investment insurance program which insures Canadian investors against loss of their overseas investments by reason of political actions in the host country.

Canada has signed 33 similar agreements with countries in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Europe and the Pacific. Negotiations continue with 14 other nations.

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited