

The Northern Pipeline Agency will have the advantage of being a single regulatory window on all the undertakings under federal responsibility. The commissioner will run it from Calgary. He will be closely in touch with the Foothills company from day to day. There will be discussion with departments. For example the Departments of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Public Works and Treasury Board will all be brought together under a single agency by having people seconded from their departments. Through the agency, the terms and conditions of manpower procurement plans which the Foothills company is considering will have to be submitted.

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There will be public sessions held by these advisory councils that are to be set up. There is the requirement that the Foothills company has to make an application to build the Dempster line by July 1, 1979, and no later. In other words, they have to apply to do this while this line is being built. I certainly think it is very likely we are going on to greater and greater economic things in Canada.

The fact that more gas is being found all the time in Alberta does not worry me. It pleases me a great deal. In fact, in Ontario just recently there has been a rumour that a deep gas well has been drilled and large quantities of gas discovered near Sarnia and Windsor. As the House knows wells were drilled all over southern Ontario and a number of shallow gas wells were found, producing at a few hundred feet. They were all around the Lake Erie area and up into the Lake Huron area. As hon. members will remember, the first oil well in the world was drilled when they were looking for gas at Petrolia, Ontario, about 100 years ago. It is just possible that these areas of Ontario might also produce gas in huge quantities; who knows? This is all to the good in order to make Canada self-reliant in energy. But it will be a long time before we can develop any of these speculative fields, so it is very much to our credit to get busy making use of what we have already found by building a pipeline from the delta.

I think hon. members must realize that there are penalties involved in this legislation. This agency is pretty well all-embracing. The penalties apply not only to Foothills, which is constructing the pipeline, but also to other individuals or firms who have contracts. The penalties are as high as \$10,000 a day for non-compliance. Even appeals from the decisions of the agency are looked after by ensuring that the Federal Court will hear these appeals without undue delay.

I do not want to go into a lot of uninteresting things like tolls and tariffs, but they are well looked after. The National Energy Board will be able to authorize the imposition of charges which are related to the project cost when the pipeline is capable of starting up and when it is actually transmitting gas.

Finally, there is the self-destruct provision that the whole agency will be taken out of action about a year after the pipeline begins to function. I think the major fact is that the powers of this agency, which seem huge to some people, will allow the minister to make sure we have a pipeline that is economical in nature. It is important also that it is built with

private money, that of the people of Canada. The people generally are not again to be billed for a huge public project.

This matter of guarantees is a very vexatious one. If we asked for a guarantee of 90 per cent or more Canadian content, men, material and services, including pipe, this would have almost meant a handout or a real come-on to private companies to gouge the government and the company. Even union members themselves know this and accept it readily. It is up to Canada to see that we not only have the most efficient use of manpower and services, but also that it maximizes Canadian content. It is important to keep efficiency in mind as well as cheapness, and if we can keep the cost of over-runs down to 35 per cent or less we will get that Dempster line completely free. That is not a small thing; it will amount to \$1 billion or \$2 billion. It will free some cost in this way, but we will still get the line even if we cannot manage to do that.

Another wise idea, which is new to me and I think to most Canadians, is that the Foothills company is asked to pay the cost of this national pipeline agency, which could amount to anywhere from \$5 million a year or more for the next three to five years. This does not seem too much when you are thinking in terms of \$10 billion to \$15 billion for the whole pipeline cost, but this is a new departure. It has been used in the United States in the past but not in Canada. Since we know the minister is definitely anxious to make this suggestion work, I wonder if, in respect of future pipelines, we could make Crown agencies or corporations pay for their monitoring bodies, such as the CBC paying for the cost of the CRTC and the railway companies paying for the cost of the Canadian railway commission.

These are matters which are worth considering, Mr. Speaker. In my opinion we have a huge but worthwhile project here. It will take a strong hand to make sure that Canada gets proper treatment. It will take a strong hand to make sure the Yukon natives and the Yukon itself will be assisted and helped by this project. It will take a strong hand to make sure we maximize Canadian content, both in respect of labour and materials. I think the best action we have taken is putting the present Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. MacEachen) in place as head of the northern pipeline agency.

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, in rising to take part in this debate I think it would only be appropriate if I said at the commencement how much we in this party have appreciated the help of the officials of the Foothills company and also—and I say this especially in respect of the help I received personally—from representatives of the labour movement in Canada. They have been very generous indeed to me in conversations I had with them, as well as giving me advice and assistance, helping me to come to a better understanding of what are the issues regarding the pipeline itself, and particularly in regard to the terms of the bill before the House this evening.

I regret having to say that in many respects we have received a lot more help from the company and those interested in the work and services that will result, and the material that will be supplied to this pipeline, than from the government