

In recent years, Canada has become a world leader in the design and construction of super-efficient, low-energy buildings. In 1980 the government offered a series of Low Energy Building Design Awards, totalling \$250,000, to teams of architects and engineers who designed the most energy-efficient office buildings and hotel-retail-office complexes. Several provincial governments are now actively involved in efforts to improve the energy efficiency of housing and office buildings, and all provinces have been urged to take steps within their jurisdiction to develop higher standards for energy conservation in their respective building codes. With respect to existing residences, the federal government intends to more than triple the annual budget of the very successful Canadian Home Insulation Programme, whereby grants of up to \$500 are made available to homeowners to upgrade their insulation.

In May 1981, Canada's Energy Minister, the Honourable Marc Lalonde, confirmed that the Federal Government will institute a Canadian Oil Substitution Programme, which will offer Canadians taxable grants to convert from oil heating systems to a cheaper and more plentiful form of energy, such as natural gas. The programme is expected to reduce oil consumption in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors across the country to 10 percent of energy needs by 1990. In regions of the country where an alternative form of energy is not readily available, the grants will apply to a wide range of energy conservation measures, such as improved insulation and furnace efficiency.

The industrial sector accounts for some 21 percent of total primary energy use in Canada, and high priority has been given under the National Energy Programme to reducing demand for energy in existing industrial facilities. Assistance has been made available to double the number of government-industry seminars and workshops on the use of an energy systems analysis programme. Canada's Energy Bus, which is designed to identify conservation opportunities at industrial plants by means of on-site energy audits, is already well known in Europe. Industries in several Member States have benefitted from the Energy Bus under the ongoing programme of Canada-EC industrial cooperation. The Canadian government is also actively encouraging business and industry to substitute other sources of energy for petroleum. For example, forest products companies are taking advantage of federal grants that enable them to exploit energy created from forest waste in place of the petroleum now used to heat their buildings and carry on their industrial processes. Savings from this programme will reach the equivalent of 36 million barrels of oil a year by 1986. The programme, which until now has been confined to the forest industry, will soon be broadened to promote the use of municipal and agricultural waste products.

It is expected that these various government programmes will help to set new energy consumption patterns in Canada and permit a sound, long-term management of the country's energy resources.

QUEBEC: LE SECTEUR MANUFACTURIER DEMEURE LE MOTEUR DE L'ECONOMIE

Le Québec compose avec l'Ontario le coeur du complexe industriel du Canada. En plus de disposer chez lui et dans la province voisine d'un marché important, sa situation à proximité des centres de population de l'est des Etats-Unis procure à ses entreprises des débouchés considérables.