

government, the responsibilities of the provinces and all the interested parties.

As we know, the ERP guidelines which we inherited when we came to power in 1984 have clearly been found to be inadequate. As a result of that, the Minister of the Environment has committed himself to the formulation of new legislation which is part of an environmental agenda. That legislation and the environmental agenda require the co-operation and participation of all departments within this government. It is absolutely essential that this legislation and this agenda be drafted in such a way that we avoid the mistakes and messes created in the past by that party over there. Therefore, we are ensuring that the legislation be done in such a fashion. Although it may be later than we would wish, it will meet the test when it is there.

• (1130)

**Ms. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Deputy Prime Minister.

All that we can hear and all that Canadians can hear from the answer to the previous question is that this government was inadequate in 1984 in dealing with the environment, inadequate in 1988 and inadequate again in 1990. They cannot get their act together.

**An hon. member:** Six years later, nothing.

**Ms. McLaughlin:** Mr. Speaker, Canadians are fed up waiting for the government to act.

Let me ask the Deputy Prime Minister something more specific. Earlier this week the city of Toronto committed itself to a 20 per cent reduction in carbon emissions by the year 2005. This was something the minister of energy rejected despite the recommendations of many experts.

Will this government take some real action and commit itself to a reduction of carbon emissions by the year 2005?

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, when the hon. member refers to the government's record on the environment as being inadequate, she is really misstating the facts. Quite frankly,

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since this government came into power we have brought in a Canadian Environmental Protection Act that stands as a model in the world, a made in Canada acid rain control program. We have the toughest controls on car emissions of any country in the world.

When it comes to water, we released a comprehensive federal water strategy, a \$110 million clean-up of the St. Lawrence River, a \$75 million clean-up of the Halifax Harbour, a clean-up of the Sydney tar ponds. We have negotiated and signed the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement with the United States, created six new national parks, \$106 million to South Moresby, the Rouge River Wilderness Park and created the first national marine park at Bruce Peninsula.

In addition to that, the leadership internationally has been outstanding both by the Prime Minister and the Minister of the Environment.

[*Translation*]

**Mrs. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon):** I have a supplementary question for the Deputy Prime Minister. Canadians are fed up with the empty promises of this government. Throughout the electoral campaign the government kept saying it would launch effective environmental assessment programs. Last fall the minister promised to introduce this kind of legislation. When will the minister table his bill?

[*English*]

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, what I enunciated on behalf of the Minister of the Environment were not promises; they were undertakings and they were accomplishments.

As has been pointed out in the Speech from the Throne and has been enunciated by the Minister of the Environment, he is working on a comprehensive plan. Included in that will be legislation. I hope when the legislation is brought forth that that party will not diddle-daddle and subvert the democratic and parliamentary process by refusing to debate legislation with innocuous points of order and disruptive tactics that do that party no good and the House of Commons no good either.