

acid rain in Canada, concluded that the problem of acid rain is neither serious nor in need of any intervention. Canadian scientists have refuted these conclusions. They have pointed out that the NAPAP report, particularly its Executive Summary, minimizes what is known about the problem, over-complicates what is uncertain and describes market-driven future emission reductions in unreasonably optimistic terms.

There is a wealth of conclusive, compelling and irrefutable evidence on the nature, causes and solutions to the acid rain problem. These findings derive from American and European, as well as Canadian studies. Canada is taking action and we expect the United States to do likewise.

Canada's position was clearly and firmly set out by Prime Minister Mulroney in his address to the Americas Society in New York on March 28, 1988. He emphasized that "friendship has inescapable costs" and that one of these costs is "to avoid polluting your neighbour's property with destructive wastes." The Prime Minister reaffirmed unambiguously Canada's acid rain objective. "Nothing less than targeted, mandated reductions in acid rain emissions in the United States will suffice."

Other Environmental Issues

The acid rain issue is an anomaly in the Canada-USA relationship as the two countries have a long and impressive history of cooperating effectively to resolve shared environmental concerns. Moreover, despite the impasse on acid rain, since the two leaders last met there has been important progress in dealing with other bilateral environmental issues. The Agreement for the Conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd was signed on July 17, 1987, committing both countries to the protection of the caribou upon which many Northerners, Canadian and American alike, depend for their livelihood. In addition, on November 18, 1987, the Protocol to Amend the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement was signed. By virtue of the Protocol, Canada and the United States assumed new responsibilities for the clean up of severely polluted areas around the Great Lakes, and undertook to consult more extensively with the public at large in developing appropriate clean-up plans.