(g) (i) Yes.

(ii) Public review completed and panel report published in December 1985.

(iii) Yes, December 1985.

(h) (i) No.

(ii) Discussions are underway with Québec on a joint federal/provincial assessment process. Guidelines for environmental studies will be issued to Hydro-Québec this fall. Earliest completion of the assessment process would be the end of the 1990.

(iii) Yes if applicable.

BUSINESS EXPENSES—FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Question No. 94—**Mr. Manley:**

1. Are directions being given to assessors or auditors within Revenue Canada Taxation to ensure that amounts paid for advertising for or against the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement, or to umbrella organizations such as the Canadian Alliance for Trade and Job Opportunities or the Pro-Canada Network, are identified and, if so, what are they?

2. Is Revenue Canada Taxation applying any criteria in order to determine the deductibility of such amounts and, if so, what are they?

3. Have any such expenditures been declared by taxpayers to date and, if so what total amounts (a) have been declared (b) have been (i) allowed (ii) refused on assessment?

Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of National Revenue):

Business Expenses—Contributions in support of and against the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement

1. There is no special audit program directed at business expenses in support of or against the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement. These business expenses are reviewed in the normal course of audits of taxpayers books and records.

2. The Income Tax Act does not specifically deal with the deduction of these expenditures. The Department applies normal expenditure deductibility criteria. Deductions from business income are limited to the extent that they are incurred for the purpose of gaining or producing income from a business and are reasonable in the circumstances. Consideration is given to the facts and circumstances of each individual case. The Department's general views are expressed in Interpretation Bulletin IT-487.

3. The Department is aware, through the routine audit program examination of the books and records of corporations and individuals carrying on business, that claims have been made as business expenses for contributions incurred in support of or to oppose the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement. These expenditures would not necessarily be specifically identified in the financial statements filed with the income tax return. Further, as there is no special audit program directed at business expenses in support of or against the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement, no aggregate statistical information is available on these claims.

PCB STORAGE SITES IN THE CONSTITUENCY OF ABITIBI

Question No. 95—**Mr. St-Julien:**

1. Are there polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) storage sites in the constituency of Abitibi and, if so, (a) in what number (b) what is the frequency with which these sites are checked to ensure they comply with health and safety guidelines?

2. Have any of these sites failed to pass inspections and, if so, (a) which sites (b) on what dates (i) did they fail (ii) will they be tested?

3. Are PCBs in Abitibi being transferred for destruction and, if so, (a) to what location (b) by what means?

Mr. Lee Clark (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of the Environment):1. Yes.

(a) There are fifteen private industrial plants that store PCB waste in the constituency of Abitibi.

(b) Environment Canada inspects these sites once every two to three years to verify the inventory under 3(1) of the Chlorobiphenyls Interim Order (PC 1989-296, 23/02/89). Environment Canada also provides advice in accordance with existing codes of practice. The provincial government conducts an annual inventory under its hazardous waste regulations and applies the provisions of the federal government's Storage of PCB Wastes Interim Order in keeping with the concept of equivalency of provisions.

2. No cases of noncompliance have been detected by Environment Canada with respect to the inventory.

3. To our knowledge, no PCBs covered by the inventory were shipped for destruction.

MOTOR VEHICLE TRANSPORT ACT, 1987

Question No. 98—**Mr. MacWilliam:**

Has the government taken any action to review the reverse-onus procedure found in Chapter 35, Part II, Section 8, sub-section 4 of the Motor Vehicle Transport Act, 1987 and its impact on the nature of the transport industry in Canada and, if so, what action?