Feasible Reductions

It needs to be accepted that it is not feasible to reduce the present emissions from all emitters, since many units are old, or under-utilized, or lack the space to install control equipment, or have no hope of obtaining alternative fuels.

Future emissions may increase from their present values for many existing units, because they will be utilized to a greater degree, or they could be using fuel of greater polluting potential. The overall national thermal generating capacity is also increasing, and the new capacity will fire solid fuel exclusively. In addition, some eastern oil-fired stations are very likely to be converted to coal, possibly producing greater pollution than existed prior to conversion.

To calculate the projected emissions, it has been necessary to make assumptions for capacity growth and generation growth in all provinces for all types of generation. Further assumptions have had to be made on the probable degrees of control of the various emissions that will be politically acceptable, and technically practicable for different fuels. Most important, it has been assumed that new stations will be controlled wherever built, but that existing units will only be controlled where they are either large in themselves, or form part of large stations.

Table E.2.3 shows what is regarded as technologically feasible.