

Oral Questions

because the increase in price per barrel for that old oil will be in excess of \$4 a barrel. Why not use an excess profits tax on that old oil to help offset the cost of this accord, as opposed to the consumers of Canada paying the cost?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the Western Accord provides that all benefits flowing from the Accord are reinvested in new jobs in Canada, so the main beneficiaries of the accord are all those Canadians who want work. They will now have a chance to have work.

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● (1150)

[Translation]

PUBLIC WORKS

MIRABEL—LAND RESALE

Mr. Édouard Desrosiers (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Public Works.

If I may, on behalf of all Members of the House, I should like to commend the Minister for the excellent work he has done. I would like to ask him when the moratorium on Mirabel land resales will be lifted?

Hon. Roch La Salle (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to answer the question of my colleague. In less than five months, as you know, we have managed to find a solution to the land resale problem, a solution which both parties have endorsed, and this agreement will now become a Cabinet document. Quite confident that Cabinet will approve the document, I think I can tell the House that land resales might begin before the end of this session—and that spells efficiency in a matter which had been on the back burner for 16 years.

[English]

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister would get someone to endorse that \$13 million cheque which he gave to the pork producers during the election.

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ENERGY

WESTERN ACCORD—VANCOUVER ISLAND PIPELINE

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): My question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and it arises from the remarks she made on the Vancouver Island pipeline. In response to the Hon. Member for Kamloops-Shuswap she said that she was still in negotiations with the Energy Minister for the Province of British

Columbia, yet, earlier this morning she included the job potential for the Vancouver Island pipeline among the jobs which she anticipates from the recent energy deal. Are she and the federal Government now committed to the building of the Vancouver Island pipeline? If not, why would she include those figures in the job potential which she cited?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, in response to the Right Hon. Member, again I say that we are in discussions with the officials in British Columbia. We are trying to come to an agreement on a time line which permit the pipeline to be built.

OIL COMPANY BENEFITS

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is also directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and it deals with the Western Accord, which I think might be more appropriately called "ordinary Canadians versus Big Oil".

Yesterday afternoon the Minister announced \$1.3 billion of welfare for big oil. Yesterday morning the Government announced that it would cut back on the initial grain price for western farmers. Why this double standard? Why in the morning could the Government not afford a better grain price for western farmers, when in the afternoon it gave \$1.3 billion to big oil? Why the double standard?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member comes from Saskatchewan which has got one of the most impressive records in the development of oil and gas energy reserves, by using tax holidays, royalty holidays, and other measures, which have created jobs, created new revenues through land sales, and which have been very beneficial for his province.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Miss Carney: I am really shocked that a Member from Saskatchewan would be knocking the Western Accord that the Energy Minister of Saskatchewan initialled as good for his province.

GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, I think the time for b.s. is over. I want an answer from the Minister. Why the double standard? Why can this Government say in the morning—

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Why are you against jobs?

Mr. Nystrom: Shut up, Joe.

Why in the morning did the Government say to western Canadian farmers that it could not afford better grain prices and it would cut the initial price, when a few hours later in the House it gave \$1.3 billion of welfare to the oil companies? Why the double standard? I want an answer.