

Oral Questions

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will undertake to find that out.

OIL—METHOD OF DEVELOPMENT OF TAR SANDS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): In view of the fact that the situation which now applies to natural gas may in the not too distant future apply to oil, may I ask the minister whether the government is contemplating making any offers to the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan for some public participation in the development of the tar sands in those two provinces?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman may know that the government of Alberta made a new and interesting proposal last night with regard to state participation in the oil industry. I expect to be meeting with representatives of that province in the near future to discuss the possible further development of the oil sands, and development in Saskatchewan as well.

EXEMPTION OF TAR SANDS OIL FROM SURTAX

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the minister. In light of his answer, has the government now established a policy, in view of the proposed sharing of the development of the Athabasca tar sands by business and the people, that will ensure that crude petroleum produced from this particular development will be exempted from the surtax?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, that is one of the questions that has been discussed but no conclusion has been reached yet. There is some question whether specific exemption would be necessary in light of anticipated price levels.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, may I follow that up. The minister said that there is some question. Would he enlighten the House and people interested throughout the country as to what is the question that concerns him in this regard and why he cannot categorically say now whether the crude petroleum produced by that development will be exempt from the surtax?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): I should like to have very full consultations with the government of Alberta before making that statement, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There appear to be a number of supplementaries on this question. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Champlain and then return to supplementaries by the hon. member for Edmonton Centre and others.

[Mr. Douglas.]

[Translation]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—EFFECT OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF CONSTITUENCY ADVISORY GROUPS ON SELECTION OF PROJECTS

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Could he tell the House if the decisions of the constituency advisory committees which will be established under the LIP program will have a determining influence in the choice of projects to be approved?

● (1450)

[English]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, as I explained in letters to all hon. members, they certainly will have an influence on the decision but I retain the responsibility and authority for the final approval or disapproval of projects.

[Translation]

Mr. Matte: Mr. Speaker, on a supplementary.

Could the minister tell us if he will necessarily accept the suggestions made voluntarily by members of the House or by members of these advisory committees?

Mr. Speaker: I am under the impression that the minister has already answered this question.

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[English]

ENERGY

OIL EXPORT TAX—POSSIBILITY OF SUBSTITUTION OF DIFFERENTIAL APPROACH ADMINISTERED BY INDUSTRY

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources about his conversation with the representatives of the oil industry in Calgary yesterday. In view of the fact there is no quarrel over the 40 cents price differential, did the minister propose to the oil industry that he would consider the traditional differential approach administered by the industry as opposed to this awkward export tax he has proposed?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): No, sir, I did not make that proposal.

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): I have a supplementary for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Is it true that the minister allows the National Energy Board 24 hours to make national energy decisions and that the minister dictates their policies—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

FUEL OIL AND GASOLINE RETAIL PRICES—GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR FREEZE—ACTION TO ENFORCE

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and