

cooperation and now has one of the most stringent policies of all nuclear suppliers. Pursuant to that policy cooperation with India, Pakistan and Taiwan was terminated ten years ago and cooperation with Argentina has been limited to supporting the safe, and efficient operation of the Embalse reactor. Canadian cooperation with Romania and South Korea takes place in full accord with the policy outlined above. As this information is widely known, I believe your letter to be deliberately misleading in this regard.

Secondly, Canadian Government officials have responded to numerous enquiries over the past few years, including enquiries from Energy Probe, concerning possible tritium exports from Canada. There has never been any effort by the Government, or by Ontario Hydro in our experience, to deny or avoid any reference to this potential activity. To the contrary, officials have consistently advised that any such exports would take place only within the general framework of Canada's non-proliferation policy as regards nuclear exports. In that context it should be noted that tritium is not identified as a nuclear material in the Statute of the IAEA, and is not subject to IAEA safeguards. The Canadian Government believes that, given the physical nature of tritium and its limited proliferation significance, the application of safeguards to tritium is not appropriate. It should be clear, however, that export licences and permits for tritium will not be issued unless the Government is satisfied that tritium will not be used for nuclear weapon or any other nuclear explosive purposes. Moreover, officials indicated that detailed guidelines covering the evaluation of export applications were being developed for Ministerial consideration. Those guidelines were announced publicly by the Atomic Energy Control Board on March 14, 1986, well in advance of any request by Ontario Hydro to export tritium. The allegations, implicit and explicit, in this context in your letter are thus also unfounded.

Finally, and most importantly, you state in your letter that "the prime beneficiary of our (tritium) exports is expected to be the US military" and moreover that "there's nothing to stop the USSR, other nuclear weapons states, and even terrorists from ultimately getting their hands on it". There is no basis for this statement. As I have already indicated no export licenses or permits for tritium will be issued unless the Canadian Government is satisfied that the material will not be used for nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive purposes. The March 1986 guidelines issued by the AECB clearly support this. Moreover it is my understanding that, contrary to your assertion, the USA military are not called upon by law to fill commercial orders for tritium; in fact, tritium is made available to the USA military by