

that same question, when the fund is in deficit at what stage is that charged against the Consolidated Revenue Fund? Is that at the end of the year or is it after each quarter?

**Mr. Lalonde:** As far as the act is concerned, I do not believe it provides for the necessity of balancing the fund. The fund has been set up as an autonomous fund to look after the additional costs of the tar sands plant. As to the point raised by the hon. member, I would have to inquire as to exactly what the practice is with Treasury Board and I will be happy to provide him with the information.

● (1810)

**Mr. Wilson:** I have a question supplementary to that asked by the hon. member for Saskatoon West (Mr. Hnatyshyn). Is it the intention of the minister in connection with these negotiations invoking *force majeure* to refer to the National

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Energy Board the whole question of the price which the oil companies, the oilsands or tarsands projects, should be paid? If that is the case, will they be regulated in the same way as utilities such as TransCanada PipeLines, Bell Canada and other such utilities? Is it the minister's intention to move toward that means of establishing the price?

**Mr. Lalonde:** The answer is, no. We are not envisaging a public utility approach as such.

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. It seems to me the debate has lasted a reasonable time. I apologize to the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) who has risen again, but it being now past five o'clock the House stands adjourned until Monday at 2 p.m., in accordance with Standing Order 2(1).

At 6.12 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.