

fin, on met en place, actuellement, une Caisse d'adaptation et de perfectionnement professionnels pour aider les établissements de formation à se doter des installations qui permettront de former un plus grand nombre de travailleurs dans ces disciplines. Nous accordons également des subventions supplémentaires à l'industrie afin de l'encourager à former plus de travailleurs dans des professions d'importance nationale qui sont en pénurie de main-d'oeuvre. Par ailleurs, des fonds accrus sont affectés au Programme d'adaptation de l'industrie et de la main-d'oeuvre pour permettre le recyclage des travailleurs des industries en perte de vitesse. Enfin, nous élaborons des mécanismes visant à accélérer l'entrée et l'intégration de membres des groupes défavorisés dans la population active".

CANADIAN ENERGY POLICY UPDATE

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, Marc Lalonde, made a major statement on Canadian energy policy on May 31, 1982 in the House of Commons. The Minister reviewed recent developments in the energy sector covering the agreements with the Provinces, the world oil outlook and its implication for Canada, and domestic supply and demand developments. He then turned to the implementation of the Government's programmes for substitution away from oil, for energy conservation, for research and development of new energy sources and for the Canadianization of the oil and gas industry. The basic objectives of the National Energy Program, announced in October 1980 - security of oil supply, increased opportunity for Canadians to participate in the oil and gas sector, and a fair distribution of energy benefits and burdens - remain unchanged, and any adaptations are designed to contribute to the achievement of these goals in this decade.

Previous consideration of oil import strategy was based on the premise that Canadian oil import needs were likely to grow through the mid-1980s. This premise is now in question. With the success so far of the oil substitution programme and the expected production from offshore sources, imports are unlikely to grow beyond current levels and may indeed drop.

Cumulative additions to natural gas reserves have created a growing surplus. Minister Lalonde announced new incentives for increased industrial use of natural gas, and further assistance for the laying of new transmission lines in Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. The regulations designed to protect future Canadian requirements for gas have been altered in view of the new estimate of reserves, and these will permit higher levels of exports.

The rate of progress on the Canadianization of the oil and gas industry has exceeded all expectations. Canadian ownership of oil and gas upstream revenues has risen by 6.7 percent to a total of 34.7 percent. Most of this has been accomplished through acquisitions and mergers. The Government remains committed to the Canadianization of at least 50 percent of the industry by 1990.

Oil and gas prices and fiscal measures announced in October 1980 will remain in place, but Mr. Lalonde announced some immediate and short term cash flow relief to the industry. These, along with the royalty reductions recently announced by the Province