

The project sponsors foresee that a substantial proportion of the benefits of future Beaufort Sea Region development will accrue to northern residents. Employment opportunities are expected to become available for every northerner who wishes to participate in petroleum activities. It is projected in the EIS that by 1990, between 3,000 and 4,000 direct jobs would be held by Beaufort employees residing in the North; by the year 2000, this employment range is expected to increase to between 5,000 and 7,000. There would also be indirect and induced employment from the project.

Data forming part of the *Beaufort Sea Exploration Agreement* signed by the three proponents Dome, Esso and Gulf, and provided to the Committee, were much more conservative. While northerners represented 46% of employment from offshore development, by 1990 total employment levels for northerners were projected to be only half those forecast in the EIS. The Committee recognizes that these figures predate those of the EIS, but they also accord more closely to figures presented by Esso to the Committee.

Direct sourcing of goods and services in such sectors as construction materials, fuel supply, catering and transportation is forecast to account for approximately 14% of the Canadian total of \$47 billion (intermediate development rate) to \$60 billion (high development rate) by the year 2000. Substantial non-quantifiable benefits are anticipated to accrue there as well. These would include improvements in educational and transportation systems, as well as medical and social services; contributions to local entrepreneurial activity; and expansion of the northern retail and services sector.

The petroleum industry recognizes, however, that long-term employment is not yet guaranteed and that moving the northern economy to greater self-sufficiency requires more than engaging northerners in petroleum-related jobs and business. Most employment opportunities in the industry are not secure because of the seasonal nature of the present drilling season; however, year-round activity is forecast by Dome as early as 1983. A principal complaint is that there is a lack of skilled jobs available to native northerners because of inability to fill the skills requirements. This situation is expected to improve only gradually as opportunities for full-time employment and technical training facilities expand.

*A lot of our initial planning is done through the technical school in Fort Smith. Much of the basic infrastructure is already there to provide the training. We are working with them. We are also working with industry-related training vehicles to provide the necessary exposure, so that when we are operational about 15 months from now the people we have up there will have had some prior exposure to the kind of work they have to do, as opposed to learning on the job at that moment in time. For operational safety it is very unwise to throw somebody in and break or make them and expect that they will operate safely. (Mr. D. Motyka, Gulf, Issue 20:55, 23-3-1982)*

Industry has indicated a willingness to work with government in upgrading skills of northerners by providing its own facilities for training programs. The National Industrial Training Program, previously referred to, provides the vehicle for this co-operation to occur. Funds under this program can be allocated specifically to provide training opportunities for native Canadians in order to help them take advantage of employment in urban as well as project development areas.