

BACKGROUND NOTES

- * The C\$315 million will pay for project management, engineering support, training, commissioning and plant operation as well as technical and quality assistance provided to the Romanian utility which owns the Cernavoda stations. Canadian companies and organizations with a commercial interest and involvement are:
 - AECL CANDU, the international nuclear engineering, project management and equipment procurement arm of AECL.
 - Nuclear Construction Managers, a nuclear project engineering and consulting firm located in Mississauga, jointly owned by CANATOM Inc. and Foundation Company of Canada Limited. CANATOM is a joint venture among SNC-Lavalin and Monenco Limited.
 - Manufacturing and consulting member companies of the Organization of CANDU Industries for limited component, parts and tool supply for Unit 1.
- * Cernavoda Unit 1 is almost 50 per cent complete and is scheduled to begin producing power in 1995. The four other units are at various stages of completion.
- * Through the new loan, Canadian engineers and technicians will provide management expertise and technical assistance on site; training in project management, construction, plant commissioning and operation; and technical assistance for Romanian-supplied equipment and construction.
- * A new Romanian electrical utility formed last year, known as RENEL, owns the Cernavoda Nuclear Generating Station. RENEL is headed by Dr. Aureliu Leca who, earlier this year, visited nuclear power plants in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick. All construction work will be carried out in close co-operation with RENEL.
- * Romania has a large pool of engineers and technicians highly skilled in nuclear power science and technology. The Romanian Institute of Atomic Physics has produced a team of researchers and engineers experienced in nuclear research, safety, management of radioactive facilities and the development of nuclear fuel.
- * Romania has few sources of electricity. The country is considered to have good economic potential in the long term, but only if it has a stable and sufficient electricity supply to offset expensive energy imports and support the drive to a market economy. The new Romanian government considers completion of the Cernavoda project crucial to its economic and social future and has made completion of the station a national priority.