

Added to current spending, that will bring us up to about \$155 million a year, just a little less than is spent on the nuclear industry all by itself, and less than 40 per cent of what was spent in these areas in 1984.

Given this unmistakable, unconditional surrender on global warming, will the minister agree that the green plan's section entitled "Anticipating and Preparing for Global Warming" represents the government's real strategy—do nothing substantive to stop it, but try to cope with it when it happens?

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the hon. member has made mention of energy efficiency. In fact, I recall just in the last committee meeting that he and I attended when we were discussing the Petro-Canada privatization bill that he in fact commended the government and the department for the leadership we had taken in alternate energy.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Ms. Lynn Hunter (Saanich—Gulf Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of the Environment and also relates to global warming.

In response to another question in the House this afternoon, the minister responded by alluding to Canadian leadership on reduction of CO₂ emissions. Yet the document, the green plan, states that the target is going to stabilize carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions at 1990 levels by the year 2000. In the same document it states the government is going to have difficulty meeting the stabilization targets.

How is the government going to achieve this goal?

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

• (1450)

Hon. Robert de Cotret (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, we have restated the goal in the green plan. That is a goal that we have committed to internationally at Bergen, repeated in Geneva, and expanded upon, as a matter of fact, in Geneva. It is a goal that we feel confident we can meet.

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From a scientific point of view, we know exactly how we can reach most of the goal. We are very confident in this area, as was the case, for example, with CFCs and the ozone-depletion problem that we will probably be able to surpass the goal.

The science has to be developed further and if the hon. member looks at the green plan carefully she will see that there is a very significant part of the Green Plan that deals with research and development and scientific work in the field of the environment.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

[Translation]

Mr. Louis Plamondon (Richelieu): Mr. Speaker, the new Minister of the Environment is costing \$2 billion in losses for those who are concerned about the environment. We can see that the departure of the member for Lac-Saint-Jean was a very costly proposition for the environment, Mr. Speaker, just to end up with a series of pious wishes. Can the Minister of the Environment tell me whether the provinces have been consulted and how much of these \$3 billion are earmarked for Quebec?

Hon. Robert de Cotret (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to tell my colleague from Richelieu that the Green Plan was drafted in full consultation with 11,000 Canadians. In addition, we did have consultations with all provincial governments, and I can assure my colleague that this new \$3 billion appropriation is a lot more than anything that had been envisaged in a plan such as this one. The funds will be distributed equitably to all regions of the country so that we may all do our share to reach our environmental objectives.

Mr. Louis Plamondon (Richelieu): My supplementary is for the Minister of the Environment. I said something about consultations with the Quebec government, Mr. Speaker, but I did not get an answer and three points need to be clarified. For example, the report provided by the minister has precious little to say about research and innovation. And then PCBs will be dealt with in 1995, not 1992. I should also remind the minister that back in 1986 we were talking about investing \$1.5 billion in wildfowl protection, but now we are down to \$175 million for threatened species and historic sites and centres. Is a fire-sale priced environment the only thing the minister has to offer to Quebecers?