

The province's new five-year \$5 million "Heat Save" energy conservation project, for instance, will utilize thermography and home energy audits to aid Ontario home owners in discovering where their homes are losing valuable heat. Thermography is a process for identifying heat loss by measuring infra-red emissions from a building.

In these "heat pictures", which are taken from an aeroplane, home owners can see where heat is escaping from their homes. Armed with this information, home owners can decide for themselves where and how much to insulate their homes.

Over the past three years, the Ontario government has conducted eight pilot projects in thermography, and home energy audits have reached well over 16,000 home owners. In the process, Ontario has become the world leader in the application of aerial thermography.

The government also has a wide range of projects to develop renewable and recoverable energy. As announced in a major policy document last fall entitled "Energy Security for the Eighties: A Policy for Ontario", the government set targets for solar energy to supply 1.8 per cent of the province's total primary energy needs by 1985, and for municipal, forest, industrial and agricultural wastes to contribute another 3.2 per cent.

These goals are part of the government's target to increase Ontario's capacity to produce more of its own primary energy from the present level of 22 per cent to at least 35 per cent by the year 1995. Just a few weeks ago the government initiated a program for the development of energy from waste projects in Ontario. In making that announcement, the energy minister pointed out, and I quote:

If properly utilized, energy from waste and biomass conversion could displace the equivalent of 27 million barrels of oil a year, worth about \$400 million in 1979 terms. That's enough to heat one million single family dwellings each year.

Over a 15-year period, the government estimates that the production of energy from municipal solid wastes, industrial, agricultural, and forest waste, unutilized industrial byproduct heat, and biomass conversion will require an investment in 1979 dollars of some \$3 billion. The government expects a large percentage of the investment will come from the private sector, with the balance coming from the Ontario government, municipalities, the Ontario Energy Corporation and Ontario Hydro.

The ministry of energy has budgeted \$2 million in this fiscal year for cost-sharing in feasibility studies and engineering design work. The ministry will provide preliminary assessments of projects as well, and technical advisory services, once a project is under way. Additional assistance will be available under the Canada-Ontario bilateral program.

The government firmly believes that local governments and private industry have a vital role to play in developing energy from waste projects. Such projects will benefit Ontario's

#### *The Address—Mr. Ferguson*

economy and will also make it possible for many municipalities and industries to solve their solid waste disposal problems.

In Hamilton, for example, the Solid Waste Recovery Unit, or SWARU plant, is now operated by Tricil Limited. This plant, commissioned in 1972, has a design capacity of 600 tons of prepared refuse a day. It was the first plant of its type in the world. Tricil has a ten-year contract with the regional municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth to process at least 120,000 tons of refuse a year, and plans to expand its operation to include electrical generation from steam in co-operation with the Ontario Energy Corporation.

In the Sudbury region, Inco Limited and the Sudbury Regional Development Corporation have recently announced a joint plan for a similar plant with a capacity of more than 100,000 tons of waste annually.

The government of Ontario feels that these are just two of the existing opportunities for business and government which are waiting to be developed in the area of new energy forms.

Besides energy from waste projects, industry is becoming interested in producing synthetic liquid fuels, in developing solar energy technology and products, and in devising more energy efficient appliances, automobiles and building products—to name just a few. At present, the ministry of energy is reassessing the potential of synthetic liquid fuels, and the minister of energy expects to be presenting a major policy proposal to cabinet in the coming months.

These fuels, which can be produced from natural gas, coal, grain or other agricultural crops and wood, do have a role to play in our future as a means of conserving conventional fuels. Although it is hard to know at this point in time how much of the fuel market they will eventually comprise, very real opportunities exist for the development of the synthetic liquid fuel industry.

This country has the potential to develop a secure supply of energy compared to other industrial countries. Since security of supply is the major consideration of most industries, this availability of energy would give this country a very real industrial advantage in the marketplace. All we need to do as a country is to grab the brass ring.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I have outlined to the House what a province with initiative, knowledge, and sound leadership is doing to move toward self-sufficiency in energy, in the shortest possible time. I sincerely hope that the federal government will show the same kind of leadership, so that this country may become self-sufficient in oil with the least possible delay.

**Mr. Ralph Ferguson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State, Small Businesses):** I want first of all to congratulate Madam Speaker on having been selected as the Speaker of the House. The qualities of discipline and tact, the firmness and sensitivity that she has shown during her past service in