

TABLE E.2.5 PROJECTED SO₂ EMISSIONS FROM COPPER-NICKEL SMELTER COMPLEXES, ANNUAL TOTALS AND 5-YEAR AVERAGES, 1980 - 2000

	Million tonnes					5-year averages
Year	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	
Emission	2.04	1.99	1.96	1.86	1.86	1.94
Year	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	
Emission	1.77	1.55	1.55	1.23	1.23	1.47
Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	
Emission	1.08	1.08	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.95
Year	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	
Emission	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87

Thus, Scenario III assumes that some environmental control and technological improvements will occur in this sector, that production will be near or at capacity, and that the resulting emissions will be somewhere between 2.04 million tonnes and 0.87 million tonnes by the year 2000 (see Figure E.2.1).

It should be noted that under present conditions the environmental conscience of society has been aroused by an awareness of the dangers posed by acid rain. This arousal should, in all probability, ensure that some action will be taken to reduce emissions and hence Scenario III would tend to be in the more optimistic range.

As indicated in Figure E.2.2, it is anticipated that future emissions will be at least lower than in any of the previous periods examined. Should the most optimistic scenario prove valid, emissions by the year 2000 will have decreased approximately 75% from the peak levels recorded in the 60's. It is of note that levels have diminished close to 40% since the 1960's, so that a goodly portion of the reduction is still to come as indicated in Figure E.2.3.