

Adjournment Debate

understand the Minister's choice of words, that it would be appreciated if he could be more specific and clear as to his Department's intention in the incinerator project. This debate allows the Minister to explain the Government's position.

● (1825)

I take it that the Parliamentary Secretary can confirm that indeed this \$110 million steam garbage incinerator has been dumped. I also expect the Parliamentary Secretary to explain why the federal government is now withdrawing its support from the project so that the other partners, the Ontario Government and the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, will better understand the decision. As a matter of fact, if we do not have a client for the steam, why build the plant?

In closing, I would like to remind my colleagues that nothing prevents the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, the Province of Ontario or Ontario Hydro, for that matter, to go ahead with this project if they can finance it and find a site in the periphery of Ottawa. I can well understand that they would like to deal with garbage disposal in the Ottawa area. I can also understand that they would like to put it to use in creating steam which could be turned into electricity that can be fed into Ontario Hydro's power grid and eventually bring in enough money to warrant the cost efficiency of building this plant.

I said before that I thought it was wrong to put this plant either in LeBreton Flats or in the Overbrook community. I think it is bad urban planning and I wish the Parliamentary Secretary would confirm to me that indeed the federal government is getting out of this project.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I would like to start

by congratulating the Hon. Member on his constant dedication to the interests of his constituents.

He is right in saying that in 1980, the Ontario Ministry of Energy invited Public Works Canada, together with the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality, to participate in a major feasibility study for an energy-from-waste steam plant in the Ottawa-Carleton region. The decision was made on the basis of an initial study made in the seventies, according to which there might be a shortage of energy to provide for heating and cooling in the central zone and the central heating system on Cliff Street might not be adequate.

After the study was carried out in co-operation with the Ontario Ministry of Energy, the Department of Public Works had meanwhile launched an intensive energy conservation program. The program was so successful that total energy demand dropped considerably, including demand for energy produced by the plant on Cliff Street. As the study started by the Minister of Energy was completed, Public Works Canada found that the demand for steam over and above existing capacity no longer existed.

That is why the Department will no longer be promoting the installation of an energy-from-waste plant in the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality.

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Guilbault): The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).

At 6.28 p.m., the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.