

4.71 The Committee believes that this is an issue that should be resolved as decisively and as rapidly as possible. In principle, since Canada is more profligate in energy use than the European nations mentioned, efficiency measures should be quantitatively more effective, not less. Certainly, it would be difficult to envisage success in such measures, or their vigorous prosecution, if the federal department that would be most concerned with implementation is convinced that their effect will be modest.

4.72 In his evidence on this matter, Mr. Slater suggested that the International Energy Agency might be asked to convene a technical workshop so that those responsible for evaluating the measures in the various countries could compare their assumptions and methods, and if possible reconcile their differences. The Committee would endorse such an initiative by Canada, and any other necessary action. We reiterate that this issue is both urgent and of vital importance.