

but did not trigger the IEA oil-sharing provisions. Thus the program remains untested by a supply emergency.

Another area of IEA collaboration is long-term co-operation on energy matters to reduce dependence on imported oil. The Standing Group on Long Term Co-operation considers national and co-operative programs in:

- 1) conservation of energy;
- 2) development of alternative sources of energy such as domestic oil, coal, natural gas, nuclear energy and hydro-electric power;
- 3) energy research and development, including co-operative programs on coal technology, solar energy, radioactive waste management, controlled thermonuclear fusion, the production of hydrogen from water, nuclear safety, waste heat utilization, conservation of energy, municipal and industrial waste utilization, and overall energy system analysis; and
- 4) uranium enrichment.

Unfortunately, with declining oil prices has come declining interest by most participating countries in the longer-term energy options and in energy conservation. The falling support for energy research, development and demonstration (R,D&D) is apparent in Figures 21 through 23.

Figure 21 displays government energy R,D&D budgets for the IEA countries since 1975, in constant 1985 U.S. dollars. Figure 21 shows that this spending peaked in 1980 at US\$9.24 billion and fell to US\$6.57 billion by 1985, a decrease of 29%. The U.S. alone accounts for all of this drop; other IEA nations are split in their performance. Spending on energy R,D&D is down from its 1980 values in West Germany and the United Kingdom, but up in Japan, Italy and Canada. Canada's spending on energy R,D&D reached its maximum in 1984.

Figure 22 gives the amounts budgeted since 1977 for renewable energy R,D&D. The drop since 1980 in this component of total energy R,D&D is much larger, amounting to 60%. These statistics illustrate the waning interest in renewable energy forms given the reduced price of oil and its ready availability. The United States has dominated this decline and Canada's cutbacks have been prominent, but countries such as Japan and Sweden are also spending less. The 75% plunge in U.S. funding for renewable energy R,D&D since 1980 is particularly perplexing in view of that country's rising dependence on foreign oil. Only Belgium, Italy and the Netherlands budgeted more for renewable energy R,D&D in 1985 than they did in 1980; nevertheless, Italy's 1985 budget was just 35% of its 1984 peak. Canada's budget of US\$23.5 million in 1985 stood at only 41% of the US\$57.3 million budgeted in 1981. Total 1985 IEA budgeted expenditures for renewable energy R,D&D represented 7.4% of all IEA energy R,D&D planned spending; in 1981, they had accounted for 13.9%.