

2. Costs associated with the shutdown of unit No. 3 of the Pickering generating station and replacement of the defective pressure tubes have been borne by Ontario Hydro. Atomic Energy of Canada Limited has carried out fundamental investigations of the pressure tube failure mechanism. An ongoing program will utilize the results of these investigations in connection with the design of currently committed and future CANDU nuclear power stations.

CHALK RIVER—PROTECTED PLACE

Question No. 1,711—**Mr. Francis:**

Was the nuclear facility in Chalk River declared a protected place in June 1974 and, if so, for what reasons?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Atomic Energy Control Board reports as follows: Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories was declared a protected place by Order of the Atomic Energy Control Board dated July 19, 1947 as amended March 27, 1952. A new designating Order was made in June, 1974 to comply with Section 14 of the Atomic Energy Control Regulations which came into effect on June 4, 1974.

SALE OF PLUTONIUM TO FOREIGN BUYER

Question No. 1,713—**Mr. Francis:**

Has Canada sold plutonium to any foreign buyer and is it continuing to do so?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Atomic Energy Control Board reports as follows: Yes. Canada has sold spent fuel containing plutonium to France under bilateral safeguards implemented by Canadian safeguards inspectors. Any future sale of nuclear material would be under current safeguards policy as announced by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources on December 20, 1974.

PREVENTION OF PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Question No. 1,714—**Mr. Francis:**

Is the government convinced that any bilateral agreement with a purchaser of a CANDU reactor will prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons when the controlling international agency, the International Atomic Energy Commission, accepts a difference between "peaceful" and "non-peaceful" explosions and Canada does not accept such a difference?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Atomic Energy Control Board reports as follows: The present policy of the Canadian government is to insist on an international safeguards system implemented by the International Atomic Energy Agency, or other appropriate alternative procedures. The Canadian government will only permit the export of Canadian nuclear material, equipment or technology to countries with whom satisfactory commitments exist to ensure that these exports will not be used for the development or production of any nuclear explosive device.

Order Paper Questions

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION RELATING TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Question No. 1,716—**Mr. Francis:**

Does the oath of secrecy taken by people working in the nuclear field relate only to information related to nuclear weapons or does it now include information relating to public health?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Atomic Energy Control Board reports as follows: The oath of fidelity and secrecy taken by employees of the Atomic Energy Control Board and Atomic Energy of Canada Limited pursuant to Section 18 of the Atomic Energy Control Act is set out in the schedule to that act. The scope of application of this oath has not been the subject of interpretation. Section 26 of the Atomic Energy Control Regulations prohibits the disclosure of proprietary information obtained by the board except as stated therein, and Section 13 prohibits disclosure by any person including board employees of certain information relating to nuclear weapons.

ATOMIC ENERGY CONTROL REGULATIONS—SUSPENSION OF LICENCES

Question No. 1,717—**Mr. Francis:**

Has the Atomic Energy Control Board suspended the licence of any licence holder without giving the holder an opportunity to be heard in the interests of health, safety or security and, if so, what were the circumstances that led to such a decision?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Atomic Energy Control Board reports as follows: Since the coming into effect of the revised Atomic Energy Control Regulations on 4 June 1974, the Atomic Energy Control Board suspended the licences of one licensee after having provided a hearing by the Board.

ATOMIC ENERGY CONTROL REGULATIONS—SUSPENSION OF LICENCES

Question No. 1,718—**Mr. Francis:**

Has any licence issued by the Atomic Energy Control Board been revoked, suspended or amended and, if so, what were the circumstances that led to such a decision?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Atomic Energy Control Board reports as follows: Since the coming into effect of the revised Atomic Energy Control Regulations on June 4, 1974, the Atomic Energy Control Board suspended the licences of one licensee as a result of violations of the Atomic Energy Control Regulations in failing to report an incident involving the malfunction of a radiography camera and the improper shipment of that camera and radioactive source by commercial road transport.

DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

Question No. 1,719—**Mr. Francis:**

Is the solvent used in hospitals to dilute radio-active wastes before pouring them down the sink highly toxic?

Mr. Maurice Foster, (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Atomic Energy