

ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR NEW BRUNSWICK

Conservative Council
The Student Environmental
Society

N.B. Cabinet Announces Results

The New Brunswick Cabinet has announced the results of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Belledune coal plant, a proposed 450 MW plant, which will either have a twin or will be a single plant if Lepreau 2 (nuclear) goes ahead. The original environmental impact study prepared by NB Power claimed no need for scrubbers if low sulphur coal were used, which was the proposal. Estimates of SO2 emissions were in the range of 23 Ktonnes per year with low sulphur coal. This did not meet federal guidelines, however, and since Ports Canada is involved in the project by developing the coal port, the feds had the leverage they needed to force the NB government to meet the

guideline of somewhere around 8-9 Ktonnes of SO2 per year. As well, 95% of the presentations at the EIA meetings in Belledune called for scrubbers, stating that the NB Power proposal was not acceptable without them. This is a dramatic change in public attitude in a very depressed area of New Brunswick where jobs have been, and continue to be a high priority. However, it appears that the northeast has become a pollution haven in the province. The scrubbers are estimated at an additional \$125 million. Premier McKenna suggested that the addition of scrubbers will result in an electricity rate increase of about 4%.

Negotiations Continue

Negotiations with the federal government to subsidize Lepreau (Candu 3) are continuing apace. The potential sale to South Korea is driving

the effort to set up the prototype, quickly (relatively speaking). The feds seem to be avoiding the "subsidization" debate, for which the electricity will be slated for export to the United States, by justifying their financial support as prototype development. This distinction is the hook that Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. has used to get it on the agenda of the feds. Premier McKenna has agreed to pay the equivalent cost of a coal plant (about \$800 million passed on the Belledune plant) towards the cost of the Candu 3 in New Brunswick. He wants the rest from the feds.

EIA NOT ORDERED

The Provincial Environment Department is not ordering an EIA for the Apocan project in Chatham NB. Apocan Inc. has left its original industrial niche in New Jersey and wants to produce antimony trioxide at the plant starting in January. Antimony trioxide is a white odorless crystal (sugar or sand-like) powder. It is used in

flame proofing, pigments and ceramics, to stain iron and copper, and to decolorize glass. According to a chemistry professor at Dalhousie University, antimony can be linked to cancer and could spread if an accident or breakdown occurred. The company says it will release up to eight pounds of dust a year.

1st YEAR ENGLISH DEBATE

UNB vs. STU

NOV. 25 AT 12 NOON
EDMUND CASEY HALL

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT THE CHSC GIFT DRIVE

*IF YOU ONLY GIVE ONE GIFT THIS YEAR WHY NOT GIVE IT TO
SOMEONE WHO REALLY NEEDS IT.*

EVERY YEAR HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN GO WITHOUT GIFTS AT

CHRISTMAS TIME

LET'S MAKE IT A GREAT CHRISTMAS
FOR EVERYBODY

Please drop off all unwrapped gifts at the main bar at the CHSC
Show that you care

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