

Deputy Prime Minister indicated that he would take into consideration the Hon. Member's representation to consider the utilization of eastern Nova Scotia and New Brunswick coal in the Province of Ontario by Ontario Hydro.

As the Hon. Member knows, references the Deputy Prime Minister has made to western Canadian coal have been in response to the joint federal provincial task force on the use of western Canadian low sulphur coal in Ontario that was tabled in August of last year. This report was initiated in response to important environmental considerations, particularly acid gas emissions that result from the use of high sulphur coal.

As Ontario Hydro has to reduce its acid gas emissions by 50 per cent by 1994, the two levels of Government agreed to study the potential to meet these requirements by utilizing low sulphur coal in Canada. As well, Mr. Speaker, the Deputy Prime Minister has been meeting with all concerned parties in order to work toward a possible solution to some existing barriers to the project. The Deputy Prime Minister has met with union officials, Ontario Hydro officials, federal officials, and next month he will be meeting with Premier Peterson in order to discuss this proposal.

There are, for instance, transportation costs that must be dealt with in order to make this project a reality. Through the National Transportation Act we can reduce the unit costs in our transportation industry, whether it be by rail or lake vessel. We can be more competitive and attract more business, such as this, and ultimately create more jobs.

#### *Adjournment Debate*

This project is one which this Government supports and one which I am sure the Hon. Member understands is good for the economy, good for the environment and good for Canadians.

The Hon. Member for Cape Breton—East Richmond suggested that the Government consider eastern coal from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Certainly this is an idea worth considering which, if possible, would also be good for regional development reasons and create jobs in a very depressed area. The environmental concerns that are the driving force behind the decision to use low sulphur coal in Ontario are, of course, central to the development of any proposal.

Officials are investigating the possible use of low-sulphur coal from regions in Canada and whether there are these important environmental benefits. I know all Parties support a proposal which will reduce environmental concerns and create important jobs across the country, and our Government has taken the lead to ensure that this can become a reality.

*[Translation]*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 3(1).

The House adjourned at 6.28 p.m.

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