

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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[English]

### NUCLEAR ENERGY

#### CONDEMNATION OF SUPPORT FOR CANDU REACTOR PROGRAM—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Mark Rose (Mission-Port Moody):** Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Last night the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) finally admitted that nobody outside Canada wants to buy a Candu reactor and that there is no further demand for nuclear electricity in Canada at the present time. However, after finally arriving at these two earth-shattering conclusions, the minister proposed a new nuclear energy export plan by saying:

The Government of Canada believes that the Candu option should be preserved, if only to keep Canada's nuclear option open.

Therefore, in order to accommodate the irrational affection for the Candu demonstrated by the minister and his obsession with "preserving" this, the penultimate dodo of the great Canadian megaprojects, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Beaches (Mr. Young):

That the government scrap its latest Candu bail-out scheme of building reactors in Canada to sell nuclear electricity risk-free to the United States and, rather, that it satisfy the minister's nuclear obsession by pickling one last Candu and presenting it to the radiant minister for his own personal use and enjoyment.

**Madam Speaker:** Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

### NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM

#### PRICES OF OIL PRODUCTS

**Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. I would like to congratulate him for finally having the courage to admit in public that his program was a disaster which needed changing. We are very pleased to see the changes.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1415)

**Mr. Hawkes:** In the document on the energy update, the minister does not make it clear that oil prices will be going up. By January 1, 10 per cent of the oil used in this country will be subjected to a new, higher price. I should like to ask the

### Oral Questions

minister why he did not make that clear in the document. Can he tell us today, in terms that Canadians can understand, how much per gallon the price of oil and oil products will go up as a consequence of the new prices contained in his latest document?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Madam Speaker, I am glad to receive the congratulations of the hon. member although I would argue that they are certainly ill-founded, but one has to take small graces from Tory members.

I want to tell my hon. friend that the text of the document is quite clear. I am surprised that it took him that long to find out that an additional price would be paid for oil discovered between 1974 and 1981. That is spelled out quite clearly in this particular document, and every single journalist that I read got that point quite clearly. I fail to see why my friend had such difficulty finding it out.

As far as the question he asked is concerned, I am pleased to advise him that not only do we not expect any increase in the petroleum compensation charge in January to cover the cost of these particular changes, but in effect we expect a decrease in the petroleum compensation charge.

#### PRICE OF IMPORTED OIL

**Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West):** Madam Speaker, the minister is saying that maybe by January taxes will go down, but I would point out to him that the price of oil will go up. If he had told Canadians last night that the price of oil was to be increased five cents per gallon, that would be the kind of clarity they could understand.

May I move on to suggest that the program would not have been changed if there had not been a perceived need for change, so it is an admission of mistake.

May I ask the minister why he did not deal with the following situation. In Canada today, tax dollars are used to provide a subsidy on oil imported from Mexico of \$18 per barrel, which makes that oil \$9 per barrel cheaper than the Canadian produced product. We need the jobs in Canada, and we need the money in Canada, so why did the minister not take the opportunity last evening to make sure that Canadian oil would be sold at a price comparable to imported oil? Why did he leave a policy in place which provides that imported oil will become cheaper than Canadian oil, while jobs and money are chased out of the country? Why did he leave that system in place?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Madam Speaker, it was for the good reason that my hon. friend is as wrong on the second question as he was on the first. On the first point I want to remind him again that, because the price of international oil has not increased as much as had been anticipated, we will be able to finance the changes announced yesterday within and at prices which will