

characteristic of other sectors. It is special to us and there is a national consensus that we must Canadianize the industry.

[*Translation*]

Briefly, Mr. Speaker, the Petroleum Incentives Program is the key factor in the success of the National Energy Program. It stimulates new Canadian investment in the industry and makes it attractive for new partners to work together with foreign companies on the cost-intensive development of Canada's oil and gas potential. This new program has already led a number of foreign companies, owning substantial amounts of land with excellent prospects, to conclude agreements with Canadian-owned and Canadian-controlled companies wishing to invest their money and that of Canadian taxpayers in the development of oil exploration projects.

The National Energy Program is a viable solution, not only because it has taken an effective and timely approach to the country's energy problems but also because its goals are supported by the Canadian people. In all provinces, Canadians want the industry to become more Canadian. For instance, the Alberta government will implement and finance the Petroleum Incentives Program in the case of expenditures made by the industry in that province. Since the eligibility criteria for the subsidies are to be laid down in the bill, this is clearly a matter of some urgency to the oil industry in Alberta.

Increased Canadian ownership, which will enable us to achieve our energy security and ownership goals, will also ensure that the benefits of industrial expansion are distributed more fairly. In fact, there is a fundamental consideration that we often tend to forget, namely that a fair share of the revenues and a fair-pricing system are essential in view of the massive contributions Canadians will be required to make as consumers, investors and taxpayers in order to ensure the development of this essential sector of the Canadian economy in the years to come.

In short, Mr. Speaker, the Canadianization bill now before the House will enable us to deal with and resolve many of the problems Canada is facing in the energy field. It will help this country become self-sufficient in energy by the end of this decade. It will help Canadians to achieve control of the industry. The legislation is a key element in the government's series of measures on energy security, and it is extremely important as it provides for the payment of substantial financial incentives that are needed by the Canadian oil and gas industry. There is an urgent need for this measure. The bill will enable us to meet our commitment to those Canadian companies, institutions and private individuals who are dynamic and forward-looking and are taking very seriously the National Energy Program's goal to increase Canadian ownership in the oil and gas industry. They have made plans and, in many cases, have made investment decisions based on the imminent availability of subsidies under the Petroleum Incentives Program.

We must meet our commitments as soon as possible. We already have tangible proof of the desire of Canadians to use

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our incentives to play a more decisive role in the oil and gas industry. In less than a year, Canadian ownership has increased by more than 6 per cent, and the prospects are very good for realizing our goal, which is to achieve 50 per cent Canadian ownership in the industry by 1990, if not sooner.

• (1840)

[*English*]

This bill keeps another promise, a promise to the producing provinces, particularly Alberta, with which we signed those vital energy agreements last autumn. Incentives for developing petroleum supplies and Canadian participation and fairness in pricing and revenue-sharing are all there in those agreements, and they are here before us in this important legislation. Furthermore, with this bill we are keeping a promise to Parliament, a promise implicit in the passage of the Canada Oil and Gas Act last December. We told Your Honour that frontier exploration and development would be stimulated by a powerful new incentives system to complement the provisions of that act. We are now delivering the bill which will establish that system. Of course, there is no promise greater than that of Canada's rich and diverse energy resources. It is the promise of a secure energy future with a wide range of economic benefits for all regions of this country. Our petroleum incentives program will play a vital role in keeping the promise of our energy future.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to put some facts on the record concerning this piece of legislation, the National Energy Program which gave birth to it, and the real objectives of the government in its pursuit of what is widely recognized across this country as an absolutely disastrous program. Indeed, I was watching a television program last night in which a reporter from *Le Devoir* said that a high official in the Government of Canada described the November 12 budget as a disaster. The adjectives that the official used to describe the National Energy Program could not be repeated because it was a public television program. Therefore, if the November 12 budget is a disaster, the National Energy Program is far, far worse.

The minister has cried for the third or fourth time about the battle of the bells and the fact that he had to break up his highly desired, large package, Bill C-94, into eight bite-sized chunks. Well, I certainly have no apologies to make for moving the adjournment. I have no apologies to make for that battle. The fact is that we were right on the principle and we were right on the issue. We enjoyed the support of the public. It was pathetic to hear the minister read out one telegram in support of his position. I certainly think that my colleagues and I could easily bring forward 30, 40, 50 or 60 telegrams supporting our position.

The minister could have seen this bill passed through all stages by now if he had responded positively to my letter to