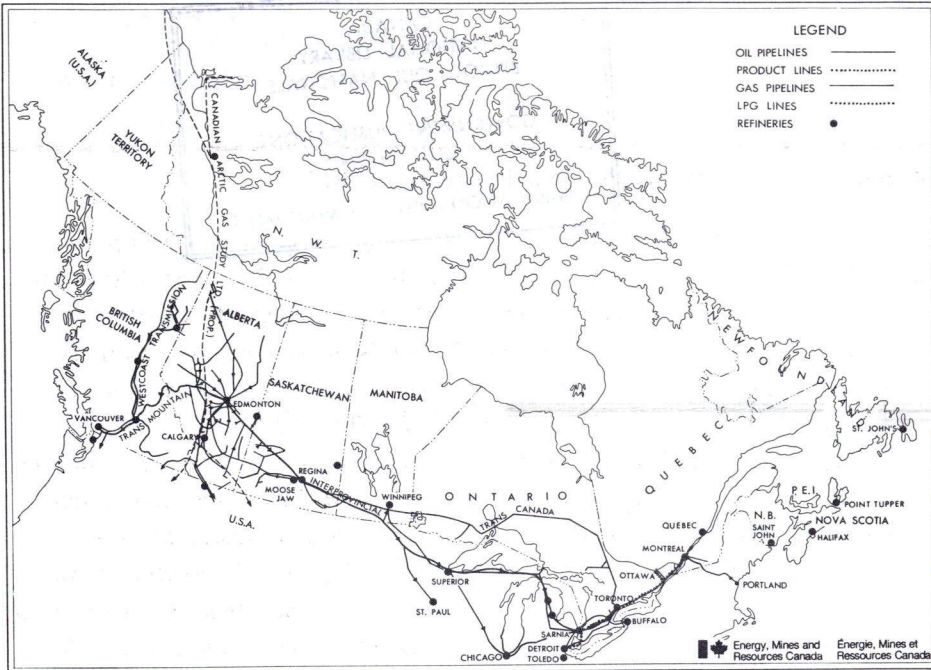


OIL & GAS PIPELINES IN CANADA



which make up 65 per cent of Canadian energy consumption, will continue to be the single most important source of energy for the next ten to 15 years. If present trends were to continue without a plan towards self-reliance, Canada could be importing oil to cover from 40 to 47 per cent of its estimated annual demand in ten years.

Self-reliance does not mean self-sufficiency at any price. In fact, it is likely that Canada will not be able to eliminate all oil imports in the 15 years projected in the strategy or even beyond that time. It will take time to reverse the present trend of rising import volumes and it will take time and money for the exploration and transportation developments basic for self-reliance. In view of the costs involved it may be necessary and even desirable to continue to import oil. In that event, self-reliance means that

Canada must have a large enough emergency reserve to cover any prolonged curtailment in imported supplies — another important goal stressed in “An Energy Strategy for Canada: Policies For Self-Reliance”.

While the period covered by the paper is the most important for developing self-reliance, it will also be necessary to look at the time beyond, when oil and natural gas will no longer supply most of Canada’s energy and new sources and policies will have to be determined. These longer-term issues will be the topic of a subsequent paper indicating alternative energy “futures” beyond 1990.

- tion and provide a more stable land-tenure system;
- amendments to the National Energy Board Act to facilitate allocation of domestic natural gas among consuming provinces in case of shortages;
- new studies for methods of energy-conservation and changes to the Income Tax and Excise Tax Act to encourage energy conservation;
- requirements for companies to begin drilling on specific geological structures within a definite period;
- reduction of the period during which

- geophysical information is confidential;
- federal assistance to provincial governments and utilities in reviewing their pricing policies for electrical energy;
- the federal position that coal producers should determine whether a market exists in Canada for their product before they make new export commitments.

Critical ten years

The next ten years in energy matters are critical for Canada. Oil and gas,

Radiation task force created

A federal-provincial task force to expedite the clean-up of radioactive contaminants in the Port Hope area of Ontario and to assist the Atomic Energy Control Board (AECB) in assessing the significance of radioactivity in other locations in Canada was announced recently by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, Alastair Gillespie.

Though investigative and remedial action has been started, and is continuing, at Port Hope, the Minister said it had been decided to form a task force in order to bring together, in a concerted way, the expertise of various federal and provincial departments and

other agencies.

The task force will be established under the leadership of the Atomic Energy Control Board, and will include the following federal departments: Health and Welfare, Environment, Energy, Mines and Resources, and National Defence. Provincial representation will be invited from the appropriate ministries, including health and environment, of the provinces in which radioactive areas are located. Its first priority will be to finish the investigation and clean-up at Port Hope already begun by the AECB in co-operation with the Ontario Ministry of Health.

The detailed status report on the investigation and clean-up at Port Hope includes information on contaminated

properties within the town of Port Hope as well as at the Eldorado Nuclear Limited waste-disposal sites. The four waste-disposal sites were the focus of public attention in mid-1975, and were the subject of a summary report released last July.

Radioactivity is known or suspected at 109 Canadian locations in 25 areas. Such locations and areas are most numerous in Ontario (79 locations in 15 areas) and Saskatchewan (19 locations in two areas), but they also exist in Alberta (two locations in different areas), Manitoba (two locations in different areas), and Quebec (two locations in different areas), as well as in the Northwest Territories (five locations in two areas).