

*Oral Questions*

what I said in my former answer. I will be meeting with Mr. Rance in the next few days to clear up the situation.

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**AGRICULTURE****BRITISH COLUMBIA'S WITHDRAWAL FROM SUPPLY  
MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING BOARDS**

**Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. Yesterday it was reported that the British Columbia Government is pulling all of its producers out of the national supply management programs and marketing boards. If this is true it represents a tremendous threat to our national marketing system for some three or four commodities across the country.

Can the Minister confirm these reports and tell us what the implications are for these producers? Will dairy producers continue to receive payments under the Canadian Dairy Commission? Will our import controls continue to be in place under our GATT obligations? Will the Minister tell us what the implications are for these dairy and feather industry producers?

**Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that question by my colleague, the Member for Algoma. I must respond by saying that I am indeed disappointed, but I am really not surprised because I have been aware of some discontent within certain sectors of the producers in the Province of British Columbia.

I must say, however, that provincial Ministers have already commenced a review of supply management systems and we hope that the report will be due in the near future.

I say that I am disappointed because marketing systems with supply management powers in various commodities have worked well for producers and processors and Canadian consumers. I hope that there would be some sober second thought before the final decision is made with respect to this move.

**Mr. Foster:** I am pleased to hear that the provincial Ministers are taking action to restore the integrity of the system.

**FEDERAL POSITION**

**Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma):** Mr. Speaker, will the Minister say exactly what actions he is prepared to take or is taking to ensure the restoration of a system that is the envy of producers throughout North America and European countries? We would like to see it maintained here in Canada.

**Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member will know that the federal Government is one of 10 signatories to those plans with respect to the marketing systems. This involves a provincial Government, it

involves the supervisory bodies, it also involves the producer groups of those various commodities.

I have been in touch with all representatives of all the commodity groups in the Province of British Columbia. I take satisfaction in the fact that, while not unanimously, almost without exception they are not in favour of the position taken by the Government of British Columbia at this moment. They would rather remain part of a national supply management system and they hope that a resolution of this matter can take place, thus avoiding the withdrawal from these supply management plans.

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**ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LIMITED****POINT LEPREAU, NEW BRUNSWICK—PROPOSED SECOND  
NUCLEAR REACTOR**

**Mr. Albert Girard (Restigouche):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

Yesterday Premier Hatfield announced that negotiations were proceeding with Atomic Energy of Canada regarding the development of a 300 megawatt unit at Point Lepreau II, and that construction will commence in 1990 following completion of detailed engineering.

*The Globe and Mail* has reported that the Minister has rejected New Brunswick's proposal for 100 per cent financing of the project. Will the Minister provide the House with a report on the status of those negotiations?

**Hon. Marcel Masse (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, first, there is no truth to the allegation that I have rejected Mr. Hatfield's proposals. Last October Premier Hatfield and I met to discuss the possible development of a second nuclear reactor at Point Lepreau. We agreed that Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and New Brunswick Power should commence discussions with a view to reaching a mutually satisfactory commercial arrangement.

These discussions are ongoing and proceeding well, although no final decision has been reached.

I have consistently maintained that decisions on new generating capacity must be made by the provinces and that the federal Government stood prepared to support the development of commercial projects. I indicated in Calgary a couple of days ago that we were not in the business of financing 100 per cent of any project. I am sure Mr. Hatfield appreciates this position.

We are agreed that the project must be commercial and we are actively pursuing discussions with this objective in mind.

**Mr. Speaker:** I must advise the House that despite the delay in getting started, all of which was completely legitimate and appropriate, this will be the last question for today. The Hon.