

In so far as Vote 15 is concerned, the answer is: 1. \$50,000,000.

2. (a) Not applicable; (b) Nil; (c) Nil; (d) \$50,000,000 primarily for salaries of replacements for public servants on continuous language training as a result of a conditional appointment or as part of a designation plan. Some unforeseen requirements may also be charged against this vote, if approved by the Treasury Board.

AERIAL CAPABILITY

Question No. 2,605—**Mr. Forrestall:**

Will the government give consideration to (a) tasking the requirement of each department for aerial capability in a straightforward manner (b) make the appropriate budgetary allocations and, if not, for what reason?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (President of Treasury Board): Aerial capability in the federal government has been developed as individual departments have determined the need for carrying out their responsibilities. The government implicitly tasks departments in this way and allocates budgetary resources to facilitate implementation of approved departmental plans. Every effort is made to limit government flying activities to those which are necessary to efficiently support achievement of department's objectives with the result, that, the only departments which operate aircraft are: National Defence, Transport, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and Energy, Mines and Resources. Wherever practicable, other departments may make use of these resources on a cost-recoverable basis, and where it is more efficient to do so, departments rent or lease aircraft to meet their requirements.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF POINT LEPREAU NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

Question No. 2,714—**Mr. Francis:**

Is the environmental assessment of the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station the only such assessment ever sought in Canada and, if so, is the government considering the possibility of an environmental assessment of all other existing nuclear facilities in Canada?

Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): The environmental assessment of the Point Lepreau nuclear generating station is the first assessment carried out under the auspices of the Department's Environmental Assessment Panel. However, environmental assessments have been carried out under the auspices of the province of Ontario for generating stations in that province. Any provincial environmental assessments are additional to the licensing and review process by the Atomic Energy Control Board with respect to health, safety and security matters. The federal government is not considering calling for environmental assessments for all existing nuclear facilities in Canada.

POINT LEPREAU—SALMON POPULATION

Question No. 2,715—**Mr. Francis:**

1. Has the government spent millions of dollars attempting to rehabilitate the salmon population in the St. John's River near the proposed Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station?

Order Paper Questions

2. Did the Environmental Assessment Panel of the project state that the thermal pollution from the station may harmfully affect the salmon and, if so, will studies be carried out of the effect on the salmon and will such studies be released to the public before construction of the station begins?

Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): 1. Yes.

2. Yes. The Environmental Assessment Panel stated that: "It is imperative that every effort be made to discover the migration patterns of smolt in the vicinity and that the intake structures be sited and designed to avoid significant damage to smolt runs". The panel recommended that data on the aquatic life in the immediate vicinity be collected by the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission to the specification of the department. The design of the inlet and outlet structures will be based in part on this data and the decisions will be approved by the department. Results of these studies will be released to the public on request.

POINT LEPREAU—ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Question No. 2,716—**Mr. Francis:**

1. How much time elapsed between the announcement of an Environmental Assessment of the Point Lepreau Generating Station and the holding of a public meeting?

2. Is the government convinced that this was enough time for environmentalists and other groups to arrange for a proper assessment of the project before making a presentation to the Environmental Assessment Panel?

3. How long did the New Brunswick Power Commission take to have its own preliminary environmental assessment report made, which the Environmental Assessment Panel concluded was "deficient in many respects"?

Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): 1. The environmental impact statement was received by the Environmental Assessment Panel on February 21, 1975; the press release indicating the time of the public meeting was released on March 12, 1975 and the public meeting was held on April 3, 1975.

2. This was a special case in that an environmental assessment prepared for the New Brunswick government was released in the summer of 1974, therefore there were considerable discussions with the public in advance of the March 12 press release. Consequently, the interested groups were well aware of many aspects of the project before being offered the opportunity to review the preliminary environmental impact statement. The opinion of the public at the April 3 meeting was well documented and well presented.

3. The New Brunswick Electric Power Commission was issued guidelines in October 1974. The preliminary assessment was submitted on February 21, 1975.

RADIOACTIVE DISCHARGES

Question No. 2,717—**Mr. Francis:**

Are the effects of radioactive discharges on the immediate ecosystem being continually monitored at all nuclear facilities in Canada and, if so, what are the results of such studies?

Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): Yes, radioactive discharges are