

it—is in fact the farce perpetrated on Canada by the Minister of the Environment on the Rafferty Dam project.

There were news reports the other day on this most important project indicating that when the minister was making the decision on allowing the project finally to go ahead there was no letter, no records, no Governor in Council decision.

What did they do? Did they have coffee up in the Parliamentary Restaurant and make a decision to let the dam go ahead?

We have been getting the same kinds of decisions on the environment from this Minister, and it is not good enough. There is a clear an example in northern Alberta where we have that joke of a government in Edmonton, that joke of an environment minister, that joke of a forest minister. The forest minister in Alberta who is raping and pillaging the forests of Alberta writes and says that Alberta has the highest forestry standards in the country. I think he should be our *Saturday Night Live* because that is where those kind of comments should be for the joke line we get out of it.

What do we get from the federal government? What do we get? We get deals, back room deals with the environment minister in Alberta, to try and make sure that they could weave through some kind of environmental assessment review process. There is the participation of the federal minister and no participation whatsoever from the forestry department in Alberta.

Do you think the Minister of the Environment even thought about that when he sat down with the minister of the environment from Alberta? Probably not. Are the officials of the minister of forest in this House appearing at those hearings? No.

Yet, what roles does this House and this government have in Alberta? Madam Speaker, you will know that we have debated many times in this House Forest Resource Development Agreements. As you would also know there is a Canada-Alberta Forest Resource Development Agreement, funds from which have been used to try to develop ongoing industry in Alberta now. There is a particular role there for more direct involvement from this federal government. We have not seen it. We should certainly try to see it in the future.

### *Private Members' Business*

The amendment proposed which we will be supporting suggests that it would be in only federally regulated areas. We will support that. The government has made the effort to to tax the heck out of us on the GST. It has made the effort to try to get provinces involved in that tax grab. Certainly this government can make the same or better effort when it comes to environmental assessment legislation. It has to call on the provincial environment ministers across this country to work together to come up with a joint environmental assessment review process so that we do not have the joke that is going on in Alberta right now. I would like to conclude with one particular proposal. It has been enunciated once before by the member for Saanich—Gulf Islands. In fact, this legislation is not even in draft form yet and is not yet at the Cabinet level. Maybe the minister is listening right now. He might consider one particular idea, that of an environmental gazette.

We have, as you know, Madam Speaker, the *Canada Gazette*, an official publication of the Government of Canada. We have the *Business Opportunities* bulletin where businesses can see the kind of government tenders and what have you that they can bid on. We have the *Regulatory Agenda* issued annually so that people in various areas have an indication of where the Government of Canada is going to make some regulatory changes.

We have in this House the Order Paper that gives us notice of what kind of business we are going to be dealing with. I suggest to you, Madam Speaker, that we need as part of this environmental assessment review process an environmental gazette that will review those projects that an EARP process will have to review, whether it is putting a bridge over a creek and the problems that could be caused by silt and run-off, there was a problem like that in my riding, or whether it is going to be a project such as the massive pulp mill projects that we now have in northern Alberta. This gazette would give us clear and advance notice of these projects, outlining outlying which departments are involved and what kind of information and documents are available so that we all at least have an opportunity to see what kind of work is being done.

I hope that legislative drafters take this idea into consideration as the legislation does makes its way toward cabinet.