

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** The comment was made with regard to the existing markets being served. Of course, as the hon. gentleman says, on a national accounts basis we will have to be concerned about the level of imports at that time.

**Mr. Stanfield:** A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the minister's rather loose use of the English language, may I put it very simply to the minister: Would he not agree that the energy policy of his department is about as confused as the transportation policy of this country?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** No, sir, I would not agree with that.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, I think I would have to say with regard to confusion in energy policy, that I cannot really hold a candle to the hon. gentleman because he is arguing against policies on which we have been able to agree with the premiers of both Ontario and Alberta.

OIL—MECHANISMS OR POLICIES TO ACHIEVE  
SELF-SUFFICIENCY

**Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to clarify what I think the minister just said. Is it accurate that his government has concluded, with our energy policy as it is now and in whatever state of preparedness it is in now, that Canada will not be self-sufficient in oil and that we might very likely face deficit of one million barrels a day in 1985? If that is not accurate and in fact the minister anticipates self-sufficiency in the true sense for the whole nation, would he outline what mechanisms, policies or initiatives will be taken to achieve this?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member indicated at the beginning that it was his intention to address a question to the minister through the Chair.

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, one cannot at this stage be definitive as to what the level of production will be; this depends upon the success of exploration in the intervening time. Certainly, the feeling within the industry is that there will be a substantial accretion to Canadian supplies, particularly through northern exploration. As I indicated to the Leader of the Opposition, I was responding to him in the context of the figures used in the National Energy Board report.

OIL—POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION OF PIPELINE FROM ARCTIC—  
GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre):** A final supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. There is another element of it in which the policy is far from clear. In fact, there are indications of their being no policy so far as the tar sands are concerned. Relative to the question of northern pro-

duction, implicit in the minister's optimistic statement regarding the availability of northern oil, is the question of discovery rates, which we do not have any facts about and would appreciate his tabling such information in the House. The decision has been made to build a pipeline—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. If the hon. member wishes to put a question to the minister, he ought to do so as directly as possible.

**Mr. Andre:** I was just coming to it, Mr. Speaker. May I ask the minister whether the decision has been taken in cabinet to construct a crude oil pipeline from the high Arctic? If that decision has been taken, when would construction commence, have companies indicated that they will start planning, and when does the minister anticipate applications to the National Energy Board for a pipeline?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, as apparently the hon. gentleman already knows, the question of construction of a pipeline is the appropriate subject matter of an application before the National Energy Board. I suppose that the best thing I can do is to refer him back to my statement of November 22—

**Mr. Stanfield:** What about the statement on Friday?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** —the statement on Friday and of November 22, which indicate the prospects for future oil being available. Of course, a decision will have to be made regarding construction of a conduit to bring the oil to the Canadian market. As I have said, I anticipate that it will be possible, at the present rate of discovery, by the middle 1980's to have this supply in the Canadian stream subject to the regulatory provisions that are made by parliament.

● (1420)

SYNCRUDE PROJECT—NUMBER OF COST STUDIES AND TIME  
WHEN SEEN BY MINISTER

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the statement by the President of the Treasury Board to the press to the effect that neither he nor his officials had an independent study made of the projected costs of the Syncrude project, but the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources had seen the Alberta study, and since there were four studies, the list of which I have here, I should like to ask which of the studies the minister had in his possession and what was the exact time these reports were placed in his hands?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I cannot refer to them by name but they were made available to us before the initial negotiations began with the Syncrude partners. My understanding is that the Harries study with regard to the economic impact in Alberta was not available. They confirmed, as I said, the general conclusions that my own officials had arrived at from an examination of the Syncrude documents.