

## FISHERIES

## COMMITTEE STUDY OF LICENSING POLICIES ON EAST AND WEST COASTS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Charles Haliburton (South West Nova):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the fact that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans is in the process of reviewing fisheries policies in general and plans to introduce a white paper in the spring, and given the importance of enabling members of Parliament to participate in this process and provide an input in the formation of fisheries policy, in particular of licensing policies, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Cardigan (Mr. MacDonald):

That the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry commence forthwith an examination of proposed licensing policies on the east and west coasts, including the Levelton and Sinclair studies, and that the committee be authorized to take such evidence and undertake such travel as may be necessary for that purpose.

**Mr. Speaker:** Introduction of this motion for debate would require the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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## ENERGY

## EXPORT OF NATURAL GAS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Whereas the government announced last evening the decision to export 3.75 trillion cubic feet of natural gas at a time that Canadians face a cold winter, threatened by an energy shortage, and whereas these energy resources should be used to replace imported oil and expand the usage of natural gas both by consumers and industries in Canada, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Nunatsiak (Mr. Ittinuar):

That this House condemns the government's stupid and treacherous act of selling out our birthright.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

## ENERGY

## EXPORT OF NATURAL GAS TO UNITED STATES—ALASKA NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question

## Oral Questions

concerning yesterday's announcement by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources about exports of natural gas.

Could I remind the hon. gentleman that our government obtained from the United States a commitment that if there were to be any pre-build of the Alaska gas pipeline, it could only be authorized if there were a commitment to build the entire line? Could I hear from the Prime Minister whether that commitment obtained from Mr. Schlesinger last March still stands?

● (1115)

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, that commitment stands.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, if that commitment stands how is it that in the statement of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources yesterday there was the following assertion by the minister:

It will be up to the sponsors of the Alaska natural gas pipeline to respond with firm commitments for the entire pipeline.

This phrase obviously indicates that there is no firm commitment, that we are asking them for a firm commitment and that we have authorized the export before obtaining this commitment. How is it that now we are relying on the private sector to make commitments when we had obtained one from the government of the United States?

**Mr. Clark:** Mr. Speaker, the export is conditional on the commitment being given and honoured.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, does that mean that when the pipeline is built—if it is built—there will be supplies from Prudhoe Bay which will permit us to get exchanges for the amount of gas that we have sold to the United States? In other words, will we proceed with the arrangements which we had discussed with the United States, selling gas to the United States now in return for equal amounts of gas which we would get from them later?

**Mr. Clark:** Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition will recall that swaps were discussed but were not a formal condition of the agreement. What proceeding with the pipeline will mean is that Canada will be in a position, through the Dempster hook-up, to take advantage of Canadian requirements for gas in the Mackenzie Delta.

## NATURAL GAS PIPELINE TO MARITIMES

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Cape Breton Highlands-Canso):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister why, in the announcement made by the minister yesterday with respect to the export of natural gas, the maritime provinces were ignored and no guarantee was given that as part of this policy a gas pipeline would be built into the maritime provinces?

In the light of this momentous decision, is the Prime Minister now prepared to give a guarantee, and is he now prepared to say that additional revenues which are made available to