

*Oral Questions***TRANSPORT**

## AUTOMOBILE EMISSIONS

**Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport):** Mr. Speaker, will the Minister of Transport inform the House if he will announce a decision with respect to the reduction of car emissions, now that the committee appointed by him completed its deliberations and consultations a few days ago?

• (1450)

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, as a result of the public hearings held in Ottawa a few days ago, a consolidated report is being put together by officials of Transport Canada, E, M and R, Environment, and DRIE, which will then be submitted to the respective Ministers for consideration.

## DATE OF DECISION ANNOUNCEMENT

**Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport):** Mr. Speaker, when will the Minister make a decision and announce it to the industry, the public, and particularly to those groups that are so concerned about reducing acid rain emissions in Canada?

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, as soon as the consolidated report is received by the respective Ministers it will, naturally, be considered, and I expect an announcement will be forthcoming soon after that report is considered.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

## CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE—STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO DEPUTY MINISTER

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg-Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of the Environment. She indicated to me last week that some of the cuts in her Department might be reviewed. Could she confirm that, on the contrary, in conversation with senior Canadian Wildlife Service Officials, her Deputy Minister announced that further cuts were planned, including the cancellation of a 4 per cent inflation increase in Environment Canada's budget, and an additional \$13 million in program cuts? Could the Minister confirm what her Deputy Minister said?

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Suzanne Blais-Grenier (Minister of the Environment):** If my colleague will allow me, Mr. Speaker, I will ask my Deputy Minister exactly what he said, or what he is supposed to have said, before I make any comment on a conversation of which I am not aware.

[*English*]

## MINISTER'S RESPONSIBILITY

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg-Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, I have had an opportunity to listen to a tape of that conversation, and I can tell the Minister that that is what her Deputy Minister has said.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**An Hon. Member:** A tape?

**Mr. Blaikie:** My question is—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** I would like to hear the question. Is that possible?

**Mr. Blaikie:** Mr. Speaker, when is the Minister of the Environment going to become the Minister who feels responsibility for the environment? Will she either point out the ecological blindness of the Government she is a part of, or have the decency to resign?

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Suzanne Blais-Grenier (Minister of the Environment):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce to my colleague that I have no intention of resigning, period.

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[*English*]

**AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT**

## LETTING OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS—REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN SYSTEM

**Mr. Gerry St. Germain (Mission-Port Moody):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Public Works. Based on the fact, and on information received by the Auditor General, he has brought to light that only 6 per cent, and I repeat 6 per cent, of all major government contracts were let on a truly competitive basis by way of public tender, and that the remaining 94 per cent were basically awarded on a sole-source basis by the previous Government.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. St. Germain:** Is the Minister prepared to look at substantial changes in the method of bidding for government projects which, in the words of the Auditor General, is possibly the most blatant misuse of tax dollars in the country today?

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Roch La Salle (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the Hon. Member for his altogether relevant question, this being the day the Auditor General makes his report public. I am sure you will agree with me just how imperative it had become to change the government,