

APPENDIX "6"

Letter to organiz. that participated in Barsony & Thompson report

24 October 1975

Dear

Re: Survey of Futures Studies

Your organization participated in the Economic Council of Canada survey of futures studies in Canada (Long-Term Forecasting in Private and Public Organizations in Canada: Results of a Survey by Andre Barsony and Fred G. Thompson, November 1972). I thought therefore, that you would be interested in knowing that the Senate Special Committee on Science Policy plans, among other things, to survey futures studies mainly within the federal government.

This survey was proposed as part of a report presented to the Senate on July 10, 1975, where the Committee recommended that "it be authorized to consider and report on Canadian government and other expenditures on scientific activities and matters related thereto"; this recommendation was approved on July 24, 1975. A copy of the Committee's report to the Senate is attached herewith.

As you will see in that document, our interest in futures studies and information goes back to 1972 and has taken a major portion of our time since 1974. You will also note that the leadership role we had assumed in this area, because of the vacuum which then existed, has now been assigned to the Institute for Research on Public Policy. We have therefore decided to maintain our interest in this field but to fulfill a watchdog role. In making a survey of futures studies within the federal government, as part of its broader mandate, the Committee's specific objectives are: