

same tax regime for all organizations that operate or intend to operate within the tar sands?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I do not know what the hon. member is talking about when he says it was not tabled in the House of Commons. Both documents were tabled in the House yesterday afternoon. I think the hon. member was present.

Mr. Gillies: Mr. Speaker, there was no statement on motions, no opportunity to question this important document which I gather the minister does not think is significant or he would have been prepared to come here and talk about it in the House of Commons. Is the government going to allow the same price policy and same tax regime for all organizations that are now operating or propose to operate in the tar sands?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, this is under discussion at the present time with the government of Alberta.

TAR SANDS—GOVERNMENT INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, is the government of Canada going to put any money into the development of new technologies for extracting oil from the tar sands? I notice in the report that they are getting technical advice. Is the government prepared to put any money into this operation? If so, is that money now in the estimates?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, it has already put about \$300 million into Syncrude.

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MANPOWER

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF MINISTER'S STATEMENT CONCERNING APPLICABILITY OF DREE TO NATIVE UNEMPLOYED

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, yesterday I tried to catch your eye to ask a supplementary question of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. At page 4060 he was questioned by the hon. member for Lambton-Kent with respect to the exceptionally high unemployment rate in the Indian, Inuit and Metis communities which averaged between 45 and 60 per cent and at times as high as 95 per cent. His answer to the hon. member at the time was to refer to such programs as DREE operating across the country and, in cooperation with the Department of Indian Affairs, he was attempting to do what he could to assist at the government level.

In view of the fact that none of these people are living beyond their means as described by the Prime Minister, and the fact that virtually all of the Inuit people live above the sixtieth parallel, some 50,000 native people, virtually all of whom are unemployed, can the minister explain how DREE is going to help these people and whether he has discussed the

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application of DREE, which is supposed to be a national program, above the sixtieth parallel with his colleague, the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion?

Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I indicated that these two programs and departments work in concert to do what they can about high unemployment in this particular area. The initiative and responsibility for them comes under the aegis of my colleague, the Minister of Indian Affairs. It would be more appropriate to put the question to him.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

POSSIBILITY PROGRAM WILL BE MADE APPLICABLE TO NORTHERN TERRITORIES

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, may I direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, and remind him of a statement by his colleague, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, made recently in Yellowknife, that DREE was going to be turned into a truly national program and made applicable in the two northern territories, thus raising the hopes of northerners to a considerable degree. Can the minister now say emphatically that DREE is going to be applied to the two northern territories, finally making this a truly national program and perhaps alleviating some of the unemployment in those parts of Canada?

Hon. Marcel Lessard (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Yes, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, I have been authorized by cabinet to begin the exercise of extending the DREE program to the northern part of our country. Negotiations have been going on for some time as to how we can achieve that. I hope within a few months, if not weeks, we can conclude the negotiations and extend the DREE program to the northern part of our country.

Mr. Nielsen: It's about time.

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ENERGY

DISCUSSIONS WITH ALBERTA ON DEVELOPMENT OF HEAVY OIL—REQUEST FOR REPORT

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. It arises out of the report tabled yesterday and deals particularly with the report on heavy oil. Can the minister bring the House up to date on the status of discussions with the province of Alberta, discussions which are aimed at accelerating the development of heavy oil reserves, particularly in the Lloydminster area? Can the minister say specifically what federal government initiatives are being advanced in order to enhance the economic viability of this very impor-