

Petition—Mr. Cook

allowed to present their petitions but not to enter into debate. The presentation should be kept extremely short—and when I say extremely short, I mean generally within a minute.

Mr. Siddon: Madam Speaker, I shall close very succinctly. I just wanted to say, pertinent to the petition, that the revenues therefrom were to be used for the development of communities, opportunities, and services to the people of British Columbia.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, on behalf of these petitioners I ask for serious consideration of their strong appeal to the Prime Minister and to the Government of Canada through this House of Commons.

● (1240)

PETITION RESPECTING NATURAL GAS AND HYDROELECTRIC
POWER—MISS CARNEY

Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre): Madam Speaker, with your permission, I would like to present a petition signed by 1,765 British Columbians who, having due regard for the constitutional guarantee made to British Columbians under the British North America Act which promises that all natural resources within B.C. belong to the province, express their absolute rejection of any attempt by the Government of Canada to impose a federal excise tax on the export of natural gas and hydroelectric power from British Columbia. This petition represents the results of a one-day blitz and is representative only of the deep feeling in my constituency.

On behalf of my petitioners, I ask for serious consideration of their request by the Government of Canada.

PETITION RESPECTING NATURAL GAS—MR. MUNRO
(ESQUIMALT-SANICH)

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Madam Speaker, I, too, rise and with your permission, wish to present a petition signed by 3,502 Canadian citizens living in British Columbia. This petition indicates their complete and unalterable opposition to the plans of this government to impose a tax on natural gas exported to customers in the United States, the tax being collected from the revenues of the selling agency, a B.C. Crown corporation, and through that corporation to the provincial government, thereby depriving residents of British Columbia of some of the vitally important services to which they are entitled, such as hospital and medical care.

As to form, there are a number of signatures on a newspaper column which appeared in a daily newspaper on the weekend of September 27 which have been transcribed onto the proper petition form that I have attached. On behalf of the petitioners, I ask for consideration of their requests by the Government of Canada.

PETITIONS RESPECTING NATURAL GAS AND HYDROELECTRIC
POWER—MR. COOK

Mr. Chuck Cook (North Vancouver-Burnaby): Madam Speaker, I echo the comments of my colleagues. With your

permission I wish to present a petition signed by residents of my riding, North Vancouver-Burnaby. In the absence of my colleague, the hon. member Capilano (Mr. Huntington), I present the same petition signed by residents of his riding, in total somewhat over 3,200. If the mails in Canada were better there would be double that number because I am informed there are many sheets still on their way here.

The petition asks that the Government of Canada not impose a federal excise tax on the export of natural gas and hydroelectric power from British Columbia because of the severe repercussions upon the economy of British Columbia.

In addition, on behalf of the hon. member for Fraser Valley West (Mr. Wenman), who is not in the House, we have an additional 2,000 signatures from that particular area of the province of British Columbia. On behalf of the hon. member for Vancouver Quadra (Mr. Clarke) an additional 2,870 of his constituents have also signed an identical petition.

I would respectfully submit these petitions on behalf of my four colleagues and myself to you, Madam Speaker.

PETITIONS RESPECTING NATURAL GAS AND HYDROELECTRIC
POWER—MR. KING

Mr. Fred King (Okanagan-Similkameen): Madam Speaker, I, too, ask your permission to present this House with a petition requesting that a proposed tax on the export of natural gas and hydroelectric power not be imposed. Therefore, I present that petition signed by 2,561 constituents of Okanagan-Similkameen, which is in central south British Columbia.

On behalf of the hon. member for Okanagan North (Mr. Dantzer) I present another petition signed by 517 constituents of his riding. The petition rejects absolutely any attempt by the Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Trudeau) and the Government of Canada to impose a federal excise tax on the export of natural gas, the imposition of which would be a disguised form of supplementary income tax against every resident of British Columbia.

On behalf of the petitioners, Canadians resident in British Columbia, I ask for consideration of their request by the Government of Canada.

PETITIONS RESPECTING NATURAL GAS—MR. OBERLE

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Madam Speaker, it is fitting that I am the last one to present petitions today because British Columbia derives its entire energy resource harvest from northeastern British Columbia, the area that I represent.

I, too, rise to echo the comments which have been made by my hon. colleagues. I present petitions which have been collected by the hon. member for Cariboo-Chilcotin (Mr. Greenaway), the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen), the hon. member for Prince George-Bulkley Valley (Mr. McCuish), and myself on behalf of my constituents in Prince George-Peace River. These petitions