

*Private Members' Business*

designed to ensure the environmentally sound management of hazardous waste.

Nationally, current federal legislation in the form of the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act also contains provisions that allow for the control of trans-boundary movement of hazardous waste. The transportation of dangerous goods regulations are quite specific as to the requirements for notification, manifesting, labelling, placarding and packaging for all classes of hazardous waste to ensure that a certain level of safety in transportation is maintained.

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As the previous examples illustrate, there are numerous legislative and regulatory controls in place to ensure safety in transport and that hazardous wastes are dealt with in an environmentally sound manner to protect the Canadian public and the environment.

Hazardous waste only accounts for about 20 per cent of Canada's total waste requiring management. Both Canada and the United States export and import all types of waste, including hazardous waste, to ensure that it is managed at the closest environmentally-sound facility on either side of the border. These options allow both Canadian and American companies to ship hazardous waste across the border where facilities exist for proper disposal when facilities may not be available in the generating country. In other instances these very same hazardous wastes are valuable secondary raw materials for industrial processes or are recoverable to be reused once again. Therefore, it is readily evident that some of these wastes still have a market value.

The movement of hazardous goods is a two-way street. I submit that a total ban on imports of these wastes by Canada would invite a reciprocal action on the part of the United States and our European trading partners, thereby removing an important hazardous waste management option for many Canadian countries. This situation would have a negative impact on the recycling industry, especially at a time when the government is supporting the four Rs, of which recycling is an important element.

Another point to consider is that under the green plan a national goal has been established to reduce the generation of all wastes by 50 per cent by the year 2000.

This waste reduction program will also permit the federal government to collect data on the trans-boundary movement of hazardous waste and other wastes. This data in turn would be critical to the development of effective policy and laws and to the enforcement of regulations.

Recently green plan funds have been committed to conduct co-operative research with universities, private sector and provincial governments as partners. Through green plan initiatives, the government has shown its commitment and support for new science, especially environmental science, aimed at reducing, recycling and reusing hazardous waste or at their safe destruction.

The green plan-supported research and development will be focused on environmental technology and science needed for the 21st century. This environmental science will also provide industry with additional options to meet regulatory requirements and will assist industry in measuring the programs made in compliance with regulations.

Through government support of the science and technology action plan, the development of environmental technologies to provide solutions to environmental problems would be encouraged and new economic opportunities would be offered to Canadians.

Combined with private sector research and development of these technologies, the net result would be the production of new investment opportunities and the creation of jobs in Canada's environmental industries. This can only happen so long as Canada does not isolate itself by closing the borders to the movement of hazardous waste.

Industry has shown a willingness to participate in the environmental arena with the commercialization of hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities, and through the establishment of hazardous waste exchanges. These types of initiatives should not be short-circuited by cutting of a source of raw materials.

In 1987 the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment commissioned a review of waste exchange programs. From this study, a number of recommendations were made on how to improve the effectiveness of waste exchanges and to identify opportunities which