

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member will know from the debate we had in committee that I said part of the package, as we look to The Green Plan which the Minister of the Environment will be unveiling later this year, will be energy efficiency. In terms of that package, the hon. member will have to wait.

I say also to the hon. member I will not restore the type of programs the former government had which were funded out of the National Energy Program, over \$50 billion which it took out of Alberta and Saskatchewan, and redistributed it through the the CHIP program, for example. It was money that was lost.

**Mr. Rompkey:** Hibernia.

**Mr. Epp:** It was not Hibernia, my friend. We'll help you with Newfoundland another way.

Another example is having civil servants in different provinces in CREO offices telling people in the public what the industry already had in place.

What we will do instead is R and D. We will do replacement of energy, for instance alternative energies. Those are the kinds of things we will do. We will not replicate. We will not duplicate.

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**TRADE**

**Mr. Bob Speller (Haldimand—Norfolk):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister for International Trade.

Since this government came to power, U.S. Steel has doubled its share of the Canadian market. We learned today that the same U.S. steel has been subsidized by some \$35 billion over the last 10 years. So I ask the minister how his government could stand idly by while the Americans were forcing Canadian producers to restrain their exports into the American market, while at the same time they were flooding the Canadian market with subsidized steel.

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, I assume that the hon. member is referring to a study just released by the Canadian Steel Producers Association which outlines all types of U.S. government assistance, federal, state and local, addressed to the steel sector during the 1980s.

Now I do not need to remind the hon. gentleman that in the early part of the 1980s we had the dubious misfortune of having the hon. gentleman's party in power. In any event, this is a study of the assistance that was given to the steel sector during the 1980s. To be fair, I want to point out to him that it outlines programs that may be deemed to be subsidies within the meaning of U.S. and Canadian legislation. But it also examined a whole broad list of generally available programs which under trade law would not be considered to be subsidies but general assistance to an industry.

Certainly, Mr. Speaker, this is a most valuable study and we will be using it when we start to negotiate with the United States on the question of subsidies and countervail, which we intend to do under the FTA at the end of the year. This is a valuable and informative survey and we will certainly be using it in our negotiations with the United States.

**Mrs. Campbell (South West Nova):** Be nice to the United States.

**Mr. Bob Speller (Haldimand—Norfolk):** Mr. Speaker, the minister sold out the steel industry when he signed the free trade agreement.

My supplementary is for the same minister. This government has spent the last year unilaterally disarming itself of subsidies and putting Canadian workers and farmers in unemployment lines and bankruptcy proceedings.

Will the minister tell his U.S. counterpart when they meet this week that Canada considers the U.S. subsidies an unfair trading practice and will he make a commitment to this House today to stop unilaterally disarming Canada of these subsidies?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, I will be meeting with Mrs. Hills on Friday at a meeting of the Canada-U.S. Trade Commission. As a matter of fact I am going to present her with a copy of this study that has been done by our steel producers. I am glad to see them take the initiative and I hope that other Canadian groups will do the same. We have our own research under way as well.

With respect to the free trade agreement, everywhere I look I see evidence of progress under the agreement. "Dupont unit sees rise in exports". "Canadian firms see