

long term solutions will not be effective. Canadian sources also contribute to acid rain in the U.S. It is therefore in both countries interests to cooperate in reducing pollutants causing this common problem.

Effective domestic air pollution control measures which deal adequately with his problem will be required to give substance to an international solution. The upcoming review of the U.S. Clean Air Act by the Congress will have an important bearing on the problem, as will the determination of environmental controls to be associated with increased use of coal.

The Canadian Government expressed concern in early 1980 that the Carter Administration's proposed "oil-back-out legislation" was expected to increase levels of acid causing pollutants, and urged that this move be accompanied by adequate pollution controls. Both Governments have subscribed to the June 1980 Venice Economic Summit Declaration which recognized the environmental risks associated with increased use of coal and pledged governments to do everything in their power to ensure that increased use of fossil fuels, especially coal, does not damage the environment. In recognition of this concern, the Canadian National Energy Plan announced in October 1980 establishes funding for environmentally acceptable conversions to coal of a small number of oil-fired plants in the Atlantic provinces. Significant reductions in SO₂ emissions will be sought in each conversion.

While acid rain is a relatively new Canada/U.S. problem, it is not a recent concern. The problem of long range transport of air pollutants was discussed by the U.S. and Canadian Governments during the 1976 visit to Ottawa of the EPA Administrator Russell Train.

In 1978, the two Governments established a bilateral Research Consultation Group to coordinate ongoing research programmes on the long range transport of air pollutants in both countries.

In July 1979, both Governments outlined in a Joint Statement the basis of obligation, commitment and cooperative practice which applies to transboundary air pollution, and undertook to develop a cooperative agreement.

The August 1980 Memorandum of Intent on Transboundary Air Pollution signed in Washington establishes a Canada/U.S. framework for dealing with this problem. In it both Governments undertake to begin negotiation of a cooperative agreement by June 1981 and to take