

CEIC is also developing a capability to project employment requirements and available occupational categories with a view to matching needs and skills. This program will be operative in 1983, and should reveal skill imbalances over a three- to 10-year time horizon on an occupational and geographic basis.

### 3. Regional Benefits

*You can see that the benefits of Beaufort oil production would spread right across Canada from the west to the east coast. It would certainly create a number of jobs in Ontario, the province which could supply a substantial amount of equipment such as electrical equipment, some of the mechanical equipment and steel. The east coast provinces and B.C. would be involved in the marine construction aspect. Alberta would primarily supply engineering and logistics services. The benefits of oil development would spread right across Canada, and there would be a relatively minor foreign component. (Mr. G. Bezaire, Esso, Issue 17:31, 16-2-1982)*

While overall national economic benefits would be quite similar given either transportation mode, marine or pipeline, there would be considerable differences in the regional distribution of these benefits, according to project proponents. The sourcing of material and services is expected to vary according to which transportation system is selected (Figure 15). The marine option would involve the construction of a shipyard in the Atlantic Provinces and would thus confer significant direct benefits to this region. Expansion of the shipbuilding industry in the Atlantic region is also expected to act as a magnet for indirect supply activity. Existing shipyards in the provinces of Quebec and British Columbia would also be enlarged. Alternatively, pipeline components would be sourced primarily in Central and Western Canada, and the distribution of direct economic benefits would favour these regions accordingly. Ontario and the Prairie Provinces will experience as well the largest indirect impact, in the form of inter-regional purchases and supplier purchases respectively.

Direct employment opportunities will be highest in Alberta and the NWT. Indirect employment through the provision of materials and services will centre in Quebec and Ontario where the direct employment effect is negligible in comparison.

*Offshore and frontier development will create significant opportunities for economic activity in all regions of Canada, including those regions where economic activity is most difficult to encourage . . . We will also have to develop the instruments which will allow us to realize the opportunities which we decide to exploit. (The Hon. H.A. (Bud) Olson, Minister of State for Economic Development, Issue 16:8, 9-2-1982)*

If a marine mode is chosen, shipbuilding requirements will represent a major portion of the demand for facilities to produce Beaufort Sea oil. The potential opportunities presented to Canada's shipbuilding industry to meet this demand have led the Committee to explore in more detail the challenges inherent in satisfying it.