

water conservation practices. Having conducted both energy and water audits, the House can now turn to implementing the resulting recommendations.

2.4 Programme Economics

The effectiveness of the programme has been dependent on the notion that environmental considerations must become part of everyday behaviour at the House. The programme itself is voluntary, and its success can be attributed to an increased sensitivity and changing individual attitudes about environmental issues.

To the extent possible, implementation of many initiatives has been undertaken within existing budgets. In areas where capital expenditures were incurred, costs have been absorbed within the responsible Directorate's budget. Such was the case with a one-time capital expenditure for the purchase of recycling and composting bins.

For the House to continue to serve as an environmental leader, structural changes in building operations will be required. Water conservation and energy efficiency goals will require some capital expenditure in order to realize long-term financial and conservation benefits. For this reason, specific dollar allocations to cover such environmental initiatives have been included within existing House of Commons budgets for the fiscal years 1992-93 and 1993-94. To offset these costs, interdepartmental partnerships mentioned previously will be relied upon to help realize these goals.