# Megaprojects for what?

*Trudeau plans to turn the country into a strategic reserve and make the U.S. dependent on Canadian energy supplies.*

Shaping the future for Canada's energy and manufacturing sectors is Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's strategy of resource control and raw-materials warfare, as opposed to industrial growth. That strategy underlies the Inventory of Major Projects assembled last year by the federal Department of Industry, Trade, and Commerce (ITC), whose trade sector is now part of the Ministry of External Affairs under Maoist depopulation advocate Mark MacGuigan. The Inventory totals about $440 billion of investments in four energy-related sectors up to the year 2000.

According to the June 1981 taskforce report, in the next 20 years Canada will become one of the world's leading exporters of raw materials. Although the ITC shows the capital projects to total about $440 billion, a 1979 Royal Bank of Canada study shows that the projected energy investments in Canada will exceed $1.4 trillion in current Canadian dollars.

This strategy was developed by Maurice Strong, the former chairman of the national oil company, Petrocan, who is currently on the board of the Canadian Development Corporation (a 51 percent Crown entity), and has taken over the Arizona-based AZL Resources company, a ranching, oil, and gas venture, with participation from Swiss financiers and Arab dirty-money investors.

The inventory includes: 1) a total of $181 billion for exploration and development of traditional hydrocarbon projects, pipeline construction, heavy oil supplies, petrochemical and hydrocarbon processing, and tar sands projects (now dead); 2) strategic mineral projects for a total of $34 billion; 3) electric power and transmission projects (including nuclear) with total expenditures of about $200 billion; and 4) transport and defense projects for a total of about $25 billion.

While Canada will support itself as a "Third World" net exporter of raw materials, politically Trudeau will pose as a defender of the underdeveloped sector against the selfish United States, and press for "global North-South negotiations" at the Versailles economic summit in June, along lines drafted by Henry Kissinger, Willy Brandt, and the World Bank.

It is clear that projects of the magnitude projected by the Trudeau government are not intended to attain "self-sufficiency" by 1990, as Trudeau claims. The total inventory figure represents more than 23 times the 1980 energy-sector fixed investment, evaluated at about $18 billion. One question therefore becomes to what extent the United States will become dependent on Canadian energy supplies.

Contracts are expected to be signed between New Brunswick and Maine and Massachusetts, which will preclude any development of nuclear energy in that area of the United States until the year 2000. On April 27, a day after the National Energy Board in Ottawa authorized the sale of 630,000 kilowatt-hours from the New Brunswick nuclear facility, it also gave the green light to supply nuclear-generated electricity from Ontario to the General Public Utilities Corporation through cables under Lake Erie, mainly to compensate for the loss of energy caused by the shut down of the Three Mile Island nuclear plant in Pennsylvania! According to an official of the Federal Energy Department, Brian Emmet, there is also an export plan under discussion now for the construction of 12 nuclear plants in Quebec. Already, on March 19, Quebec signed a $5.2 billion hydropower deal with the Power Authority of New York for delivery of 111 billion kilowatt-hours for a period of 13 years. The *Wall Street Journal* reported on April 27 that Canadian utilities "are expected to increase their electric deliveries to the U.S. by 75 percent in the next five years."

Although the authorized deliveries are not of great magnitude at this time, the precedent is now being set where the United States may not be able to resist a "good deal" while American nuclear facilities are being shut down.

On May 1, two of the remaining partners pulled out of the $14 billion Alberta Alsands consortium. The tar sands development project is "dead," according to Shell president William Daniel. Although it is not clear if the decision was more political than financial, there is growing factionalization in the industry over the socialist policy of centralized control over resources as opposed to a policy of high return on investment.