Environment TPD AUTO

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A thought for tomorrow

Canada is blessed with resources as few other countries on earth—with abundant water, fertile soil, productive forests, valuable fisheries, minerals, fossil fuels and other sources of energy. Not surprisingly, in the quest for prosperity and the good life, there is pressure to develop and exploit them to the full.

This pressure comes not only from Canadians themselves, but also from beyond our borders. In a world of growing needs and deepening scarcities, demands upon our resources are bound to increase.

But water, soil, forests and other natural wealth can no longer be exploited as unlimited free goods, as they once were. One of Environment Canada's major responsibilities is to ensure that they are used in such a way that they remain productive.

The environment is itself a resource, a factor of production just like labor,

machinery and financial capital. Environment Canada wholeheartedly supports the development of our resources, but only if it is wise and prudent. The environment must remain productive.

Mismanagement could cost us dearly in squandered resources and opportunities—in lost jobs and production, business failures and vanished trade.

Protecting our resources is protecting our future. And here Environment Canada has a major role to play, as a defender and an advocate.

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John Roberts Minister

Environment Week

Beginning this year, National Environment Week (NEW) will be held in the spring instead of in the fall. Its conclusion will coincide with World Environment Day, June 5. The theme of National Environment Week, which begins May 30, is "NEW: The action begins with you."

The public affairs division of Environment Canada's information directorate is planning activities for the week, together with numerous agencies concerned in the Environment. Among them are the information services of the provincial environment department, the Canadian Labor Congress, the Canadian Nature Federation, the National Survival Institute, and the Quebec region of the Canadian Wildlife Federation.

Environment Update will keep its readers informed of the activities planned for National Environment Week.

Further information: Public Affairs Environment Canada, Ottawa, KlA 0H3

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To Review Tunnel Plans

Environment Minister John Roberts has announced the formation of an environmental assessment panel to review CP Rail's plan to dig a tunnel and double-track the railway line through Rogers Pass, in the Canadian Rockies. The panel will study the project's social and environmental impact on one of the most beautiful sites in Glacier National Park.

CP Rail plans construction of 18 km (11 miles) of railway track, 13 bridges, 16 km (10 miles) of tunnel and a source of electricity for the tunnel. To build the entranceway to the tunnel, the railway company plans to destroy the mountainsides by digging a trench 80 feet deep and moving tons of fill. Park Canada has objected that the plan makes no serious provision for restoring the environment.

The project also calls for construction of a ventilation shaft to remove gases that accumulate in the tunnel. This 80-foot high structure would stand out conspicuously in one of Canada's most representative natural settings. Last

year alone, more than 250 000 visitors stopped to admire the beauty of the panorama from the Trans-Canada highway. Moreover, Parks Canada ecologists estimate that the level of nitrogen oxide given off by the ventilation shaft will greatly exceed federal standards.

Two years ago, work by CP Rail near Lake Louise left behind bare slopes which have not yet been successfully reforested. A federal report attributed the damage to a lack of planning by the company. In the light of this experience, Parks Canada insists that CP Rail's plans be modified to minimize damage to the environment, and wants sufficient guarantees that the company will abide by its commitments.

Further information: Michel Girard (819) 994-2595

To Tell or Not to Tell...

The collection of data on environmental problems and pollution control is absolutely essential for Environment Canada to fulfil its mandate. Numerous companies therefore provide a great deal of confidential business information which the department uses in protecting the environment.

In January 1981, the Canadian government tabled Bill C-43 designed to extend public access to information held by government agencies. As a result, with some exceptions information given to the government would become available to the public.

One exception is certain information obtained from third parties, such as private business. Under the bill, the minister of the Environment would be responsible for deciding whether this should be released. The minister must therefore reconcile the public's right of access to information with a company's legitimate interests, by limiting any disclosure which could jeopardize a company's competitive position.

To assist the minister in this task, the Environmental Protection Service is preparing guidelines for acquiring, managing and disclosing confidential business information. A preliminary draft of these guidelines is now being

distributed, to get the reactions of various interested parties. Should you wish to express your own comments, copies of this document can be obtained from:

Alain Albagli
Policy, Planning and Assessment
Directorate
Environmental Protection Service
Environment, Canada
Ottawa, KlA 1C8
(819) 997-2375

Information

Requests for further information should be sent to the authors of the articles at:
 Information Directorate
 Environment Canada
 Ottawa, Ontario
 KIA 9H3
unless otherwise indicated.

Comments and suggestions should be sent to Henri Mauviel, Environment Update, at the above address; (819) 994-1410.

Does Your Group Qualify?

Environment Canada has announced its official policy for sharing transportation costs of participants in public consultation meetings. Here is the text of the policy:

PUBLIC CONSULTATION POLICY, CONTRIBUTION TO TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES. CRITERIA FOR ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.

In order to qualify for attendance at the headquarters and regional yearly meetings designated by the Public Consultation Policy, a public interest group or professional association must satisfy the following requirements:

- Be a non-profit organization with an interest in the policies and programs of Environment Canada;
- Indicate a financial need and be willing to make available a financial statement and budget, if requested;
- Indicate its reasons for wishing to attend a designated meeting for which financial assistance is being requested;

 Participate at the designated meeting.

In addition, to assist Environment Canada in allocating the limited funds available, the following criteria will be used as quidelines:

- That there is a clearly ascertainable interest that ought to be brought to the attention of Environment Canada;
- That separate and adequate representation of the interest would make a necessary and substantial contribution to the annual meetings;
- 3. That the applicant organization demonstrate or be willing to demonstrate its own commitment to, and representativeness of, the interest it seeks to represent (e.g., nature and extent of its own contribution, past involvement in similar activities, size of its constituency);
- 4. That the applicant organization not obtain funds for the same activity from other federal agencies.

Further information: Larry Gordon (819) 994-1410

CFS Seeks More Aid for Forestry

The Canadian Forestry Service expects world demand for forest products to increase by 50 percent in the next quarter century. This could boost Canada's exports, providing many new jobs and expansion opportunities for the country's biggest industrial sector. But these opportunities will be lost if there are not enough trees.

Last fall's Banff Conference on Canada's Forests blamed widespread timber shortages on neglect of the forests, and called for an urgently needed renewal program. The conference was attended by senior decision-makers in government, organized labor, the forest industry and universities.

CFS is asking cabinet for increased financial and human resources for research and development. It is also seeking means to improve its programs of policy development, strategic planning, project analysis, economic analysis and assistance to other federal agencies.

the Forestry Sector Strategy for Canada, approved by cabinet last September. Also before cabinet is a request funds to be used in overcoming the serious shortage of trained personnel in forest management.

Last November's budget paper, Economic Development for Canada in the 1980s, re-emphasized the importance of Canada's natural resources in economic development. It stressed the need to ensure the continued availability of good quality timber at competitive prices, through reforestation, sound forest management and better use of existing forest resources.

As Canada's forest industry abandons the old practice of "mining" natural forests, research and development are needed in support of better management techniques.

Further information: Vivian Williams (819) 997-6555

These resources are needed to implement

Resources in Canada's Future

Canada's economic future largely depends on how well we husband our resources and protect the environment, according to a review by Environment Canada's policy directorate. It calls for policies and actions not aimed simply at short-term gains or political advantage, but guided rather by the country's longer-term interests.

The review contradicts the popular notion that Canada's resources are so plentiful that we hardly need think about conservation. On the contrary, it says resource depletion and deterioration could seriously limit the output of many commodities——including our most important exports.

There is mounting scientific evidence of increasing obstacles to higher food production for example soil erosion and compaction, loss of nutrients, salinization of irrigated land and/or water used for irrigation, loss of high-quality cropland to urban development, crop damage caused by air and water pollution, extinction of plant varieties needed to breed improved crops.

There are more frequent and severe regional water shortages—especially where power projects and industrial developments compete for water supplies, or where the clearing of forests leaves the soil unable to absorb and hold water.

Our fisheries are described as "seriously depleted" by Statistics Canada. Catches of traditionally sought commercial species have fallen off in the more heavily exploited areas, and less desirable species (such as krill, capelin and squid) are being harvested in their place.

Canada's forest industry is currently abandoning the old practice of "mining" existing forests, and converting to growing and harvesting trees as a regular

crop. This conceivably could more than double forest yields over the long term. The review notes, however, that this transition will take considerable time, resources and effort.

Much old-growth forest has been excessively logged; and, without scientific reforestation, the natural growth that replaces it is usually of lower quality. At present some 15 percent of Canada's productive forest land is inadequately stocked, and this backlog increases year by year. Meanwhile fire, insects and disease destroy the equivalent of two-thirds of the annual wood harvest, and local wood shortages are already being reported.

The review concludes that Canada is rapidly approaching the limit of its sustainable production. Consequently, notwithstanding rising world demands, it says popular expectations of greatly increased Canadian exports may be overly optimistic.

The review calls for a better assessment of production levels beyond which supplies cannot be maintained. It calls, too, for better estimates of the costs of resource management in time, money and other resources to ensure the needed high levels of productivity. At the same time, it urges a closer look at the options available for solving Canada's balance-of-payments and economic development problems.

A sound approach to Canada's economic difficulties could also alleviate some of our environmental concerns, the review maintains.

Further information: Tom L. de Fayer (819) 994-1991

Mackenzie Basin Report Released

A newly released study calls for cooperation by six different governments in solving transboundary water problems in the Mackenzie River basin. The three-year joint study was initiated in 1978 by the governments concerned—those of Canada, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

The Mackenzie basin is one of the biologically richest and most important energy-producing regions in Canada. It contains oil sands, gas fields, coal and other minerals, and rivers with hydroelectric power potential. It supports fish and furbearing mammals economically important to local residents, and three of its river deltas are vital breeding and staging areas for ducks, geese and other migratory birds.

The study was the first to examine this whole vast area, treating water as an essential resource. It notes that currently proposed hydroelectric projects, pipelines, oil and gas developments could affect water quantity and quality throughout the basin.

The report says each government, when making an environmental assessment of any project in the area, should take fair account of the interests of the other governments concerned. It recommends continued monitoring and study of the hydrologic and biological processes and relationships in the basin.

Further information: Garth Norris (403) 420-2545

Halve Emisions Canada Urges

Canada has proposed a 50 percent reduction in sulfur dioxide emissions in eastern North America by 1990. With a similar reduction in U.S. emissions, this would go a long way toward solving the acid rain problem, said Environment Minister John Roberts.

The proposal was advanced at the third negotiating session on transboundary air pollution in Washington. A draft agreement tabled by the Canadian delegation led by E.G. Lee, assistant undersecretary for United States Affairs, will be reviewed by their American counterparts led by T. Niles, representing the U.S. Secretary of State.

Another meeting is scheduled for early May to discuss the results of this review, and to start considering the third phase reports of the work groups. Scientists and experts from both countries have been meeting together for two years to discuss the acid rain problem.

Ken Merklinger, director of U.S. transboundary relations for External Affairs, said Canada's commitment had positive results. This showed in the widespread media coverage and support for the Canadian initiative across the United States, and also in the substantial number of resolutions before Congress in support of strenghtening the Clean Air Act.

Further information: Brenda O'Connor (819) 997-6555

Passage Closed to Tankers

The Canadian government has forestalled a proposed oil refinery project at Eastport, Maine, by closing Head Harbor Passage to heavy tankers. The action was taken under the Canada Shipping Act to protect Passamaquoddy Bay from pollution.

Under new regulations, no ship may carry more than 5000 cubic metres (about 4000 tonnes) of crude oil or its products through the passage, off Campobello Island near the Maine-New Brunswick border. This is the maximum quantity usually carried to supply local needs.

The Pittston Oil company of New York wants to build a new oil port and refinery at Eastport, which would have to be served by heavy tankers using the passage. Canadian authorities have repeatedly told

the company and the U.S. government that this would pose an unacceptable pollution hazard.

The Passamaquoddy area has a unique marine environment, including the Deer Island archipelago and the Roosevelt- Campobello International Park. Besides important recreation and tourist facilities, it has a multimillion-dollar fishing industry, including processing plants and other ancillary enterprises.

Studies by Environment Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans have established the value of these resources, and the danger they would face from oil pollution. Another study, by Transport Canada, underscored the navigational hazards of Head Harbor Passage.

CFCs Destroying Ozone

Scientists expect a 5 to 10 percent depletion of ozone in the earth's atmosphere if the release of chlorofluorocarbons and other similar substances continues at 1980 rates. Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) are widely used as refrigerants, spray can propellants and industrial and household solvents.

Environment Canada's Atmospheric Environment Service was represented at a Paris meeting sponsored by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), at which this problem was discussed. Scientists from several countries attended the discussions.

The atmospheric ozone layer is vital to life on this planet. It prevents harmful ultraviolet radiation from reaching the earth, and plays a major role in determining the heat balance in the atmosphere. This, in turn, controls the earth's climate.

Released into the lower atmosphere,

chlorofluorocarbons are carried slowly upward to the stratosphere by winds and eddies. There ultraviolet radiation from the sun breaks down the CFCs, releasing active chlorine which destroys the ozone.

Although accurate predictions are not yet possible, American studies suggest that continued release of CFCs would lead to the warming of the earth's surface by about 0.2°C. This is because, like carbon dioxide, they absorb radiation from the earth and produce a greenhouse effect —offsetting a radiation loss caused by destroying the ozone.

At the same time, destruction of the ozone would increase the danger of severe sunburn and some kinds of skin cancer, caused by excessive ultraviolet radiation.

Further information: Dr. R.K.R. Vupputuri Canadian Climate Centre Downsview, Ont. (416) 667-4820

Basin Study Completed

There are no serious or irreversible water-related problems in the Shubenacadie-Stewiacke river basin, a four-year federal-provincial study concludes. However, it says rapid economic development and population growth could make the water unsuitable for municipal and industrial use.

The report was released by Environment Canada and the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment.

The Shubenacadie-Stewiacke is the largest river basin in Nova Scotia, stretching from the outskirts of Dartmouth to the Minas Basin near Truro. The construction of Highway 102, from the Halifax metropolitan area to Truro, has brought

increased development pressure along the Halifax-Truro corridor.

Rural areas have long-standing water management problems, such as erosion and flooding. In addition to these, the study focused on such farming practices as the use of chemical fertilizers, to determine their actual or potential impact on water quality. Copies of the report are available from the Government of Nova Scotia Bookstore, 1597 Hollis Street, Halifax B3J 3T3.

Further information: Judith Hilliker (819) 997-6555

New Climate Data

The Atmospheric Environment Services'
Canadian Climate Centre has produced a
comprehensive new climate information
package, containing data for 1951-1980.
These include normal readings for 60
percent more stations than the previous
package, which covered 1941-1970. There
are also many additional kinds of
statistics, concerning such meteorological
elements as vector mean winds, percentage
of possible sunshine, net radiation and
rainfall intensity. With new information
techniques, a station with a full
observing program now can generate some
170 different tables.

Booklets on regional temperatures and precipitation normals were issued in February and March. More than 10 000 microfiches containing 500 million pieces of climate information, ranging from precipitation and humidity to degree days

and solar radiation, were being prepared for distribution across the country.

The Atmospheric Environment Service (AES) now offers all historical data in metric units and in bilingual format. Computer tapes of the statistics will be available. Private sector clients will be able to purchase computer tapes of the statistics. Meanwhile, AES has also completed the draft for a new Climate Atlas of Canada.

Further information: D.W. Phillips (416) 667-4630

Weatheradio Expanding

Environment Canada will add four more broadcasting stations to its chain of Weatheradio Canada stations across the country. New stations will open in Ottawa, Quebec City and Saskatoon late this summer or fall, to be followed by a fourth in Calgary in Spring of 1983.

Weatheradio Canada, operated by the Atmospheric Environment Service, provides up-to-the-minute weather reports and forecasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Weatheradio stations use one of three frequencies in the very high frequency FM band: 162.400 MHz, 162.475 MHz and 162.550 MHz. They have a broadcast range of about 65 kilometres.

The special radio receiver required to receive the transmissions is available commercially. This will automatically sound an alarm or come up to audible volume when warnings of severe weather conditions are transmitted.

The four new stations will join others already operating in Victoria, Edmonton, Regina, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Moncton, Halifax and Gander.

Further information: Al Campbell (416) 667-4722

Big Birthday for Canal

More than 450 scheduled events will mark the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Rideau Canal this summer. Col. John By supervised construction of the 198 km waterway between Kingston and Ottawa, opened in 1832. A highlight of the celebrations will be a re-enactment of Col. By's inspection trip down the canal.

The steam launch Phoebe will leave Kingston June 12 and arrive in Ottawa June 26. Fireworks, regattas, pancake breakfasts and other celebrations are planned at communities all along the canal, culminating in a formal welcome at Ottawa's National Arts Centre.

Upon completion the Rideau Canal, with its hand-laid stone locks and impressive dams at Jones Falls and Long Island, was internationally recognized as an engineering masterpiece. But Col. By was recalled to England in disgrace for exceeding the approved budget.

Governor General Schreyer will officially reopen the canal on May 23, for its 151st year of continuous operation.

Further information: Bob Haig, (613) 992-6247

Calendar

Waterfowl Symposium

Canada will host the 28th annual meeting and symposium of the International Waterfowl Research Bureau in Edmonton from May 23 to 29. Established in 1954, the IWRB stimulates and coordinates research on the conservation of waterfowl and their wetland habitats.

Environment Canada will host the opening banquet on May 24. The meeting, symposium and other events are being sponsored by Environment Canada, the United States Fish

and Wildlife Service, the Provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, the Alberta Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation, and Ducks Unlimited.

Further information: Penny West or Gordon Kerr Canadian Wildlife Service Edmonton (403) 420-2536

Science and Technology Show

Environment Canada will take part in a national science and technology exhibition at Place Bonaventure, Montreal, May 21-30. This exhibition, the first of its kind, will bring together in the public square all major participants in scientific research and technological development.

The department will be represented by all its regional branches in Quebec and by its national information directorate. They will tell the public about the dominant role of science and technology in the pursuit of the department's objectives.

The regional branches will focus their

presentation on science and technology working for the environment. The information directorate's booth will stress man's relationship with the environment. The department's major goals will thus be presented: to protect the environment from human activity and to adapt man's activities to nature.

Further information: Eric Léouzon (514) 283-4670/7305

Planners to Meet

The Canadian Institute of Planners will hold its 1982 national conference from June 20 to 23 in Hull, Quebec. In keeping with the theme, "New Forces Shaping Land Development", participants will study environmental management, the technological revolution and the rise of a new urban mentality.

Further information: National Conference 82 Canadian Institute of Planners P.O. Box 1277 Station "B" Hull, Quebec J8X 3Y1

Calendar

Chinese to Visit Canada

A delegation from the Chinese Academy of Science will visit Canada May 25 - June 9 to study Canadian techniques in weather modification and cloud physics. On May 26 they will attend the opening of the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS) Congress in Ottawa, where the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) and the Canadian Advisory Committee on Remote Sensing are also meeting. There too, they can inspect the specially equipped Twin Otter aircraft used by scientists of the Atmospheric Environment Service during cloud observations last year in Montana.

The Chinese scientists will visit meteorology facilities at McGill University, the University of Toronto and the AES building in Downsview, where they will make a detailed inspection of cloud physics facilities. They will also visit the Alberta Research Council to observe hail research and weather modification programs and inspect radar facilities.

Further information: Dr. Robert Schemenauer (416) 667-4684

Update Briefs

Preventing Flood Damage

A newly published guide suggests ways to reduce erosion and flood damage around the Great Lakes. Aimed at municipal planners, scientists and engineers, the guide was prepared by experts in the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, along with outside consultants.

Three years in preparation, the guide suggests uses of shore property that would help prevent heavy damage such as occurred

in 1972-1973. High water levels then cost some \$28 million.

Copies are available from the Water Planning and Management Branch, Inland Waters Directorate, Canada Centre for Inland Waters, Burlington, Ont. L7R 4A6.

Further information: Judith Hilliker (319) 997-6555

Chemicals under Review

A new list of chemicals being reviewed under the Environmental Contaminants Act has been published in the Canada Gazette.

The list includes so-called priority chemicals and candidate chemicals. Priority chemicals are those substances for which regulations are being developed, or for which further study and information are required to determine whether regulation or other action is necessary. Candidate chemicals are those that present potential environmental problems but about which there is insufficient concern to place them on the priority list. As

information is accumulated, some of the substances may warrant more detailed study and be placed on the priority list.

Copies of the Gazette announcement, dated January 16, are available from the Contaminants Control Branch, Environmental Protection Service, Environment Canada, Ottawa KIA 1C8.

Further information: M.F. Millson (819) 997-3201

Wildlife and People

Statistics Canada has asked 100 000 Canadians how they feel about wildlife, and how much they are involved with it. The nationwide questionnaire, a supplement to the February labor force survey, was the first phase of a study initiated by the Canadian Wildlife Service, its provincial counterparts and several non-government organizations.

Respondents were asked about their participation in such activities as wildlife conservation, wildlife watching, feeding, photography and hunting. The questionnaire covered such wildlife as waterfowl,

other birds, large and small mammals.

It also asked about expenditures on travel, accommodation, equipment and other related goods and services.

Survey results, expected in June of 1983, will be the first nationally comparable data for use by governments and others in planning and evaluating wildlife management programs.

Further information: Wayne Roddick (819) 997-6555

New Arctic Park

A proposed new national park reserve on Ellesmere Island will preserve a fragile and beautiful area of Canada's high arctic. The area, some 39 500 square kilometres, includes the northernmost part of the country, with mountain ranges, glaciers, ice shelves, fjords and the biggest lake north of the Arctic Circle--Lake Hazen.

Over the next two years Parks Canada will prepare a socio-economic action plan, including a strategy for helping area residents take advantage of new business and employment opportunities. Residents

of Grise Fiord, the closest permanent settlement, will be encouraged to take part in the planning.

A memorandum of agreement between Parks Canada and the Northwest Territories government stipulates that there will be no interference with native land claims. Native people may continue to hunt, fish and harvest other renewable resources.

Further information: Tom Kovacs (819) 994-3012

Focus on Dioxins

The National Research Council has published a two-volume monograph on dioxins and the environment. Contributors include experts with Environment Canada, the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Ontario government, the university community and industry.

Dioxin is a particularly complex subject because of the large number and variable toxicity. Environment Canada, Agriculture Canada, National Health and Welfare, Fisheries and Oceans, and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment are gathering further information on dioxins, while seeking solutions to the problem they present.

Environment Canada's Ontario regional office in Ontario continues to press for adequate containment of waste-dump leakage into the Niagara River and Lake Ontario. Later this year an advisory committee will report to the Ministers of National Health and Welfare and Environment on the current situation, and suggest some possible solutions. Meanwhile Environment Canada's Toxic Chemicals Management Centre is developing a plan of action for dealing with the problem.

Further information: Martin Boddington (819) 994-0731

Old Look for Tattoo

Parks Canada will provide some \$120 000 to re-equip the Signal Hill Tattoo Guard over the next two years.

The 58-man Guard will then be turned-out with uniforms, guns and other accourrements just like those worn and used by the Royal Newfoundland Companies in 1862.

The 1853-design Enfield percussion-cap

rifled muskets will be ready in time for this summer's performances. The Newfoundland Historic Trust, a non-profit organization, has agreed to assume overall responsibility for the Tattoo, staged annually by the Newfoundland Army Cadet League.

Further information: Edna Hall Historic Sites, Nfld. (709) 737-5364

Waste Management Discussed

A two-day seminar in Toronto on the management of hazardous wastes dealt with risks, spills, chemical analysis and the destruction of wastes. Fifteen papers were presented at the conference, which was sponsored by the Chemical Institute of Canada, Environment Canada and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment.

A similar seminar was held in Edmonton last November, sponsored by the Chemical

Institute, Environment Canada and the Alberta environment department. Details of the proceedings are available from K.A. Childs, Waste Management Branch, Environmental Protection Service, Ottawa KIA 1C8.

Further information: Paul Hempel (819) 997-6555

Ozone Alert

The Atmospheric Environment Service is participating in a Canada-United States ozone monitoring program, aimed at the earliest possible detection of any depletion of the ozone layer. The information gathered will provide scientific support for the regulation of chlorofluorocarbons and other chemicals

likely to affect it.

Satellites, space platforms, balloons and rockets are probing the stratosphere for data on trace constituents, while measuring the ozone layer. The program began last October with the launching of the U.S. Solar Mesosphere Explorer Satellite.

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