

This group has estimated, based on information up to the end of 1975, that Canada has 462,000 tons (419 000 t) of U_3O_8 mineable for up to \$40/lb. (\$88/kg). This is a 7.8% increase over the estimate of the previous year, after taking account of production of 4,600 tons (4 200 t) during 1975, and indicates the results of increased exploration since the recovery of prices that began in 1974.

The largest reserves and mines at present are in the Elliot Lake area of Ontario. In other areas, Madawaska Mines Ltd. has re-opened a mine near Bancroft, Ont., the Crown company Eldorado Nuclear Ltd. continues to operate its mine near Uranium City, Sask., and Gulf Minerals Canada Ltd. has begun production from its Rabbit Lake deposit in Saskatchewan. Exploration is active in many parts of Canada and some significant deposits have been identified in northeastern Saskatchewan. This exploration is expected to lead to a considerable increase in Canada's known uranium resources which will permit continuation of other major export programs while ensuring ample fuel supply for the growing number of domestic nuclear power generating stations.

The decision to build nuclear power generating stations rests with the provincial electrical utilities. Ontario Hydro has decided that the majority of new generation will be nuclear, New Brunswick Power is building its first unit and Hydro-Québec is building a commercial unit near the demonstration unit built by the federal Crown corporation, Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd., at Gentilly, Que. Hydro-Québec announced in 1976 its expectation of going to a large nuclear power program beginning in the late 1980s.

As of the summer of 1976 there were seven nuclear power units operating in Canada.

<i>Station</i>	<i>Owner</i>	<i>Output (MWe)</i>
NPD	OH/AECL	25
Douglas Point	AECL ¹	208
Gentilly 1	AECL ²	250
Pickering 1 to 4	OH	2 056

¹Operated by Ontario Hydro.

²Operated by Hydro-Québec.

Units under construction or committed are:

<i>Station</i>	<i>Owner</i>	<i>Output (MWe)</i>	<i>In-service date</i>
Bruce 1-4 ¹	OH	2 984	1977-79
Pickering 5-8	OH	2 064	1981-83
Gentilly 2	HQ	638	1979
LePreau	NBEPC	635	1981
Bruce 5-8	OH	3 076	1983-86

¹The first unit of the Bruce station was started in the summer of 1976 and was still under commissioning tests at time of publication.

The total output of operating and committed stations is 11 936 MWe. A further 2 900 MWe is expected to be in service by 1986, with projections of 50 000 to 75 000 MWe by the year 2000. It is predicted that nuclear energy will provide about 40% of the electricity generated by the turn of the century.

Coal

Canadian production of coal in 1975 was 27.9 million short tons (25 300 000 t) valued at \$575 million (Table 13.9). Production increased by almost 20% while the dollar value of output rose by 90% over that of the previous year. Production increased in all provinces with British Columbia posting the largest gain in terms

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