

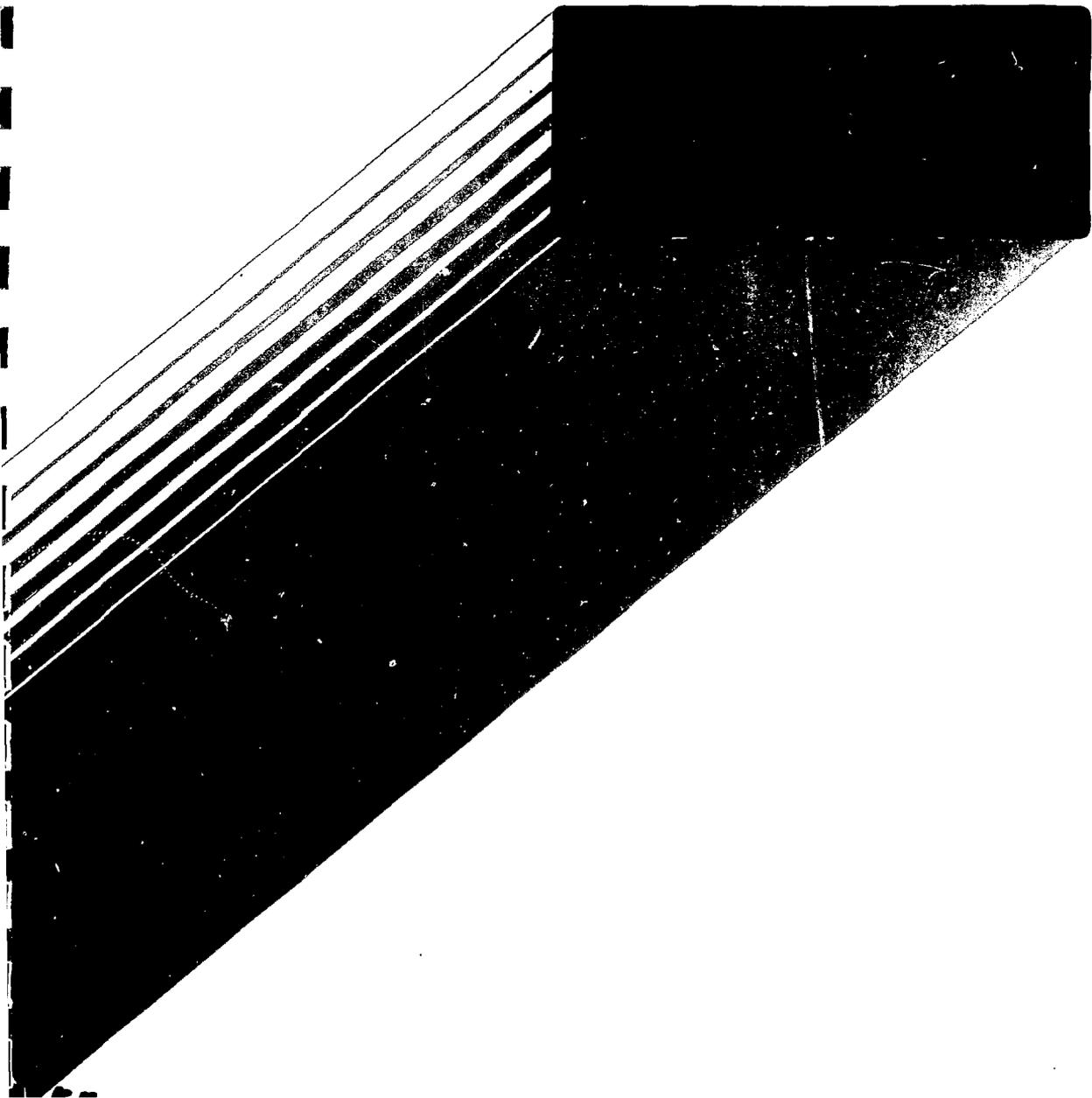
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P.O. Box 1046
Ottawa, Canada
K1P 5S9

C.P. 1046
Ottawa, Canada
K1P 5S9

ATOMIC ENERGY CONTROL BOARD:
MODUS OPERANDI

by

N.S. Blackman and W.K. Gummer

Atomic Energy Control Board
Ottawa, Canada

PAPER

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ABSTRACT

This paper has been prepared to provide an overview of the responsibilities and activities of the Atomic Energy Control Board. It is designed to address questions that are often asked concerning the establishment of the Atomic Energy Control Board, its enabling legislation, licensing and compliance activities, federal-provincial relationships, international obligations, and communications with the public.

RESUME

Ce document donne un aperçu général des responsabilités et des activités de la Commission de contrôle de l'énergie atomique. Il traite de questions que l'on pose souvent à propos de la création de la Commission, de sa loi d'habilitation, de ses activités par rapport à la réglementation et à la conformité, de ses rapports avec le gouvernement fédéral et les différents gouvernements provinciaux, de ses obligations internationales, ainsi que de ses rapports avec le public.

Why was the Atomic Energy Control Board first created?

With increasing world interest and research into the uses of nuclear energy in the mid 1940's, the Government of Canada, along with other countries, strove to install a means of controlling nuclear technology as quickly as possible. Because of the strategic nature of nuclear material, it was determined that it was in the national interest to establish a federal entity which would have responsibility for regulating nuclear energy. In 1946 the Atomic Energy Control Act (AEC Act) was passed creating a corporate body to be known as the Atomic Energy Control Board (AECB). This body was to be, and has been, responsible for controlling and supervising nuclear energy and implementing international obligations with respect to nuclear energy.

Why was the entity established a "Board" and not a "department of government"?

Since knowledge in the field of nuclear energy was increasing very rapidly, it was believed that measures for control must not only be wide, but also flexible to meet new situations. A corporate entity would provide the necessary flexibility and independence in carrying out the mandate of the AEC Act. For this reason Parliament delegated directly to the agency certain powers and responsibilities which would normally be vested in the appropriate Minister for a department or ministry form of organization. For example, the AECB has the power to make its own rules of procedure and performance, power to employ staff, and power to make regulations (with Governor in Council approval). Thus the AECB enjoys a degree of independence from government control by virtue of the AEC Act. The AECB reports to Parliament through a designated Minister, currently the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and is a departmental corporation (Schedule B) within the meaning of the Financial Administration Act (R.S. c.116, s.1).

What does the Atomic Energy Control Act set forth?

The AEC Act was enacted "to make provision for the control and supervision of the development, application and use of atomic energy and to enable Canada to participate effectively in measures of international control of atomic energy" (RSC 1970 c.A-19). To achieve these objectives, a designated Minister is given certain powers with respect to commercial, promotional, and research aspects of nuclear energy, and the Board is empowered to make

regulations (with the approval of the Governor in Council) in a number of fields, including the control of the production, application, and use of nuclear materials and equipment. This has evolved over the years to include the health, safety and security aspects of nuclear energy.

Although the AEC Act authorizes the Board to award grants for nuclear research, responsibility for grants for university research under this program was turned over to the National Research Council in 1976, and the Board now concentrates on contracted, mission-oriented research in support of its regulatory activities. (Mission-oriented research is further described on page 9.)

What are the responsibilities of the AECB?

Under authority of the AEC Act, as slightly amended in 1954, the AECB is responsible for health, safety, and national and international security aspects of the use, production, and application of prescribed substances⁽¹⁾, equipment and nuclear facilities.

The Nuclear Liability Act (RSC 1970 c.29, 1st supp.) assigns to the Board the responsibility for designating nuclear installations as subject to the Act and for establishing the amount of insurance that must be obtained by operators of nuclear installations to meet the absolute liability imposed by the Act for any injury or damage arising out of a nuclear accident.

How is the AECB organized?

The five-member Board consists of four members who are appointed by the Governor in Council and the President of the National Research Council as ex officio member, as provided in the AEC Act. One of these members is appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of the Board, and is currently the only full-time member of the Board.

Present membership is as follows:

Mr. J.H. Jennekens, President and Chief Executive Officer
(appointed December 29, 1978)

Dr. L. Kerwin, ex officio member as
President of the National Research Council
(from June 1, 1980)

Miss S.O. Fedoruk
Director of Physics
Saskatchewan Cancer Foundation and
Professor of Oncology
University of Saskatchewan
(first appointed in May 1973)

(1) Uranium, thorium, plutonium, neptunium, deuterium, their respective derivatives and compounds and any other substance that the Board may, by regulation, designate as being capable of releasing nuclear energy or as being requisite for the production, use or application of nuclear energy.

Mr. J.L. Olsen
President and Chief Executive Officer
Phillips Cables Limited
(first appointed February 1975)

Professor P. Marmet
Professor of Physics
Université Laval
(first appointed December 1979)

The day-to-day regulatory operations of the AECB are carried out by a scientific, technical, and administrative staff. The total staff currently comprises 220 persons, of whom over 130 have scientific and technical backgrounds. At present the AECB staff organization consists of the President's Office, the Secretariat, Legal Advisers, Official Languages Adviser, the Directorate of Reactor Regulation, the Directorate of Fuel Cycle and Materials Regulation, the Directorate of Regulatory Research, and the Planning and Administration Branch. An Organization Chart is attached as Appendix A. (The Orientation Centre which appears on this chart is a program separate from the AECB organization per se, and is further discussed on page 4.)

This staff organization is augmented by two internal committees: a Management Committee which provides advice to the President on administrative and operational matters, and has the power to act for the President during his absence or when there is a vacancy in that office; and a Policy Advisory Committee which develops and presents major policy recommendations to the President and the Board.

In addition, the AECB benefits from advice and cooperation from other federal departments and agencies and from provincial governments that assist it in its licensing and compliance inspection activities. The AECB also sponsors certain Advisory Committees composed of persons with relevant expertise from the federal and provincial governments, and the academic and other private sectors, who advise the AECB on matters related to its regulatory activities. At present there are three such Committees: the Advisory Committee on Radiological Protection (ACRP); the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Safety (ACNS); and the Subcommittee on Nuclear Security (formed under the federal government's Security Advisory Committee). Membership in the first two committees is entirely from outside the AECB; while secretariat services are provided by the AECB, the secretaries are not members of either committee. Membership in the security committee consists of representatives from AECB staff, the Department of External Affairs, the RCMP, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, the Department of National Defence, Emergency Planning Canada, and the Solicitor General's Office.

What are the functions of the staff organizational units?

The Secretariat embraces the staff functions of Secretary to the Board, Office of Public Information and the Library, and the Medical, Science and Special Advisers to the AECB; the Science Adviser also coordinates Advisory Committee secretariats.

The Legal Adviser, seconded from the Department of Justice, and the Official Language Adviser, report directly to the President.

The Directorate of Reactor Regulation is responsible for the safety evaluation, quality assurance, licensing (including operator examination and certification), and inspection of all nuclear power plants, research reactors and accelerators. It is also responsible for some of the detailed technical evaluation of licensing information for all other nuclear facilities and prescribed substances.

The Directorate of Fuel Cycle and Materials Regulation is responsible for the safety evaluation, quality assurance, licensing and inspection of uranium mines, uranium refineries and conversion facilities, nuclear fuel fabrication plants, radioactive waste management facilities, heavy water plants, and users of radioisotopes and prescribed substances. The Directorate is also responsible for provision of laboratory services, for the implementation of domestic and international nuclear material safeguards programs and has been responsible for the implementation of programs within the responsibility of the Federal-Provincial Task Force on Radioactivity.

The Directorate of Regulatory Research is responsible for the management of mission-oriented research programs designed to provide information for use in the regulatory functions, and for the production of regulatory documents. It is also responsible for the assessment of radiation hazards and protection programs for licensed activities, and for the development of related standards and guidelines.

The Planning and Administration Branch is responsible for such centralized administrative functions as office services, registry, personnel and finance, and planning and coordination.

The Planning and Coordination Division coordinates matters of an internal, interdepartmental, intergovernmental, and international nature, from both an administrative and a technical viewpoint, in order to ensure uniformity of policy and approach, and to avoid duplication by the various divisions of the AECB.

Although not part of the AECB organization per se, an Orientation Centre has been set up as a separate program, independently financed, related to the safety of CANDU nuclear power plants outside Canada, to train and/or advise personnel from foreign regulatory agencies.

How does the AECB "administer" the AEC Act and Regulations?

By means of a comprehensive licensing system, the AECB controls all dealings in prescribed substances and equipment within the nuclear industry for the purpose of assuring that such substances and equipment are utilized with proper consideration of health and safety and of national and international security. The AECB's licensing system is administered with the cooperation of other federal and provincial government departments and agencies in the areas of health, safety, environment, transportation, labour aspects, and others.

What is implied by "Licensing System"?

AEC Regulations require that a licence from the AECB must be obtained by any person or organization wishing to mine, refine, process, or use prescribed substances, to export such substances or equipment, or to operate a facility for the production of deuterium oxide (heavy water), or nuclear energy. Before issuing a licence, the AECB requires from the person or organization sufficient information to show that required health and safety standards will be met and maintained, and that any wastes will be managed in a satisfactory manner.

In order to exercise its regulatory role, the AECB establishes standards that must be met; assesses potential licensees; capabilities to meet these standards and to assure their maintenance; and, once a licence is issued, carries out compliance inspections to ensure that its requirements are continuously met.

How does the Board assess a licensee's capabilities for issuance of a nuclear facility licence?

In reviewing an application to site, construct, or operate a nuclear facility the AECB requires a proponent to demonstrate that the facility can be built and operated without undue hazard to the health and safety of individuals or significant impact on the environment. Review of information submitted in support of an application for a licence involves experts from the AECB staff and usually from other government departments. This review continues throughout the design and construction of a facility.

When the five-member Board, on advice from its staff, is satisfied that the proposed facility complies with regulatory requirements, the appropriate authorization or licence is issued.

The expression "the nuclear fuel cycle" is often used when discussing atomic energy. What does it encompass?

The nuclear fuel cycle is the sequence of operations from the mining of uranium-bearing ore through to fission in power reactors that produce electricity. It also includes the management of the

radioactive waste that is produced at each stage of the cycle. The stages of this cycle, for Canadian purposes, are:

1. Mining of uranium-bearing ore;
2. Milling of the ore to produce uranium concentrate;
3. Refining of the concentrate to produce uranium dioxide (UO_2) for domestic reactors, and uranium hexafluoride (UF_6) for export;
4. Fabrication of UO_2 into pellets and production of fuel bundles;
5. Production of heavy water (ordinary water enriched in the natural isotope deuterium oxide) necessary as a neutron moderator and coolant in the CANDU power reactor;
6. Operation of power reactors;
7. Management of wastes produced at all stages of the fuel cycle.

Does the AECB issue licences for all of these stages?

The AECB licenses all nuclear facilities that are associated with the nuclear fuel cycle, and in addition, research reactors and particle accelerators, which are also identified as nuclear facilities.

What are the licensing activities of the Board for each stage of the nuclear fuel cycle?

As the licensing process for all nuclear facilities follows the same general pattern, it is probably best to discuss the phases of licensing which are common.

The process of licensing uranium mines and mills, refining and conversion facilities, fuel fabrication facilities, heavy water plants, nuclear power reactors and radioactive waste management facilities, can be considered to take place in three phases, the end-point of each being marked in turn by the AECB issuance of a) site acceptance, b) construction approval, and c) an operating licence. Although the end-point of each phase is clearly delineated, the activities that lead up to these points overlap. Thus, activities which are relevant to an application for an operating licence can commence before either the construction approval or site acceptance is issued.

Is exploration activity licensed by the AECB?

While exploration for uranium and thorium is regulated by the province, the AEC Regulations require that a federal permit be obtained when the ore grade exceeds 0.05% and it is intended to remove more than ten kilograms of uranium or thorium in any one calendar year. If only surface removal is to be carried out, an Ore Removal Permit is required. Where extensive stripping, work shafts, and drifting into an ore body are to occur, an Underground Exploration Permit is required.

What other licences are issued by the AECB?

Subject to minor exceptions, any person wishing to own, use or sell a prescribed substance must obtain a licence that is issued if the AECB is satisfied that the substance will be used and disposed of safely. Two types of licences are issued: prescribed substance licences covering uranium, thorium and heavy water; and radioisotope licences covering certain radioisotopes for use in medicine, for diagnostic and treatment purposes, and in industry for radiographic inspection, process control, static elimination, oil well logging, etc. A common use is in consumer products such as smoke detectors and watches. These are generally exempted from licensing because of the minute quantities involved, however each model must be approved by the AECB prior to distribution.

As with nuclear facilities, when the AECB issues a prescribed substance licence or radioisotope licence, it specifies the conditions that must be met by the user and it carries out an inspection program to check compliance by the licensee.

How does the AECB ensure national and international security of prescribed substances and equipment?

The control of prescribed substances and equipment to assure that Canada's national policies and international commitments relating to the non-proliferation of nuclear explosives are met is effected by licence conditions and by controlling the import and export of substances and equipment. This is done in cooperation with other federal government departments and agencies, according to safeguards policies enunciated by the Canadian government in December, 1974, and December, 1976. International safeguards provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons are administered under a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency which provides for the inspection of the Canadian nuclear program by that Agency. It is claimed that Canada has the most stringent safeguards requirements in the world.

What controls are applied to the transportation of radioactive materials?

The transportation of radioactive material is subject to regulation by the applicable modal authorities - the Canadian Transport Commission (shipment by rail), the Air and Marine Administrations of Transport Canada (shipments by air and sea respectively), and the National Harbours Board and the St. Lawrence Seaway Commission (shipments through ports and the Seaway). In the absence of any specific provisions governing shipment by road, the CTC (Rail) Regulations have been made applicable and are administered directly by the AECB for road transport.

Pursuant to the AEC Act, the AECB regulates the shippers of radioactive material, and hence the type of container in which the

material is transported. For small quantities of radioactive material the design of the container need only meet certain performance standards specified in the Regulations. For larger quantities a certificate authorizing the use of a specific package (or container) is issued once it has been shown to meet the standards established by the AECB. Transport Canada regulates the carriers under the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act.

A Memorandum of Understanding is in place to govern the various interfaces of the AECB and Transport Canada concerning the transportation of radioactive materials.

What are the AECB "compliance activities" referred to as part of the licensing process?

An important activity of the AECB is to ensure that once a licence has been issued to a person to operate a nuclear facility, or to use or possess a prescribed substance, that person complies with the conditions of the licence and with the requirements of the Regulations. This is accomplished in five ways:

- (a) AECB staff members are located at nuclear power reactor sites as well as in the Elliot Lake mining area. Their full-time role is to carry out inspections and maintain constant surveillance over the licensed facilities.
- (b) AECB staff, based at Head Office, visit licensees across Canada to carry out inspections. In addition to full-time inspectors attached to the Compliance Services and Laboratories Division of the AECB, staff from other divisions involved in regulatory activities also carry out inspections.
- (c) There are two AECB regional offices - one in Mississauga, Ontario, the other in Calgary, Alberta - with a staff of inspectors who carry out inspections in Southern Ontario and Western Canada.
- (d) With the growth of the nuclear industry, there has been a corresponding increase in inspection responsibilities. As the AECB does not have the manpower necessary to carry out inspection activities for all nuclear facilities and prescribed substances, it augments its inspection capabilities by the appointment, with approval of senior provincial ministry officers, of members of provincial departments to act as inspectors for the Board under Section 12 of the AEC Regulations.
- (e) It is also a requirement of licensees that they make periodic reports to the AECB and report any abnormal occurrences.

To support the compliance and radioactivity clean-up programs, the AECB maintains a laboratory in Ottawa which has the capability of carrying out radiochemical analyses of samples taken during inspections as well as other analyses which might not be readily obtainable elsewhere at short notice.

The AECB also sponsors a twice-a-year training course for uranium mine inspectors (including personnel from uranium mining companies and labour unions, as well as federal and provincial agencies). Currently these programs are offered at the Canadian Institute for Radiation Safety, Elliot Lake, Ontario.

How does the AECB assure protection of the environment from radioactive contaminants?

The AEC Regulations permit the Board to control, by licence conditions, "the maximum quantity and concentration of radioactive or other hazardous material that may be discharged into the air and water as a result of the use of prescribed substances." While the Regulations and associated licence conditions for effluent releases have, in practice, been based on radiation doses to humans, they do afford a measure of protection to the receiving environment from radioactive and non-radioactive contaminants. As well, in establishing licence conditions for nuclear facilities, the AECB incorporates licensee documents which address environmental protection measures, including environmental monitoring, and may make reference to the legislation and regulations of other jurisdictions which are not inconsistent with the requirements of the AECB.

What is meant by "mission-oriented research"?

"Mission-oriented research" is the term used by the AECB to describe the research and development programs that it has identified as being required to assist in its regulatory and safeguards functions.

The program is structured to cover the impact of all aspects of the nuclear fuel cycle and materials on man (Health Effects), the pathways to man (Environmental Processes), and sources of concern to man (Risk and Safety Evaluation). In addition, it covers projects associated with safeguarding nuclear facilities and materials (Special Safeguards).

What does the expression "joint regulatory process" mean?

The term "joint regulatory process" describes the working arrangements the AECB has established with other federal and provincial regulatory departments and agencies that have mandates in occupational health and safety and environmental protection. The objective of these working arrangements is to satisfy concerns that federal and provincial requirements are met in the licensing of nuclear facilities, and to avoid any possibility of duplication. The AECB carries the lead role in this joint process.

What federal and provincial departments and agencies are involved in the licensing process and what are their functions?

Federal Interfaces

The following federal departments and agencies are involved in the AECB licensing process. Their respective interfaces with the AECB are summarized.

- (a) Department of Energy, Mines and Resources (EMR)
- The Department chairs a committee which reviews contracts for the export of uranium;
 - It coordinates much of the research on uranium tailings which is relevant to AECB licensing decisions;
 - The Department advises the Minister on many policies which have implications for the licensing process;
 - The Department is the major source of advice to the AECB on geological and earth physics matters, and metallurgical matters concerning nuclear energy;
 - A Memorandum of Understanding between the AECB and EMR has been established to govern the interface of these two organizations.
- (b) Department of National Health and Welfare (NHW)
- The Department acts as the AECB's principal, but not exclusive, adviser on health aspects of radiological exposure and safety;
 - The Department provides dosimetry services and laboratory assistance to the AECB, as well as to many AECB licensees;
 - It provides advice on the capabilities of physicians in the licensing of radioisotopes for medical applications;
 - The AECB and NHW have developed a Memorandum of Understanding to govern the interface.
- (c) Department of Environment
- The Department provides assistance and advice to the AECB in matters related to the environmental aspects of nuclear energy;
 - The Department seeks to establish Canadian standards and criteria for toxic substances, including radioactive materials, in the natural environment;
 - AECB and the Department cooperate in appropriate research studies;
 - A Memorandum of Understanding has been established to govern the interface of these two organizations.
- (d) Department of Labour
- The AECB has issued regulations which deal with radiological health and safety;
 - In the absence of AECB regulations for the purpose, the Canada Labour Code applies to all nuclear facilities for conventional occupational health and safety aspects;
 - At present, the Department's responsibilities are directly implemented in uranium mines and mills, Nova Scotia heavy water plants, and some Ontario fuel plants;

- in other cases the Department has made administrative arrangements with the Province of Ontario;
- As a result of these arrangements, the interface between AECB and the Department of Labour involves frequent consultation and cooperative action.
- (e) Ministry of Transport
- The Ministry of Transport is responsible for the carrier aspects of the transport of radioactive materials, while the AECB is responsible for the shipper aspects, including packaging. Thus, the Ministry of Transport and the AECB share responsibilities for transport, and cooperate in this field;
 - As mentioned earlier, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed to govern the interface of the two organizations.
- (f) Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce (ITC)
- Two federal acts, the AEC Act, administered by the AECB, and the Export and Import Permits Act, administered by ITC*, give the federal government power to control exports of nuclear materials, equipment and information. Accordingly, the AECB and ITC have established a joint export permit system for these items;
 - The AECB provides advice to ITC on nuclear matters and the Department provides advice to AECB on general export policies.
- * (Recent official reallocation of responsibilities will result in the Export and Import Permits Act being administered by the Department of External Affairs).
- (g) Department of External Affairs (EA)
- The Department provides interdepartmental/interagency coordination in dealing with international agencies concerned with science, technology and nuclear material safeguards.
- (h) National Research Council (NRC)
- The NRC is a source of scientific information for the AECB.
- (i) Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (DINA)
- The Department administers aspects of mineral and land developments north of latitude 60° (i.e. in the Yukon and Northwest Territories); thus, there is an interface with the AECB in activities associated with exploration for uranium or thorium, or mining operations in these areas.

The AECB also interfaces with other federal departments and agencies in the following areas:

- cooperation in research and development on storage and disposal of wastes;
(Atomic Energy of Canada Limited)
- advice and resource requirements in emergencies (e.g. in connection with Cosmos 954, the nuclear-powered Russian satellite of 1978);
(Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, Department of National Defence)
- clean-up of radioactive-contaminated areas in the town of Port Hope, Ontario;
(Eldorado Nuclear Limited)
- emergency planning for radiological accidents;
(interdepartmental planning led by Emergency Planning Canada)
- interfaces with provincial governments; interdepartmental arrangements; and advice on policy aspects;
(Federal/Provincial Relations Office; Privy Council Office)
- review of inventions in the field of nuclear energy, which may be subject to the Atomic Energy Control Regulations;
(Consumer and Corporate Affairs)
- directives and guidelines of the central agencies.

Provincial Interface

At the provincial level, while no two provinces have exactly the same involvement in the nuclear fuel cycle, all provinces have some measure of responsibility over uranium development (and other parts of the nuclear fuel cycle, if present) through such aspects as:

- land use
- socio-economic impact
- environment
- infrastructure (roads, services, town sites, etc.)
- health
- off-site contingency plans

Some provinces have regulations specifically governing radiological occupational health and safety and environmental questions.

The provincial agencies primarily involved in the "joint regulatory process" are the Departments/Ministries of Labour, Environment and Natural Resources, or equivalent. The AECB consults with these agencies, as necessary, when establishing licence conditions, and may include stipulations requiring compliance with provincial requirements as long as they are compatible with the federal regulations under which the licences are issued.

A number of provincial officers are also appointed as AECB inspectors on agreement with their provincial ministries or departments. Provincial inspectors so nominated are supplied with

AECB Inspector cards which provide access to nuclear facilities and the premises of prescribed substance users. They inspect according to the AEC Regulations and report to the AECB as well as to their home office. Currently there are approximately 75 provincial officers carrying AECB cards; more than half are in Ontario and Saskatchewan and are concerned with uranium mining and milling and the wastes generated by these processes. A significant provincial effort is also expended on inspection activities associated with pressure-retaining components used in the nuclear industry.

What is the relationship between the AECB and Atomic Energy of Canada Limited?

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) and the AECB are often confused by the public and the media primarily because of the similarity in name. However, AECL is an entirely separate commercial Crown Corporation established, pursuant to section 10 of the AEC Act, under the Crown Corporations Act (as is Eldorado Nuclear Limited). AECL is involved in such varying activities as nuclear research and development, engineering design of nuclear power plants, operation of heavy water plants, marketing of CANDU reactors, and radioisotopes. Although AECL as a Crown Corporation is not legally subject to the AEC Act, AECL submits to the regulatory process as though it were.

What is the Federal-Provincial Task Force on Radioactivity?

In 1976 a Federal-Provincial Task Force was set up as an organization to expedite the clean-up of the radioactive contamination in Port Hope, Ontario. It subsequently expanded its activities to other locations in Canada. Ten federal departments and six departments from three provinces have been represented on the Task Force chaired by the AECB President. While it was expected that the clean-up program would be completed in early 1982, the court injunction granted in late 1981 by the Federal Court of Appeal on the disposal of the radioactive contaminated soil in Scarborough, Ontario, resulted in a freeze on federal funding of Task Force operations, and future action is still under discussion at the time of writing.

What international obligations are there and how does the AECB participate?

AECB staff participate regularly in activities of international organizations in which many other countries are involved. The subjects of concern include safeguards, security, health and safety, standards and codes.

Safeguards:

In support of Canadian bilateral nuclear cooperation activities and in the administration of related bilateral agreements, the AECB is

regularly included on Canadian government delegations negotiating these agreements.

Canada is a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and submits its entire nuclear fuel cycle to inspection and reporting administered by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The IAEA has established a safeguards field office in Toronto, Ontario, and AECB staff work closely with Agency staff to implement safeguards applied pursuant to the Non-Proliferation Treaty at nuclear establishments in Canada.

Standards and Codes:

Many of the standards and practices specified by the AECB are based on the recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) which is composed of experts in this field. The AECB, through staff participation in international activities related to the application of the ICRP recommendations, interprets and applies the recommendations.

The AECB is also closely involved in activities of the IAEA and of the Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). These involvements include work on safety codes, guides and standards for nuclear facilities, and basic safety standards for radiation protection, including radiation protection in mining and milling of uranium ores, nuclear installations, and waste management facilities.

Other:

The AECB maintains contacts with nuclear regulatory agencies in several other countries on matters of common concern, and exchanges safety-related information on a formal basis. Because of the existence of power reactors close to the border in both countries, authorities of Canada and the U.S.A. consider the needs for mutual or shared emergency planning.

Canada takes a leading role in the Working Group on Nuclear Power Supplies in Space under the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the United Nations' Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. Board staff act in an advisory capacity to the Canadian representatives.

Whatever happened to the proposed Nuclear Control and Administration Act?

This bill was drafted in an effort to update the AEC Act, to clarify the relationships that had developed with federal and provincial departments and agencies during the 30-year interim, and to provide for more open regulation. In spite of general agreement with these aims, the bill never progressed beyond first reading in Parliament (November, 1977) and died on the Order Paper in the

spring of 1978. In the meantime, the AECB continues to operate under the AEC Act.

What access does the general public have to AECB licensing information?

Recognizing the desires of the public for information relating to its regulatory activities, the AECB formulated a policy on public access to licensing information which became effective May 1, 1980.

Subject to a limited number of exemptions, all information supplied to the AECB in support of licence applications, final staff recommendations to the Board, and all documents incorporated into or forming part of a licence are made available to the public.

The AECB reports to the public through the news media at all steps of the licensing process for nuclear facilities, whenever significant hazards exist or may develop, and at any time that significant occurrences result in corrective measures being taken or ordered.

A public documents room has been provided at AECB Head Office in Ottawa where documents relating to licensing information may be viewed by the public.

What other methods are employed by the AECB for communication with the public?

AECB's communication with the public may also occur by means of:

- documented representations to and, in certain cases, appearances by interested parties before regular meetings of the five-member Board;
- presentations by the President and AECB staff before public meetings, Royal Commissions, and government committees to explain Board policies, criteria, and activities;
- a Consultative Document System whereby drafts of all proposed documents of a regulatory nature, including revisions to Regulations, are made available for public comment. As the Office of Public Information maintains open mailing lists, copies of such documents are automatically sent to interested parties, soliciting comments;
- similarly, news releases and information bulletins are mailed on a routine basis to interested parties, describing licensing actions and other regulatory information of interest to the public;
- oral and written announcements on matters of public interest;
- a Publications Catalogue is also available free, upon request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Further information on any of the AECB's regulatory activities may be obtained by contacting the Office of Public Information at (613) 995-5894, or by writing to:

Office of Public Information
Atomic Energy Control Board
P.O. Box 1046
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5S9

The AECB Public Documents Room is located in the Martel Building, 270 Albert Street, Ottawa, Ontario.

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**ORGANIZATION CHART
ATOMIC ENERGY CONTROL BOARD
1 DECEMBER 1961**

PRESIDENT
J.H. Jenneken

L.M.
L.P.

NOTES

Management Committee "M" denotes Chairman
"M" denotes Member
Policy Advisory Committee "P" denotes Chairman
"P" denotes Member

