

**ONTARIO HYDRO JOINS  
WORLD ORGANIZATION OF  
NUCLEAR OPERATORS**

Nuclear power plant operators worldwide will benefit from better sharing of information when the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO) is officially formed next month in Moscow, Ontario Hydro Chairman and President Robert Franklin said today.

The formation of the World Association of Nuclear Operators marks the first time utilities around the world have agreed to provide ongoing operating information about their nuclear plants, Franklin said. Commitment by the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries to exchange information about their operating experience is especially significant, he added. "The goal of this organization is to help ensure safe, reliable nuclear power operations around the globe by improving and strengthening the exchange of nuclear information. To succeed, all the utilities must make an effort to learn from the experience and expertise of others," Franklin said.

At the inaugural meeting of WANO in Moscow, May 14-19, a charter for the organization will be signed by 130 participating utilities.

The decision to form a world organization of utilities was made in the wake of the Chernobyl accident. WANO is based on another organization, the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations, which was set up after the accident at Three Mile Island to improve the exchange of information in the United States.

WANO will consist of four regional centres with a co-ordinating office in London. Utilities may belong to the regional centre of their choice: Atlanta, Moscow, Paris or Tokyo. Ontario Hydro, Hydro-Quebec and New Brunswick Power are joining WANO as a group. The Canadian utilities are a member of the Atlanta region along with utilities from the United States, Mexico and Yugoslavia. Franklin is the first chairman of the Atlanta Centre Governing Board and will represent the centre in Moscow. Member utilities in each region will be linked by computer through their regional centres. The four centres are also connected by computer so information can be easily exchanged with utilities from other regions.

"For the first time utilities will be linked by computers allowing for the quick exchange of information electronically. Operators of nuclear power stations will be able to learn not only from each others mistakes, but also from their successes," Franklin said.

Franklin will tour the Chernobyl nuclear station after the conference, the first Ontario Hydro representative to visit the plant.

**SHEEP PRODUCERS VOTE  
TO KEEP SHEEP AGENCY**

Toronto - Results of the sheep referendum show seventy-two per cent of producers who voted support the continuation of their marketing agency, Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Food, Jack Riddell, announced.

"I am pleased that the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency has been supported by such a high percentage of voters. I encourage the agency to continue to actively identify and address the needs of its producers and the Ontario sheep industry," Riddell said.

As a result of the vote the agency, operating under the authority of the Farm Products Marketing Act, will continue to represent Ontario's sheep, lamb and wool producers.

The referendum was held in response to a request from the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency earlier this year. The request reflected the 1984 recommendation of the Ontario Sheep Commission that the agency be established without an "expression of opinion" from producers, but that they have the opportunity to vote on continuation of the agency after a period of operation.

A total of 1,529 producers cast valid ballots in the April 14 referendum.



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