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THE POTENTIAL ROLE OF COAL IN CANADA'S ENERGY PICTURE

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CANADIAN COMBUSTION RESEARCH LABORATORY

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Adlibitum presentation to 1978 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Boiler Society, Kingston, Ontario, September 14, 1978.

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G. K. Lee*

SUMMARY

Canada's rapidly deteriorating supplies of conventional oil and natural gas will require a major escalation in the use of coal over the next 25 years. Current forecasts indicate that Canadian coal consumption will reach 100 million tons by the year 2000 and that economic utilization of this coal in an environmentally acceptable manner will depend on the development of new sophisticated technology.

Technology options for ensuring a gradual orderly transition of coal into the energy mix have been identified and in addition to substituting coal for oil, expanding coal use in conventional equipment and developing improved coal-fired energy cycles it is anticipated that large amounts of coal may be diverted into the production of synthetic oil and gas.

^{*}Adlibitum presentation to 1978 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Boiler Society, Kingston, Ontario September 14, 1978.