

CN/CP, and thus encourage the increased use of satellite technology, thereby making satellite-based services available to Canadians at the lowest possible cost. This approach is also consistent with the government's view that the public interest is well served by an element of competition in the provision of telecommunications services and facilities that clearly fall outside the family of monopoly telephone services."

CRTC Decision 81-13 dealt with a number of other matters as well and the rulings on these matters have not been varied by the government. One relates to revenue settlement arrangements whereby revenues received by member telephone companies for long distance calls are shared with the TCTS. The CRTC has been concerned that Bell and B.C. Telephone, which fall under its jurisdiction, may be paying too much to the TCTS, thereby affecting rates paid by subscribers. For example, Bell makes payments to the TCTS even on long distance calls between points entirely within the Bell network. The CRTC has directed Bell and B.C. Telephone to seek to renegotiate their arrangements with the TCTS, and public hearings on the matter will be held in due course.

#### **REPRESENTATIONS TO BE INVITED AFTER INTRODUCTION TO COMPETITION BILL**

Consumer and Corporate Affairs Minister André Ouellet, in an address before the Financial Post Conference on Competition Policy in Toronto on November 20, indicated that time would be provided for the submission of representations after the introduction of the competition bill and before its enactment. He hopes to introduce the bill early in the next session of Parliament, and it will go before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs after second reading. He also pointed out that government or other amendments could be proposed just before third reading.

#### **FOOD PROCESSORS SEEK HALT IN SPREAD OF SUPPLY MANAGEMENT FARM MARKETING BOARDS**

The Grocery Products Manufacturers of Canada, representing 140 food processors, has called on the federal government to declare a moratorium on the creation of any additional farm marketing boards having supply management powers enabling them to set production quotas and prices. It also expressed support for a recommendation of the Economic Council of Canada that the quota powers of existing supply management marketing boards be phased out over the next four to five years.

The recommendations are contained in the Interim Report GPMC Task Force on the Impact of Government Policies on Grocery Product Marketing which was released in October.