

Politique d'avis scientifiques :

La controverse de 1997, l'ASEG et Environnement Canada

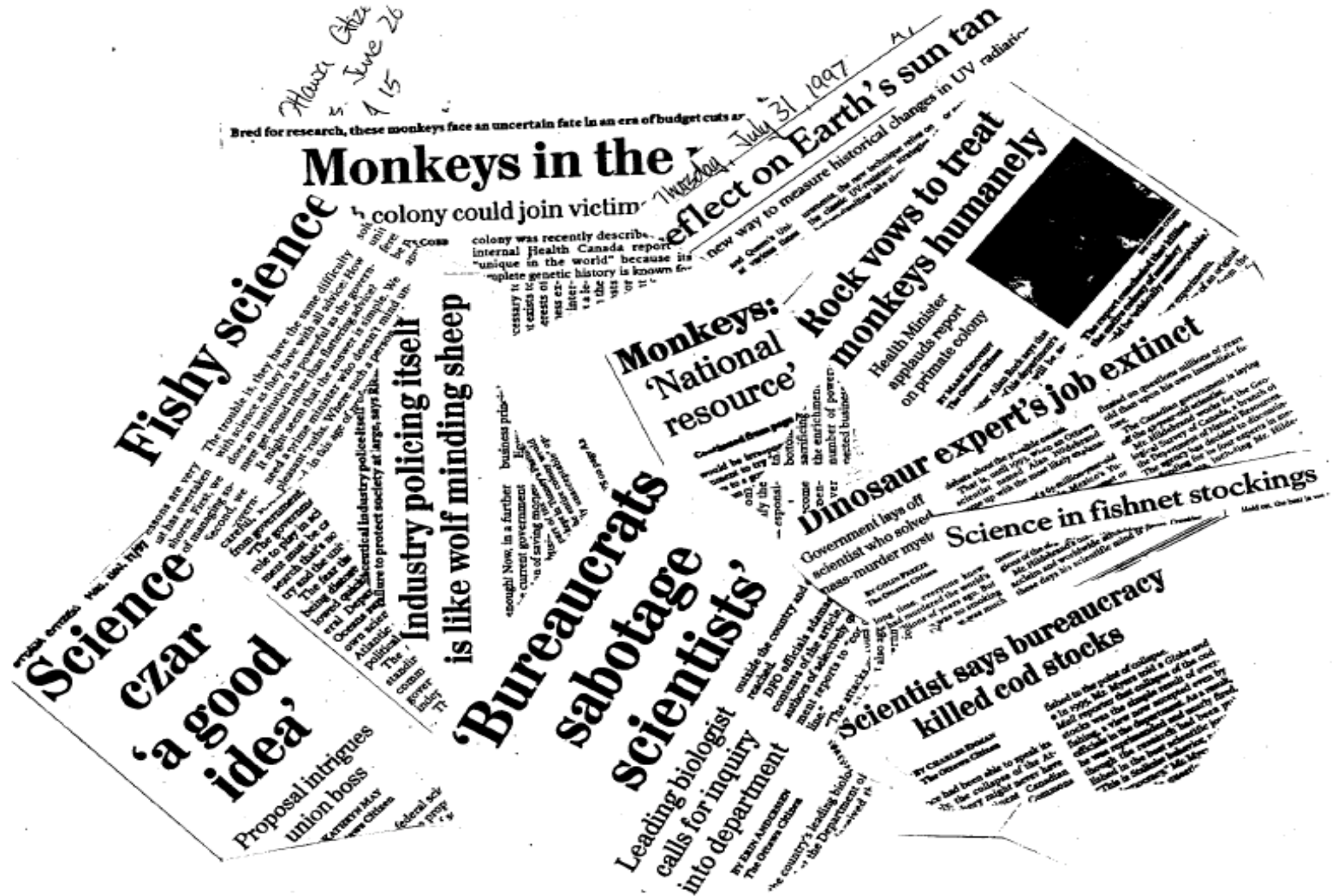
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Étude de cas

- Étude de cas historique d'avis scientifiques formulés par un ministère.
- Les avis scientifiques constituent une part importante des activités d'Environnement Canada.
- Ils sont habituellement invisibles, mais ce ne fut pas le cas lors de la controverse de 1997.

Des mois de mauvaise presse à l'été 1997



La réponse d'Environnement Canada

- A demandé l'avis de son nouveau Conseil consultatif externe sur la R et D.
- Le Ministère s'est engagé dans des activités interministérielles afin de regagner la confiance de la population relativement à l'usage de la science par le gouvernement.
- La controverse a mené à la formation du Conseil d'experts en sciences et en technologie (avril 1998).

Avis scientifiques pour l'efficacité gouvernementale (ASEG)

- Rapport publié en juin 1999
- Le gouvernement répondra en mai 2000 : *Cadre applicable aux avis en matière de sciences et de technologie.*
- Auparavant, Environnement Canada et son Conseil consultatif sur la R et D avaient recours à l'ASEG pour évaluer les pratiques du Ministère en matière d'avis scientifiques.
- Domaine en constante évolution; de nouveaux enjeux sont sans cesse soulevés.
- La politique est maintenant axée sur la mise en œuvre du *Cadre.*

Liste de vérification d'EC pour les avis scientifiques

Issue Identification	Inclusiveness	Sound Science/Science Advice	Uncertainty and Risk	Transparency and Openness	Review
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the background and magnitude of this issue? How was the issue identified? What are the implications? How and to whom was the issue communicated for action? 2. Are S&T considerations important for the development of policy options? If yes, what role do they play in the development of policy options? 3. Will this issue raise legal, moral or ethical questions which need to be addressed? Outline. 4. What is the degree of public knowledge and understanding of the scientific background to this issue? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the sources of science and science advice: in-house expertise; external expertise, international; expertise, or a combination of the above? What process was used to provide the advice? Was the advice solicited or unsolicited? Outline advice and specify source. 2. Have the scope and implications of the scientific basis for this issue been explored with related disciplines and departments including social sciences and sources of traditional knowledge? What were the results? 3. What measures were taken to ensure that the advisor(s) chosen matched the nature and breath of judgment required? 4. What measures have been taken to avoid (or manage) potential or real conflicts of interest on behalf of the advisors? 5. Does the advisory process include provisions for minority views or dissenting opinions? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What in-house expertise is available to assess and communicate the science and science advice to policy advisors and decision makers? 2. What measures have been taken to ensure the quality, integrity and objectivity of the science advice provided? Has in-house scientific research been subjected to peer review? 3. Have inherent biases been managed? 4. How were science advisors involved in the identification and assessment of policy options? How was their advice reflected in the options presented to decision-makers? 5. How were conflicting scientific views managed in the provision of science advice? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the nature and degree of the scientific and technological uncertainty and risk of this issue? 2. How were scientific and technological uncertainty dealt with in formulating policy options? How and when were the degree and nature of scientific uncertainty and risk communicated to decision-makers, stakeholders and the public? 4. How was the government's integrated risk management framework applied in addressing this issue? 5. What risk management approach was used in reaching decisions? Outline. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How was the need for effective consultation balanced with the need for timeliness in decision-making? In particular, were key interest groups, other government organizations, and international organizations given early notice of significant policy and regulatory initiatives? Outline. 2. Was a representative stakeholder group selected to comment on the development of policy options? How was this group chosen? What were its views and how were they taken into consideration? 3. How were the scientific findings, analyses and policy advice made available to the public and to stakeholders in a timely and ongoing manner? 4. What public consultation was undertaken on the policy options? How have public concerns been taken into consideration? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What tools and mechanisms are in place for monitoring, measuring and reporting on the scientific implications of the policy? 2. What are the provisions for a review of the science and decisions (based on a set time period or on significant changes in the science or policy)?

Site Web d'apprentissage interactif



Observations

- Le rôle de l'établissement d'un lien entre la science et la politique revient à la science gouvernementale.
- Les avis scientifiques font partie du quotidien à Environnement Canada.
- Un grand nombre de procédés et de liens organisationnels sont utilisés – selon les enjeux et leur contexte.
- L'évaluation a permis de conclure que le Ministère respectait relativement bien les principes.
- Pas de solution à court terme; engagement institutionnel à long terme en vue d'élaborer et d'appliquer de bonnes pratiques.