

MR. ROGERS, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 the, quote, the very beginning. There is or there was a
2 program called A.E.P. --

3 Q. And what was that?

4 A. A program called Atlantic Enterprises Program, which
5 was a small program run by the Cape Breton Development
6 Corporation, to provide loan guarantee and interest buy-
7 down support for projects. Now I stress this was a very
8 small program. From my memory, I don't think it ever was
9 funded at more than 5 million a year, and less in some
10 years, because it was intended to assist in the
11 development of small enterprises in Cape Breton, in
12 Pictou County, and other parts of Nova Scotia.

13 So that a project such as Westray, of the size of
14 Westray, could not be countenanced at all by the size of
15 that program. But nonetheless, the terms and conditions
16 of that program were used by the applicants as a basis
17 for making an approach to the Federal Government for
18 funding support. So that that was what happened, and
19 immediately that application was made, it had to find its
20 way to the Centre in Ottawa simply because there was no
21 possibility that that particular program could be funded
22 from within its financial envelope.

23 Q. Do you have any knowledge, even prior to that, as to
24 how Curragh itself became involved with this particular
25 project?