

MR. ROGERS, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 Planning Committee. So that this particular item
2 appeared in either the Economic Policy Committee or --
3 which was, by what it -- did what it -- that title
4 describes, and sometimes in the Operations Committee.

5 The Operations Committee was often a reference point
6 of projects that had multiple departmental interests
7 where the best coordination could occur as opposed to the
8 Economic Policy Committee where they might not all be
9 represented.

10 So it -- we prepared an initial brief that set the
11 proposal and sought direction from Ministers as to what
12 they wished to do.

13 Now the propensity in committees and the way in
14 which Ministers operate is collegially. And the easiest
15 thing, in a committee discussion, to accomplish is to
16 agree to review it again. So that Ministers who have to
17 depend on their colleagues for support in some other
18 instance, in some other venue, in some other subject
19 matter, tend to not overtly disagree, but to request that
20 matters be studied more. And such was the case. We came
21 from that and subsequent meetings with a range of issues
22 to resolve before Ministers would agree that they would
23 make any decision.

24 Q. So I take it, from what you're telling us, that
25 there was not initial acceptance at Cabinet level of this