

MR. ROGERS, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 Q. All right. If you can turn over to stamped page 16,
2 second paragraph under the heading, "Consultations with
3 Other Departments." Again, I assume that in that second
4 paragraph where you say, "E.M.R. also pointed out that
5 little coal mining expertise exists in Pictou. E.M.R.
6 recommends further independent technical evaluation."
7 That's just carrying through the same theme that we saw a
8 few minutes ago in an earlier document?

9 A. Mmm.

10 Q. Were E.M.R. ever expressing questions as to whether
11 this could be done safely or was it just to ensure that
12 technically it could be done? Were they raising safety
13 as an issue?

14 A. Well, I find the question of technical feasibility
15 and safety inseparable. It would be impossible to say
16 that something was -- I mean, just rationally, you can't
17 say that something was technically feasible that was
18 unsafe. So the separation of terms never came to mind
19 because I don't think in reality such a distinction can
20 be made.

21 Q. Let me take you to the next document which is on
22 page 18. And that's a memorandum from you to your
23 Minister dated June 1st, '88. And if we flip -- and,
24 again, you're reviewing the issues that are at play here,
25 and on the second page of that memorandum you come down