

MR. ROGERS, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 priority, nor was it mandated to finance large projects.  
2 Therefore, using ACOA funds was inappropriate.

3 DRIE gleefully noted that if the regional agency did  
4 not view this as a priority, it let them off the hook, as  
5 they only way they can finance it is under a special  
6 section of their Act relating to regional development  
7 priorities."

8 You undertook to obtain the Minister's views on  
9 whether this reference to ACOA should be included in the  
10 M.R.

11 Am I correct in assuming that DRIE would have  
12 gleefully noted that because it would have meant that it  
13 wouldn't have attached itself to DRIE's budget?

14 A. Precisely.

15 Q. And that DRIE might well have been looking for  
16 something like that to duck from?

17 A. All the time.

18 Q. What's the reference in the last sentence: you  
19 undertook to obtain the Minister's views on whether this  
20 reference to ACOA should be included in the Ministerial  
21 recommendation?

22 A. I don't really know. Don McPhail was the head of  
23 ACOA, so I'm assuming that it has something to with their  
24 internal -- but I'd never seen this memo, so I --

25 Q. All right.