

MR. ROGERS, EXAM. BY MR. HEBERT

1 and guarantees a loan, that banks would pretty much line
2 up to loan money in those instances?

3 A. I don't understand the point that you're making,
4 sir.

5 Q. Well, the federal guarantee of a loan makes the loan
6 very attractive from the point of a bank. Would you
7 agree with that?

8 A. Attractive in the sense that, without it, it was
9 clear this project would not have proceeded.

10 Q. All right. In Exhibit 139, tab 16 at page 29, these
11 are notes of draft minutes of meetings --

12 A. Could you --

13 Q. -- between your Department --

14 A. -- give me the reference again?

15 Q. -- and Westray Coal.

16 A. May I have the reference again, please?

17 Q. Exhibit 139, tab 16, page 29. You are reported to
18 have said, and I'll quote, "Banks' eyes glaze over when
19 they hear of Federal Government guarantees. They will
20 line up to loan money to Westray." Do you recall making
21 that statement at the meeting?

22 A. I must have said it. It's been quote -- it's been
23 written here.

24 Q. All right. And would that be your view at the time?

25 A. I beg your pardon?