

1 May 28, 1996 - 9:30 a.m.

2 COMMISSIONER Good morning.

3 ALL Good morning.

4 COMMISSIONER Mr. Cameron.

5 MR. CAMERON Good morning, sir.

6 COMMISSIONER Some months ago Mr. Cameron, through  
7 Inquiry counsel, Mr. Merrick, requested that he be  
8 provided with the rather unusual opportunity of making an  
9 opening address. After due consideration and  
10 consultation with Inquiry counsel, I agreed to permit Mr.  
11 Cameron to make an address. And it's not without  
12 precedent in public inquiries, but it is rather unusual.

13 In this case, recognizing the pivotal role which ex-  
14 Premier Cameron had in the development of the Westray  
15 project and also the fact that his involvement has been  
16 subject to considerable public speculation since the  
17 disaster, I felt these were reasons enough to give Mr.  
18 Cameron that sort of latitude.

19 In a letter of April 16th confirming this, I set out  
20 certain stipulations, which I understand Mr. Cameron has  
21 agreed to, in fact, he's fulfilled. The comments will be  
22 a matter of sworn testimony and will be subject to cross-  
23 examination.

24 The comments will not endure any longer than one  
25 hour at the outside.