

MR. CAMERON - OPENING ADDRESS

1 plans. They changed the direction of the tunnels, and  
2 they went into the Southwest section, a section that they  
3 didn't plan to go in. In fact, I remember when the mine  
4 started, looking at the original plan. I remember Mr.  
5 Phillips telling me, "We may never mine that. It's on  
6 our plan to mine, but we may never mine it. There may be  
7 better coal somewhere else. But we may pick that on the  
8 very last on the way out."

9 So it's very clear that if we didn't have the  
10 Southwest section, that 26 people would be alive today.  
11 So I would say the fact it was delayed, the fact that it  
12 caused the company to change its plans, the fact that  
13 they went into the Southwest section, the fact that  
14 that's where the explosion was, that most people would be  
15 alive today if this process was allowed to proceed on a  
16 normal basis, and all those misconceptions and lies  
17 weren't put to the Federal Government.

18 Now, I ran across something in the material that I  
19 was given by the Inquiry just this morning. There was a  
20 real fuss about the financing of this mine by the Federal  
21 Government. In May, May 22nd, 1988, up to 27 million  
22 would be earmarked for the Western Diversification Fund  
23 to help Ontario Hydro afford western Canada's coal. They  
24 were saying that there was never any other support  
25 anywhere for a coal mine. And here, in the very same