

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 clear the company made an agreement. It was in the
2 paper. They were going to buy the project and proceed.
3 So -- but no real formal issues until I became Minister.
4 And then it was ongoing.

5 Q. Can you give me the first incident or point in time
6 that you can recall being connected with Curragh or
7 knowing of the Curragh project?

8 A. No, I don't want to speculate.

9 Q. But you are clear that you would not have been
10 involved until after, apparently, Curragh had at least
11 put its offer into Suncor?

12 A. You mean, picking Curragh as a -- I was not involved
13 in picking Curragh, I can tell you that. I've heard --

14 Q. That wasn't my question.

15 A. You know, I've heard stuff being said at the time.
16 I've heard that Esso wanted it and the government
17 wouldn't let Esso have it because they wanted to just tie
18 up the leases and ship low sulphur coal in from South
19 America and supply Nova Scotia with that coal. And I
20 remember someone in the government saying, "Well, you
21 know, that's not what we want to do. We want to provide
22 jobs." But believe me, I wasn't on the inner circle
23 before I went back in Cabinet.

24 Q. No, I appreciate that, but that wasn't quite my
25 question. I'm taking it from your evidence that you did