

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 Q. Well, let me come back to my question of a moment  
2 ago. Can you recall as Minister being responsible -- or  
3 being concerned about the fact that the company was  
4 looking to the Province -- Province's money to cover some  
5 of their initial start-up costs on an interim basis.  
6 That would suggest to me --

7 A. Look --

8 Q. -- that the company wasn't putting in an awful lot  
9 or maybe it didn't have any ability to put in --

10 A. -- we gave them the \$12 million loan. We had  
11 requirements of when that money would go in. The Federal  
12 Government, in their wisdom or lack of, decided we're  
13 going to play some games here, and we're going to hold  
14 the project up for 14 months. Now what was -- what  
15 difference was it to the taxpayer of Nova Scotia if our  
16 money went in a little earlier than it was supposed to?  
17 We committed to put the money in. What's the point?  
18 What point are we trying to make here, that our money  
19 went in a little earlier than it was supposed to? That  
20 somehow that has some major effect.

21 I'm sure when the guys are pushing the reset button  
22 to override the safety device they were saying, "Oh,  
23 yeah, that Don Cameron gave them a \$8 million loan too  
24 early. We're allowed to do this now."

25 Q. Well, let me move on. The next thing that came up