

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 A. Not on a particular date.

2 Q. We've come to that second memo. This is at page 68,
3 Nancy Ripley-Hood. It says, "When it comes time to start
4 negotiating take-or-pay, however, Don Cameron's staff
5 advise him again, in writing, that his Department has no
6 legal authority to enter take-or-pay and that they --
7 they will not do the necessary drafting."

8 A. So, we didn't have legal authority.

9 Q. Do you remember your staff telling you that you
10 didn't have legal authority?

11 A. I -- I'm not sure I can answer that. But I knew
12 there was a lot of discussion of who was going to draft
13 the take-or-pay and what department wanted it. And by
14 this time, this whole project became such a political
15 circus, that I had the feeling no one wanted to touch it.
16 And so --

17 Q. This isn't politics we're talking about now, Mr.
18 Cameron. This is you and your department --

19 A. No.

20 Q. -- and what your evidence is.

21 A. This is -- I'm allowed to give the answers, and
22 you're going to have to accept them. You can ask the
23 questions, and I'm going to give my answers. I'm telling
24 you that it became such a political issue, I had the
25 sense that a lot of people didn't want to touch it. And