

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 prepared to do a deal with Westray directly?

2 A. I really, honestly can't tell you that I could say
3 "yes" to that, that we took a Cabinet decision we were
4 going to do a Provincial deal. I really can't say that.
5 I know we discussed it, but to take a final decision we
6 were going to do it or maybe we said, "Well, we'll look
7 at what kind of a deal we can come up with." I don't
8 know. But to make a final decision we were going to do a
9 deal regardless, I think that was wrong.

10 Maybe this is saying that we're going to negotiate
11 to see what kind of deal we can get, and compare that to
12 what else. I don't know.

13 You see, the fact is that all of us wanted to make
14 sure that DEVCO sales held. I mean, people say that oh,
15 we wanted to harm DEVCO. The bottom line is there was a
16 lot of people employed at DEVCO, and there was no wish to
17 destroy another industry.

18 So the Cabinet wasn't there jumping up and down
19 saying, "Well, let's do something that's going to harm
20 DEVCO."

21 The fact is that originally it wasn't going to touch
22 DEVCO. It wasn't going to harm them a bit.

23 But it just that it evolved into that very nasty and
24 protracted and very political kind of debate. And when
25 it gets that way, people then react to that.