

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 Merrick.

2 MR. MERRICK No problem. Mr. Cameron, I want to come
3 back to the other point I was talking to about now, and
4 it's a difficult question, I appreciate, and I'm sure
5 it's got a lot to be said on both sides of it. But what
6 one is struck with at the end of the day is that
7 tremendous efforts were made to get this project for the
8 Province of Nova Scotia with the benefits that went with
9 it to the Province of Nova Scotia.

10 And yet we've had evidence from some of the
11 officials themselves indicating that they were nowhere
12 near ready to deal with a mine like this. That they -- I
13 think one of the mines inspectors said, "Look, if you
14 brought home a mine that still employed picks and shovels
15 and horses, they would have been ready." But they were
16 not ready for what was brought home.

17 A. I --

18 Q. Do you know what efforts or what attention was paid
19 to try to see that we were ready to cope with a mine like
20 that?

21 A. No, I don't.

22 Q. Here's the tougher question, I think. What should
23 the responsibilities be for our political leaders who are
24 successful in doing that to now check to see that it will
25 be a safe mine once it is here?