MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

- 1 <u>COMMISSIONER</u> I will check with my wife.
- 2 MR. MERRICK Let me get us back on track here for just
- 3 a moment. Accepting that the evidence is that there was
- 4 no political interference in the regulatory function
- 5 here. What I'm working on now, though, is whether
- 6 something we might learn from this -- and in order to
- 7 avoid that kind of allegation in the future, do you think
- 8 that it would be a prudent thing for political leaders
- 9 who have been involved in supporting a project like this
- 10 very strongly might take some sort of neutralizing action
- 11 to ensure that there's no perceived specialness about the
- 12 project? For example, making sure that the Department
- officials are instructed, "Look, Westray is open
- 14 territory. You are completely free to do as you want.
- 15 The fact that you may see me riding on a jeep with Mr.
- 16 Phillips or that Mr. Phillips and I may attend social
- 17 functions has got nothing to do with it. Go do your
- 18 job."
- 19 A. Well, I think you're entering a dangerous area
- 20 again. If you -- if you're going to have to make a
- 21 statement every time. That -- if I was an inspector, I
- 22 would say, "Well, okay, in this case he's telling that
- it's open territory. I wonder what he means about all
- these other cases." I guess the bottom line is just ask
- 25 people to do their jobs, and I think people try to do