

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MAYOR PORTER

1 with the Nova Scotia Power Commission, can you give us
2 some profit potential from the strip mining coal and the
3 deep mined -- or the Plymouth mine coal?

4 A. No, I can't. The policy of the Department or the
5 policy of the Nova Scotia Power Commission was to pay a
6 lot less for strip mine coal, and of course, they're
7 continuing to do that policy even today. So I have no
8 figures. To assume that they were getting paid the same
9 price, it wasn't even close. It was a major difference
10 in price between the underground coal and strip-mined
11 coal.

12 And in fact that policy was followed right across
13 Nova Scotia. In Cape Breton, the two strip mines that
14 were operating there, that same policy applied to them.

15 Q. Mr. Cameron, can you tell us the relative cost of
16 mining deep coal compared to close-to-surface coal?

17 A. No, I'm not a mine engineer. I think you should
18 have asked that of some of the earlier witnesses.

19 Q. Okay, in yesterday's evidence, you indicated there
20 were few problems with strip mining in other areas of
21 Nova Scotia. Could you tell us of the people's
22 experience in Reserve in regard to strip mining?

23 A. I didn't say there was two problems. All I said --

24 Q. Few problems.

25 A. Pardon?