

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MAYOR PORTER

1 tell us, because you're the Mayor. You'd know what  
2 communications took place.

3 Q. Well, I thought that you, being Premier, would be  
4 able to tell us that as well. But to my knowledge, the  
5 first information or first indication we had that there  
6 was to be a strip mine in Stellarton is when we read it  
7 in the Daily News one morning. And almost simultaneous  
8 with that, they were clearing land and stripping ground  
9 out in the Evansville area.

10 Mr. Cameron, when strip mining started here, many  
11 assurances were given that 100,000 tonnes was only a  
12 sample. Was this your understanding of the real intent  
13 at that time?

14 A. My understanding was that they would be allowed -- I  
15 don't know if they'd call it a sample or --

16 Q. What was a sample?

17 A. A mining permit for -- I don't know what the  
18 terminology was, to mine 100,000 tonnes, to put it  
19 through their wash plant to see if they could blend it,  
20 and also at the same time then to use that as the time to  
21 put -- if it looked like it was viable to put a permanent  
22 application in.

23 Q. Well, Mr. Cameron, if the application was already in  
24 and the arrangements are already made and understood for  
25 many years before that, why would this be necessary, that