

MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE INQUIRY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATIONS BY EACH OF

(a) CANADIAN ARCTIC GAS PIPELINE LIMITED FOR A
RIGHT-OF-WAY THAT MIGHT BE GRANTED ACROSS
CROWN LANDS WITHIN THE YUKON TERRITORY AND
THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, and

(b) FOOTHILLS PIPE LINES LTD. FOR A RIGHT-OF-WAY
THAT MIGHT BE GRANTED ACROSS CROWN LANDS
WITHIN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
FOR THE PURPOSE OF A PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL
AND ECONOMIC IMPACT REGIONALLY OF THE CONSTRUCTION,
OPERATION AND SUBSEQUENT ABANDONMENT OF THE ABOVE
PROPOSED PIPELINE

(Before the Honourable Mr. Justice Berger, Commissioner)

**Old Crow, Y. T.
July 13, 1975.**

PROCEEDINGS AT COMMUNITY HEARING

Volume 16

**The 2003 electronic version prepared from the original transcripts by
Allwest Reporting Ltd.
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3A7 Canada
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APPEARANCES

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Prof. Michael Jackson | for Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry; |
| Mr. Darryl Carter | for Canadian Arctic Gas Pipeline Limited; |
| Mr. Ron Veale | for Council for Yukon Indians. |
| Mr. Glen W. Bell | for Northwest Territories, Indian Brotherhood and Metis Association of the Northwest Territories; |

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1 Old Crow, Y.T.

2 July 13, 1975.

3 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

4 THE COMMISSIONER: I'll call
5 the meeting to order this afternoon. We'll start now
6 so that we can hear everyone before we have to leave
7 tomorrow; so Mr. Veale?

8 MR. VEALE: Judge Berger, we
9 have Robert Bruce, Senior, to speak to the inquiry now.

10
11 ROBERT BRUCE SR, sworn:

12 THE WITNESS: Well, first of
13 I would like to thank Judge Berger and his Staff,
14 and Arctic Gas and whoever else is a stranger here, to
15 come and talk to us about the pipeline.

16 My name is Robert Bruce and
17 I've got a couple of nick-names, but I guess you don't
18 rave to hear them. Where is that John? He calls me
19 Short", so my story's going to be short.

20 First of all I'd like to say
21 about what we used to do before -- in the year 1957
22 when here was still no school in Old Crow. Well, we
23 stay round Old Crow and fish in the fall and hunt
24 caribou on he mountains, and then we gather that meat
25 and we use that till around Christmas, then we run out
26 of meat again, so most of the people have dog teams, we
27 move out of own the 1st of November and move around the
28 mountains, cross, wherever we see caribou signs we hunt
29 caribou, we kill caribou, we skin them, cut them up,
30 come back home around eight or nine at night.

1 Then in the morning we hitch
2 up our team and haul it in. If we dry the meat right
3 in the tent, make racks and poles, women cut the meat
4 and they dry it. In the morning when we get up, the
5 fire go out at night and one morning when you get up
6 it's like a rock, that meat froze; in the daytime it
7 thaws out and dries.

8 That's part of it, and then
9 we do that right along every day until we get enough
10 meat. Generally we get about six bales of dry meat,
11 that's about four caribou to each bale. It's not much,
12 you know -- some green meat in it.

13 February, just before Easter
14 in February we start back, relay our meat one day
15 ahead, two or three loads and then we move family.
16 Then we leave the family, we relay further on. Abraham
17 was doing most of the relaying at that time, he was
18 with me so I just do the hunting.

19 Then we get back in time for
20 Easter and we stay for Easter in town. After Easter we
21 move up to Crow Flats. The same thing here again, we
22 relay to about half-way to where we figure we're going
23 to camp in town, we make one day trip and we move next
24 day, come back and pick up our stuff and move further
25 on the next day. That's how we work. It takes four
26 days to go to Crow Flat. It took me four days to my
27 place anyway.

28 Well, that's that part of it,
29 and that shows you how much change has been since 1957
30 and today. Them days I used to have a dog pack for

1 every dog I got, I had nine dogs. They all packed.
2 Today I got six dogs, not one pack. Big change.

3 Well, the next is the
4 pipeline. Oh, there was something about here when I
5 went to school too, back in -- I was born in Rampart
6 House, I don't know what year -- 1914, I think; and
7 then I went to school to Carcross in 1921, stayed there
8 till 1928 and never came home once. Well, I guess my
9 parents couldn't afford holiday for me so I had to
10 tough it out at school. In that school we worked in
11 the mornings three hours and then we go to afternoon
12 school for three hours. The boys go afternoon, work
13 the same thing. In those eight: years I don't think I
14 learned -- I didn't even went through Grade 4, to 'tell
15 you the truth. So I got poor education. That's all
16 right, just as long as I'm still alive.

17 About the pipeline, first of
18 all I'd like to see the pipeline come somewhere else
19 instead of near Old Crow, because if it comes through
20 near our village , with the pipeline will come the bad
21 and the good. The bad will be people that work on the
22 pipeline weekends, you know, come into town and have a
23 good time and get some of our young folks drunk. First
24 thing you know, a big fight in the streets.

25 Another thing I don't like it
26 for, it kills everything. If pipeline bursts or
27 something like that, oil destroys mostly everything
28 there is. Another thing, the good of it is the boys
29 will get jobs, the younger boys. How long will that
30 job last after they're through working?

1 What about this gas? It was
2 one of the Arctic boys, I think, mentioned that the gas
3 pipeline bursts, a flame goes up. What would it be if
4 it goes through that timber line? If it goes through a
5 timber line there's going to be a fire some place, I'm
6 pretty sure of that, because if it goes up, a flame
7 goes up and spreads out, timber will catch fire.
8 That's the reason why most of the people doesn't like
9 the pipeline coming through his land, they like to see
10 their land the way it is, the way we used to hunt on
11 it, trap, do whatever what we like the way it is.

12 Well, there's not much else
13 to say. Even if it still comes through, well I think
14 our whole Town of Old Crow will go down the drain.
15 It's going to be settled with people then, Old Crow.

16 That's about all I have to say.

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
18 Mr. Bruce. I wonder if you could let us have your
19 statement that you were reading from?

20 A It's not quite the same
21 as what I --

22 Q Well, all right. It's
23 just notes?

24 A Yeah.

25 THE COMMISSIONER: All right.
26 Well, thank you very much for your remarks.

27 A Thanks to you.

28 (WITNESS ASIDE)

29 MR. VEALE: Your name is
30 Peter Nukon , and I believe you've been sworn already?

1 PETER NUKON resumed:
2 THE WITNESS: Judge Berger, I'd
3 like to state more and add more to what I last said.
4 At the beginning of my first
5 interview I told you about one thing, the Old Crow
6 people got worrying about this pipeline was the danger
7 of fires. Today I'll tell you about some more things
8 my people and I are worrying about.
9 First, I work with the
10 Fisheries people for four years tagging fish, then we
11 would check with the people who are catching the fish
12 so we could trace where the fish were going. In other
13 words, if we tagged a fish around Crown Flats or
14 somewhere, we'll catch him up in the Porcupine
15 somewhere ; that proves where the fish are going.
16 I saw the creeks along the
17 North Slope which would be nearly empty one day, and
18 after a rain they would be full right up to the banks.
19 These creeks would run swiftly when they were full and
20 I could see how the great force of the water was
21 washing away the banks just like you see here in Old
22 Crow. I saw many places where the caribou crossed these
23 rivers. I believe the caribou know how and when to
24 cross these rivers. I saw the places where the caribou
25 roamed around and feed. It's a beautiful place to look
26 at. I looked at the places where the pipeline will
27 cross these creeks and rivers. When I was working with
28 Fisheries we marked all these markings, all the rivers
29 and creeks we saw, I know just exactly where they will
30 be crossing.

1 Now I know Arctic Gas say
2 there will be no damage and that the pipeline will not
3 break. Many of my people do not know what a pipeline
4 is and they are worrying about damage. We are worried
5 about how they can put a pipeline under a creek or
6 river without doing damage when the river is swift and
7 full of water. I think the pipeline will be washed
8 bare with no gravel over it; and when freezeup comes
9 I'm afraid the cold pipeline will freeze the waters in
10 the bottom of streams where the fish live in the
11 winter. When breakup comes, I'm afraid the pipeline
12 will not be protected from the ice. The Water Resource
13 people from Whitehorse have been coming into Old Crow
14 for many years to measure our rivers. They have told
15 us that the depth of the water in the Porcupine River
16 has changed as much as 15 feet in one year in some
17 places.

18 It seems to me that Arctic Gas
19 will have to put their pipeline a long way down into the
20 ground if they are going to cross the rivers safely.

21 Now I will ask you to take a
22 look at -- I've got a map I thought I was going to show
23 you here but it's in the next room. Ah, there it is.
24 I will ask you to take a look at an aerial photograph
25 of Old Crow. When the first government people first
26 came to Old Crow to talk about building an airport
27 here, it was about the same time the oil was discovered
28 in Alaska. They asked several people in Old Crow where
29 they should put the airport. They were told to put it
30 up on the first bench of the mountain. I guess you can

1 see it there. You can see in the aerial photo how the
2 airport cuts us off from our mountain. Before the
3 airport this area was full of berries, it was for the
4 kids and the old people used to go to get rabbits and
5 ptarmigan. Now they have to go out aways to get these
6 things.

7 When the pipeline comes,
8 Arctic Gas and a lot of other people will be using our
9 airport. It will be busy and we are afraid the D.O.T.
10 will not allow us to walk across it or drive our
11 skidoos across it. We have to cross this air strip to
12 get to some of our trapping grounds. We go that way to
13 get to Crow Flats. We had to build a new Ski Lodge on
14 the other side of the air strip because we could not
15 use our skis on the air strip because it is ploughed
16 bare to gravel in the wintertime, Now we may not be
17 allowed to even walk to our new Ski Lodge. Skiing is
18 very important to us in Old Crow. It is our main
19 recreation in the wintertime.

20 I want you to know, Judge
21 Berger, that my people in Old Crow are very worried
22 about the pipeline. I know they are a lot more worried
23 than they are telling you. Old Crow people do not want
24 -- Old Crow people do not like to complain, and maybe
25 that's why we are not talking to you as strong as we
26 feel. We are worried that we will have no more good
27 drinking water if things go wrong. We are worried that
28 the fish will get sick, will be poisoned, or just go
29 onto another good, clear water. We are worried that
30 our caribou will start looking for other places

1 to migrate. We know they are already upset about all
2 this pipeline research activities and are acting in
3 strange ways that we don't understand.

4 Mostly what would become of
5 us if our village, our hunting and fishing ground is
6 ruined? The only thing would be left is the pipeline
7 back of our village and here once had a few hundred
8 people.

9 This will be all I'll have to
10 say for now.

11 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
12 Mr. Nukon. Do you mind telling me how old you are,
13 Mr. Nukon?

14 A 25.

15 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
16 (WITNESS ASIDE)

17 MR. VEALE; Is Mary Kassie
18 here? Could we have Mary Kassie sworn in? Mr. Nukon
19 is going to read her statement.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, he is
21 a witness to be sworn in at the back, Miss Hutchinson.
22 The statement will be marked as an exhibit and
23 constitute part of the permanent record of the
24 proceedings of the Inquiry.

25 (STATEMENT OF PETER NUKON MARKED EXHIBIT C-80)

26
27 MARY KASSIE sworn:

28 MR. NUKON: "The proposed
29 Hearing, Mr. Judge Berger, you've seen a bit
30 of our living here in the village and out in the Old

1 Crow Flats. My parents have been living out in the
2 flats a long time before I was born. My great-
3 grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Kwatlatig have been working
4 in this area for a long time but I don't remember the
5 stories they told me in the early childhood.

6 I remember working with my
7 parents since I was seven years old. I remember
8 working very hard with my parents and with the hard-
9 working dogs. I am alone now and I still work out
10 there in the same area. Mr. Berger, as you have seen
11 for yourself this past spring, I am not speaking for
12 myself only, but for my fellow residents of Old Crow.

13 I have been listening to a few
14 of the people presentation here of the proposed pipeline
15 preliminary hearings, and I know that they are telling
16 the truth. They are thinking of their children's
17 future, and I am, too. The children should have a
18 chance to learn all the skills of their own culture and
19 ways of living. I was very surprised and happy to have
20 my oldest son, Danny, to kill caribou for me to dry this
21 spring. I taught Danny to kill caribou and if he eve
22 caribou, to go after it until he kills it.

23 This past spring he wounded a
24 caribou and had to run a half-mile to kill the caribou.
25 This shows how much we love our animals. I good many
26 times I was very tired and had to do all the trapping
27 and hunting, but I did not give up as I had children to
28 feed. I've managed to bring up my children to the age
29 when they can help me. I've been employed in various
30 jobs and I know it is hard.

1 Example of various jobs are kitchen housekeeper. I
2 know it is hard, too, to bring up children even without
3 catches of fish and meat. I can't imagine how we would
4 be to bring up children if we did not have our caribou
5 and fish. This will be ruined and done away with if
6 the pipeline ever comes through our land. I don't want
7 the pipeline to come through.

8 The proposed route of the
9 pipeline is near my spring camp out at Old Crow Flats
10 and I don't like that because it will destroy my
11 trapping grounds, then I will have nothing. If this
12 happens I feel I live the right to press charges
13 against the people that destroyed my land.

14 This is all I have to say.
15 Thank you to you, Mr. Berger, for listening to me, and
16 the rest of the people, and thank you for helping us.

17 MARY KASSIE & FAMILY."

18 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
19 That statement will be marked as an exhibit and form
20 part of the permanent record of the proceedings of the
21 Inquiry.

22 (STATEMENT OF MARY KASSIE & FAMILY MARKED EXHIBIT C-81)

23 MR. VEALE: I think Charlie
24 Peter Charlie can point out where Mary Kassie's spring
25 camp is on the Crow Flats

26 MRS. EDITH JOSEPH sworn:

27 MRS. JOSEPH; This is Edith
28 Joseph speaking now. Well, ladies and gentlemen --

29

30 THE INTERPRETER: She says

1 she came here to the table to speak out her , too. She
2 said she was born in Alaska, Eagle, Alaska. She was
3 brought up there and she attended a school there for
4 seven years.

5 She said her mother had a
6 brother that lived here in Old Crow but most of the
7 time he was living up around Whitestone. Anyway, her
8 mother's brother was John Nukon, who was living up
9 around Whitestone. Anyways, he lost his wife and after
10 he lost his wife I guess they wrote to his people
11 there, his sister in Eagle, that he wanted them to come
12 back and stay with him up here. That's how come they
13 came up here around 1940.

14
15
16 1940 when they came back to
17 Old Crow she said the people around here was living
18 like long-ago people, and she said after a while John
19 Nukon had died.

20
21 She said it's around 1962
22 that the "Whitehorse Star" wanted somebody to report
23 news from their own home town, so at that time Rev.
24 Simon and his wife were up here in Old Crow so Mrs.
25 Simons went and talked to her if she could write the
26 news for Old Crow people, so that's what she was doing
27 ever since.

28 She said around 1940, summer
29 time, people used to stay out of town and they used to
30 fish along the river to make their living, and she

1 | said she mentioned my name there that she said I used
2 | to go out in the bush and stay out in the bush most of
3 | the time to make my living. She said my trapping cabin
4 | is up around 25 miles away from Old Crow; and then she
5 | mentioned that Old Crow people used to stay out in the
6 | bush most of the time trapping. Some of them go north
7 | of Old Crow around the Crow Flat area, and some of them
8 | go south of Old Crow. She wants to go back to talk
9 | about the pipeline, too.

10 | She, too, heard that the
11 | pipeline was going to be not too far away from Old
12 | Crow, north of Old Crow here, and she understand that
13 | this pipeline would run underground some places. It's
14 | going to be covered with earth and then other places
15 | will be on surface somewheres along four feet above the
16 | ground. Supposing if this pipeline happen to break
17 | some place, there would be oil spread out through the
18 | land.

19 | The main part of our living
20 | up here out of the land and out of the river is fish.
21 | This is mostly what we live on, and supposing this
22 | pipeline would cross the river above us somewhere and
23 | supposing it bust near the river and the oil got into
24 | the water so that the fish died off from the oil. It's
25 | not only for the fish, she said. The water will be
26 | polluted with oil and the people there are going to
27 | have a hard time to get drinking water. She said if it
28 | happened to bust far away from a river, she said
29 | supposing it happened close to Old Crow here and the
30 | oil was spread out over land, she said it will spoil

1 | our berry patches and she said the people in Old Crow
2 | go for berries every summer up along the mountain.

3 | There's a few old people
4 | still living here in Old Crow and those kind of people,
5 | they never see no big activities and she said if
6 | anything like that come up here she said the older
7 | people perhaps couldn't stand this kind of traffic.

8 | She thought, too, that the
9 | pipeline would bring a lot of traffic to Old Crow,
10 | there would be cars coining in from different places,
11 | there would be a lot of traffic in Old Crow.

12 | She, too, said that there's
13 | people been making speech now for two days and she
14 | said some of them mentioned if a big crowd of people
15 | come to such a little village as we have here, she
16 | said it would be crowded with people and she too
17 | thought that it would bring good people who was going
18 | to help people, but otherwise she said there would be
19 | some bad people, too, the people who were going to
20 | lead the native people into things that they don't
21 | know.

22 | She mentioned there that it
23 | would even bring home troubles amongst the young
24 | people. She, too, she said she have all these reason
25 | against pipeline because that's why she mention it.
26 | She don't want pipeline come near Old Crow.

27 | She said this is all she
28 | thinks about and that's all she will say now, and she
29 | would thank Judge Berger for coming to Old Crow to
30 | listen to her.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
2 very much.

3 A Thank you, (WITNESS
4 ASIDE)

5 MRS. ELLEN BRUCE sworn:
6 THE INTERPRETER; She would
7 like to say a few words about the pipeline, too.

8 MR. VEALE: What's her name?

9 THE INTERPRETER: Ellen Bruce.
10 She, too, heard good things
11 about pipeline. She heard that something going to
12 happen, it wouldn't spoil nothing. This is what she
13 heard about pipeline. But she don't believe that. She
14 said that it wasn't very many years ago when the
15 seismic started up here in this country south of her,
16 of Old Crow, she said we already had the effect of
17 that. She believe that we had an effect from that
18 seismic because there used to be quite a bit of game in
19 our country, such as fur-bearing animals and ptarmigan
20 and rabbits, like that. She said there's nothing in
21 that country now.

22 She said it seems to her that
23 even the caribou didn't came near Old Crow like they
24 used to do. They're taking a different route and last
25 fall when people started to hunt meat for winter nobody
26 in Old Crow got meat because the caribou didn't show
27 up. She said a lot of people have been travelling up
28 the river, up the Porcupine River, and never seen no
29 caribou; and they also went up Crow River and made
30 quite a few trips out but nobody got no meat for

1 winter. Folks around town here, they used to snare
2 rabbits, ptarmigan, like that; she said last winter but
3 some of the women went out snaring nothing, there's no
4 sign of these kind of birds and rabbits like that.

5 She wanted to put it this
6 way, that she said if the pipeline go near Old Crow,
7 it's going to spoil our livelihood and other things,
8 going to spoil it for animals and she believes that
9 there will be nothing near this town.

10 The pipeline company came to
11 Old Crow and had a meeting with Old Crow people quite a
12 few times but they only tell us good things about the
13 pipeline, but nothing bad about it. Everything would
14 be perfect, nothing going to happen if they build
15 pipeline. This is what the oil company brought to Old
16 Crow people.

17 She said supposing there was
18 an oil pipeline camp up here near Old Crow, there would
19 be lots of people there and supposing everything
20 started destroyed or nothing to go for, people would go
21 anyplace, they'd just have to stay here in town and do
22 nothing.

23 She said everybody bring up
24 their thought about the pipeline and she, too, she's
25 bringing it up what she thought about it. She said
26 even a dog, if their masters don't look after them. she
27 said if they don't feed them for one week, don't give
28 them water, the animal is going to die. She said it
29 look to her if a big project is going to go near Old
30 Crow, she said this is what's going to happen.

1 They're putting us in the position of where we don't
2 know what we're going to do. We'll probably die off.

3 She said she got a little boy
4 seven years old. When this meeting started here the
5 little boy was listening to it, he was sitting in the
6 back here someplace and was listening to this meeting
7 here. Last night when they went to bed he said this
8 little boy said, "Supposing if there was lots of people
9 come to Old Crow, " he said, "what I going to do? I
10 can't go swimming. I can't go playing any place where
11 I want." He said -- this little boy said, "That make me
12 pretty sad."

13 He is not the only kid that's
14 thinking about like that. If a small kid talk about
15 things like that it make people feel pretty bad. She
16 said this is all she going to say and she would like to
17 thank Judge Berger to come up to Old Crow, with his
18 staff to help the people out, and she know very well
19 that the people who came up here are working very hard
20 coming up here to have a meeting like this. She said
21 people work hard. She would like to thank everyone who
22 come up here to listen.

23 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
24 very much, Mrs. Bruce.

25 (WITNESS ASIDE)

26 CHARLIE BLAKE, sworn:

27

28 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, I,
29 Charlie Blake, of Old Crow since '72, would like to ask
30 Doug Rowe some questions about the pipeline.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: All right.
2 Come up here, Mr. Rowe, and pull a chair up to Mr.
3 Veale perhaps and let him advise you.

4 MR. BLAKE: Yes, I would like
5 to ask if the pipeline is, say, three or four feet
6 above the ground, and lightning struck it, will there
7 be a fire?

8 MR. ROWE: First of all, the
9 line will be buried almost entirely. There may be very
10 short sections of it which in some terrain will be
11 necessary to elevate above ground; but the majority of
12 it would be buried. I suppose on the likelihood of
13 lightning ever hitting anything that close to the
14 ground it's very, very remote, but if it did I would
15 doubt that there would be fire because the pipe would
16 be very well insulated to ground.

17 In the south they have pipe
18 line structures which are above-ground in certain
19 locations and 'I have never heard of one of those being
20 struck by lightning and catching fire. I think that's
21 about all I could say on that.

22 THE COMMISSIONER: Are you
23 going to translate this?

24 MR. BLAKE: My second
25 question is if a fire occurred, how long would it take
26 to stop the flow of gas from flowing through the pipe?

27 MR. ROWE: As I understand
28 the proposed design of the pipeline, now there would be
29 automatic valves which would shut the gas off in the
30 event that there was a pressure drop. These valves

1 would be placed -- I guess the distance probably
2 between them hasn't been determined yet, but in the
3 south of Canada the regulations, the government
4 regulations require that these mainline valves be
5 spaced no more than 20 miles or 22 miles, I'm not sure
6 which, around that distance apart. In the event that
7 there was a break, these automatic valves would isolate
8 that section of the line where the break occurred
9 automatically. The amount of time that it would take
10 then after those valves were closed for the rest of the
11 gas to reach atmospheric pressure would be -- I'd have
12 to make a guess here, I don't know exactly -- but it
13 would be in the order of oh, 20 minutes, in that area
14 for the pressure to dissipate.

15 In the event that one of
16 those automatic valves failed and didn't close, then it
17 would be necessary to close it manually, which would
18 mean a man would have to go by helicopter or some other
19 means of transportation to that site and close the
20 valve by hand. The time it would take to close the
21 valve by hand depends on the type of valve, but I would
22 guess somewhere in the order of five to ten minutes,
23 plus his travel time, and that would depend on how far
24 it was from the nearest compressor station. The
25 maximum it could be would be 25 miles, which would be
26 right in the middle of two stations. So you might be
27 looking at a gas flow of a couple of hours.

28 MR. BLAKE: My third question
29 is if there was a fire from a pipe leak or from lightn-
30 ing, who will be responsible for paying the fire-fighters

1 MR. ROWE: I suppose that would
2 be a question to be resolved by the Forestry Department
3 or whoever is responsible. Arctic Gas has stated that
4 they will maintain fire-fighting equipment as required at
5 each of their compressor stations, and the men to operate
6 this equipment. The fires would be fought with -- in
7 conjunction with the Forestry Department. I suppose if
8 the fire were caused by a pipeline break, Arctic Gas
9 would assume some of the liability for fighting that
10 fire.

11 MR. BLAKE: My fourth
12 question is if there was a fire, how long would it be
13 before it gets under control, and how many men will be
14 called in to fight the fire, and from where will they
15 be picked up?

16 MR. ROWE: These low-bouncing
17 grounders. If there were a fire -- again I might state
18 that when a pipeline breaks, if it were to break, the
19 fire burns very high in the air, not at ground level, and
20 the pipe would be in the middle of the right-of-way which
21 means there would be no trees for probably 50 feet on
22 either side of the fire. It would be burning up in the
23 air much like a chimney type of thing. So it's
24 reasonably unlikely that it would catch the surrounding
25 area on fire. It does not spread over the ground like
26 gasoline or oil, it's a gaseous form which is like air.
27 I've seen a few breaks in the south on pipeline systems,
28 and not one of them that I've been on has caught any of
29 the surrounding area on fire; but if it did I suppose
30 people would be recruited the same way as they are for

1 ordinary forest fires. I'm not familiar with them, so I
2 couldn't answer it in any more detail.

3 MR. BLAKE: My fifth and
4 final question is how will you know if there is a fire?

5 MR. ROWE: Well, if the fire
6 is caused by a line break, it becomes very obvious in a
7 hurry that there is a problem with the line because the
8 pressure drops and it is automatically shown at each of
9 compressor stations. The dials, the operators at the
10 station would know very quickly that there's a break in
11 the line. If they did, then they would immediately
12 send someone out in a patrol plane or by vehicle to
13 find out the location of the break.

14 MR. BLAKE: So this is all
15 I've got to say for now. I would like to thank Mr.
16 Berger for holding the hearings for the people of Old
17 Crow and hope that Mr. Berger isn't just listening to
18 us making our complaints. I hope that he can help us.

19 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
20 Mr. Blake.

21 (WITNESS ASIDE)

22 THE COMMISSIONER: I have a
23 question, Mr. Rowe. At Fort McPherson earlier this week
24 some of the same questions Mr. Blake has asked came up.
25 Mr. Workman of Arctic Gas was there and he said that if
26 there were a break in the pipeline the gas would flow
27 from the pipeline for 1 hour and 20 minutes, and that
28 the chances were good that the gas would catch on fire.
29 So he said that there would be a fire that would last an
30 hour and 20 minutes, that is the length of time it took

1 | for all the gas to escape between the shut-off valves
2 | which he suggested would be at the compressor stations
3 | 50 miles apart. I see Mr. Carter has a worried look on
4 | his face. I may be misrepresenting what Mr. Workman
5 | said. If you want to confer with Mr. Carter before
6 | answering that, please go right ahead.

7 | MR. CARTER: Sorry, just that
8 | I'm not sure if it was Mr. Workman or Mr. Ellwood, but
9 | the one hour and 20 minutes was the time required to
10 | shut the line down through valves. They that as an
11 | example saying that that's what it took to shut that
12 | length of line down through valves so that it would
13 | take something in that order for a break. I assume
14 | that probably more gas would escape through a break
15 | than through a valve, and hence Mr. Rowe's 20 minutes.

16 | THE COMMISSIONER: I see.
17 | Well, you comment on that, Mr. Rowe, so that I'm not in
18 | a state of confusion about this.

19 | MR. ROWE: Surely. One of the
20 | problems is that the Code for Northern Pipelines is yet
21 | to be resolved by the Canadian Standards Association, so
22 | that there isn't a firm definition of how far apart the
23 | block valves or the mainline valves would be spaced. As
24 | I mentioned earlier in the south, for example on Trans-
25 | Canada Pipeline System, of which I am most familiar,
26 | they are in the order of 20 miles, 17 to 20 miles apart
27 | by regulation; and the amount of time it would take for
28 | the gas to bleed down to atmospheric pressure would be
29 | directly related to the length of line between these
30 | block valves. Now, as Mr. Workman stated or someone

1 | stated --

2 | THE COMMISSIONER: Either Mr.
3 | Workman or Mr. Ellwood. They're both engineers and
4 | both were there because it was said they knew what they
5 | were talking about, and I'm sure they did. You go
6 | ahead.

7 | MR. ROWE: Whoever said that
8 | was, according to Mr. Carter there, was referring to
9 | the 50 miles between compressor stations. I was
10 | estimating it on the distance between two mainline
11 | valves, which would be in the order of 20 miles apart.

12 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, if
13 | they're 50 miles apart, you get an emission of gas for an
14 | hour and 20 minutes; if they're 20 miles apart you'll get
15 | an emission of gas for about 20 minutes. Is that it?

16 | MR. ROWE: Again it depends
17 | on several factors. If the break is just an opening in
18 | the pipe, for example, if it cracks for a few feet and
19 | there is an opening which sometimes occurs, then the
20 | rate of reduction of pressure is dependent on the cross
21 | section area, the amount of area that the gas has to
22 | escape from. If in fact it breaks and severs the pipe
23 | so that you have two open 48-inch length of pipe,
24 | obviously the gas would escape much more quickly.

25 | Again it's very difficult to
26 | compute the flow times to atmosphere. I would have to
27 | study that. Again Darryl mentioned that maybe they were
28 | referring to the length of time it would take to bleed
29 | the pressure off the line, using the valves which are
30 | installed for that purpose. If you'd have to reduce the

1 | pressure, say to make a repair or something you would do
2 | it through valves which are open to atmosphere and air
3 | 12 inches in diameter or something of that nature. That
4 | takes a considerable amount of air, and of course if it
5 | was fractured then --

6 | THE COMMISSIONER: Then that
7 | takes longer if the pipe was cut in half.

8 | MR. ROWE: Yes.

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: But you
10 | say the valves are 12 inches in diameter.

11 | MR. ROWE: That's kind of a
12 | nominal size, I believe, yes, for that line; in that
13 | order, anyway. These are blow off or vent valves which
14 | vent to atmosphere.

15 | THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, and
16 | that's controlled venting?

17 | MR. ROWE: Yes, yes. It's a
18 | normal procedure if you wish to reduce pressure in a
19 | line for any operation.

20 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, do
21 | you agree with Mr. Workman that if there is a break,
22 | even a small break, the chances of the gas catching fire
23 | are -- I think he used the expression the chances are
24 | good.

25 | MR. ROWE: It's pretty hard
26 | to define "good". I guess in the breaks that I've wit-
27 | nessed or personally been involved in, about 50% of them
28 | have caught fire.

29 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, there's
30 | a 50% chance in your experience that the gas coming out

1 | of any break will catch fire?

2 | MR. ROWE: Yes. People aren't
3 | quite sure exactly the mechanism which triggers the fire.
4 | There are several theories, possibly the flow of gas
5 | ionizes the air which causes a spark discharge, or it
6 | could be the fact that debris falling after the explosion
7 | ignites just due to sparks that it causes.

8 | THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. Well,
9 | thank you. Do you have any more questions, Mr. Blake?

10 | MR. BLAKE: Yes, I have one
11 | more.

12 | CHARLIE BLAKE, resumed:

13 | THE WITNESS: I would like to
14 | ask if -- where will they have their men kept in case
15 | they had a fire, where will they have them staying? In
16 | the little towns?

17 | MR. ROWE: I'm not sure that I
18 | can answer that. I'm not quite sure how the situation of
19 | the location of the operating facilities has been
20 | resolved. At one time it was thought that they would be
21 | concentrated in the major operating centres such as
22 | Inuvik, Norman Wells, or perhaps more decentralized; but
23 | --

24 | THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Workman
25 | said at Fort McPherson that the people who would be
26 | fighting fires for Arctic Gas would essentially be
27 | people from Inuvik, Norman Wells and Fort Simpson,
28 | because they will have about 200 people altogether in
29 | those places, and that they would be the people who
30 | would have to come out and fight the fires but I think

1 he indicated they would want the help of local people,
2 too, and that if they had caused the fire -that is if
3 Arctic Gas had caused the fire, they would of course
4 have to pay the cost of fighting the fire.

5 Is that essentially what Mr.
6 Workman said, Mr. Carter?

7 MR. CARTER: That's right.

8 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I
9 don't know why I'm answering these questions, but there
10 it is.

11 MR. BLAKE: O.K., thank you.
12 (WITNESS ASIDE)

13
14 JOHN KENDI sworn:

15 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger --

16 THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me
17 just, a moment, I'm sorry.

18 MR. VEALE: Could I have your
19 name, sir? Forgive me, I was not paying attention when
20 I should have been.

21 A Yeah, my name is John
22 Kendi, Old Crow.

23
24 THE INTERPRETER: He likes to
25 talk about what's been going on since he came to Old
26 Crow. Out in the country near Whitestone Village up
27 Porcupine River, 1909 when he was born. About 18 years
28 away from this country when his parents went to --
29 further south of here, went over to Dawson and lived
30 there for two years, and his father was a minister at the

1 time and they transferred him to different places. They
2 went to Mayo and he was there for 16 years, and then in
3 1929 they were transferred back to Old Crow. That's when
4 he came back up to Old Crow with his parents. Ever since
5 he came back to the Old Crow from 1929 until up till now
6 he's been making his living out of the land of Crow
7 Flats.

8 He said around 1934-35 that it
9 was pretty hard for people up here. There were two
10 little stores in the village but there was hardly
11 anything to buy in the stores. He said at that time when
12 there was not enough food in the store to buy, he said
13 the people were depending on caribou, always watching out
14 for caribou come lose, and he said one day there would be
15 caribou coming over the mountain and people could see
16 from here and everybody would go up there to get some
17 meat. This is why, too, that he don't like to see the
18 pipeline go past near Old Crow.

19 He said the Old Crow people
20 were flown over to Inuvik to see this research they put
21 up over there in Inuvik about the pipeline. He said we
22 saw it that time just to see, to show people how it was
23 going to be. We went over to have a look at that. Half
24 of it was underground and the other half was above the
25 ground. It was probably four feet above the ground, and
26 the rest, the other half was buried. He said that he
27 didn't felt that the caribou could crawl over this pipe
28 or go under it.

29 He sees a lot of hard times
30 around this Old Crow, and the people used to stay out

1 of town, he too, he used to stay right in the middle of
2 Crow Flat. He had a cabin along the Black Fox River. He
3 was raising a family at that time and he had to get most
4 of his food out of the land. That's how he was feeding
5 his family. Talking about hard time in those days back
6 in 129, back in the '30's, he said there was no
7 transportation around here, no airplanes; the nearest
8 hospital we had was in Fort Yukon, that was on the Alaska
9 side and he said the only way to get to a doctor when a
10 person is sick, he said, is go by boat in summer and get
11 the patient to the doctor by dog team in the winter.
12 This was very slow going.

13 He said he remember those
14 days that it was even hard to get fish net, that's how
15 hard it was to get the materials that we make our
16 living with. Nowadays everything changing here,
17 there's a lot of stuff to buy, everything we wanted to
18 buy, we buy almost anything we want out of a store.

19 Pretty nearly everybody that
20 has spoken here mentioned the pipeline. He said
21 perhaps the pipeline would bring bad things, would
22 bring hard times again; and he said that we don't talk
23 to ourselves, the old people, we talk for the future of
24 our young generation. If he had to tell every step
25 that he made, it would make a long story; but he said
26 the time is so short when we come to visit and talk he
27 said he brought out the main point what he thought of,
28 and this is all he will say now.

29 MR. VEALE: Thank you very much.
30 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Mr.

1 | Kendi.

2 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

3 |

4 | JEROME THOMAS, sworn:

5 | THE INTERPRETER: Jerome Thomas
6 | he said he been working with the seismic line out in Crow
7 | Flat one winter and he saw a little bit of it there.
8 | People were from Edmonton. Yeah, he was working with
9 | Renewable Resources, he wasn't working with seismic
10 | there, I'm sorry about that. He was working with
11 | Renewable Resources, They have a name for it, they call
12 | it Rat Patrol, , that's where he was working; anyways, he
13 | had a camp in the middle of Crow Flat and he worked
14 | different branch from Crow Flat out to along the coast.
15 | That area, he's asking a question here, he said supposing
16 | there's 1, 000 people in one camp like that, where they
17 | going to dispose their sewage?

18 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, this
19 | always happens, as soon as the representatives of
20 | Arctic. as leave -- and they have just left -- someone
21 | thinks)f a question. What we will do is we will take
22 | that question down and make sure it is answered at
23 | Yellowknife, and that Arctic Gas' answer is sent back to
24 | you. [they've gone now, and I'm certainly not going to
25 | answer my more questions for them because I don't know
26 | what hey intend to do with the sewage. So you just
27 | carry n, sir, and I'll bear that question in mind and
28 | make sure it's answered for you.

29 | THE INTERPRETER: We understand
30 | it's going to be gas pipeline, but he, too, heard that

1 | it wasn't going to be only gas pipeline, there would be
2 | oil pipeline, too. Perhaps, he said there's both,
3 | and he said if one of them is bound to break up some-
4 | where.

5 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, the
6 | government wants this Inquiry to look into both, so you
7 | carry on and discuss both if you wish.

8 | THE INTERPRETER: The fellow
9 | that he was working with, his name was Bob Ruttan. One
10 | time he said Bob Ruttan asked him what he thought of
11 | the pipeline. Told him that he didn't thought very
12 | much about the pipeline. This was during the spring in
13 | March when they was working there, and he said after a
14 | while they work up there until the snow was melt and
15 | ice was thawed, and once he said they spotted a grizzly
16 | bear close by, so they got a photograph of that.

17 | Mainly what kind of work they
18 | were doing up there, they were tagging the muskrat. He
19 | was taking a sample from the lake, this is the kind of
20 | work he was doing.

21 | That's all he's going to say.

22 | MR. VEALE: Jerome, what do
23 | you think about the pipeline?

24 | THE INTERPRETER: Well, him
25 | too, he don't like to see the pipeline near Old Crow.
26 | Anyways he's been asking some questions about the
27 | pipeline himself with some other people, and the people
28 | tell him that they didn't thought the pipeline would be
29 | any good to -- do Old Crow any good.

30 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you

1 | very much.

2 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: I think
4 | we'll take about a five-minute or ten-minute break here
5 | and just stretch our legs a bit.

6 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED FOR TEN MINUTES)

7 | PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

8 | THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and
9 | gentlemen, we'll come to order again, and has this
10 | witness been sworn?

11 | MR. VEALE: No.

12 |

13 | ROBERT BRUCE, JR, sworn:

14 | THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, my
15 | name is Robert Bruce, Jr., and I'd like to tell you
16 | about the way of life up here in the north.

17 | Mr. Berger, it is our life in
18 | this country that we are talking about is important to
19 | us because we make our living off the land, Mr. Berger,
20 | we like to have our land claims settlement first before
21 | the pipeline or gas line goes through. The land, we
22 | hunt and trap on the land to make money. since as far
23 | back as I remember, the people of Old Crow have made
24 | their living out of this land.

25 | At that time there were no
26 | jobs around Old Crow, and after there were jobs, the
27 | first jobs came around here were the oil companies. At
28 | that time the oil companies were working up ahead of
29 | the Porcupine River. At that time the people of Old
30 | Crow didn't know what they were doing up at the head of

1 | the Porcupine. Later on the people found out that they
2 | were damaging the land, so they tried to put a stop to
3 | it. So the government had to make the oil companies
4 | put rollers under the bulldozers, and these rollers six
5 | inches under the blade so that it cannot damage the
6 | land. But still in some cases it still spoil the
7 | land and the oil companies have made seismic lines up
8 | head of the Porcupine River, it looks like a jigsaw
9 | puzzle.

10 | So, Mr. Berger, you can see
11 | how bad damage they did to the land. So if the pipe
12 | line or gas line comes through the country of Old Crow,
13 | it do lots of damage to the people. It would damage
14 | the hunting and trapping areas. It also might spoil
15 | the fishing areas, and if the pipeline comes through
16 | behind Old Crow it might damage the Crow Flat area,
17 | because the drainage runs into the Crow Flats, and it
18 | would spoil our drinking water which we get out of the
19 | Porcupine River. Mr. Berger, if the pipeline comes
20 | through here, what would they do about all the sewer
21 | water that will run into the Porcupine River? Many
22 | times they will come to a creek, how will they stop the
23 | pollution from coming down the Porcupine River?

24 | If the pipeline comes through
25 | here, there will be jobs for only three years. After
26 | that what will the people going to do? The people here
27 | in Old Crow might be lost. What I mean by that is if the
28 | land is damaged and there is no trapping and
29 | hunting area, the people would stop -- stop caribou
30 | from coming through here. It looks to me that the

1 caribou are scarce of any kinds of motor noise. Since
2 the studies were done here in Old Crow about the caribou,
3 before that we would go up the river, up the Porcupine
4 River with a boat and come right up to the caribou. We
5 cannot do that now because as soon as the caribou hear
6 the boat coming, the caribou start up the bank.

7 Mr. Berger, now you know that
8 we live on caribou, moose, fish, rabbits and all other
9 animals, so I don't want to see the pipeline come through
10 our country. If the 800-men's camp is near to Old Crow,
11 it would spoil the way of life of the Old Crow people.
12 It would cause the people to drink more, and it also can
13 break up married men's homes, and it also can bring up
14 the population here in Old Crow. This is why I don't
15 want to see the pipeline come through here. Out of the
16 800 mens that are going to work around Old Crow, how many
17 of them can be good mens? Some men might be taking drugs
18 and maybe coming to this town and pass it onto some of
19 the people. Then after that person got used to the
20 drugs, the person who gave the drugs would be selling it
21 to him or her or anyone else.

22 That's all I have to say, Mr.
23 Berger.

24 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
25 very much, Mr. Bruce, I wonder if we could have your
26 statement and it could be marked as an exhibit?

27 A Sure.

28 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

29 (WITNESS ASIDE)

30 (STATEMENT OF ROBERT BRUCE, JR. MARKED EXHIBIT C-82)

1 JOHN ABEL sworn:

2 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, I
3 am John Abel. I am 28 years old. I am married and
4 have three children. My wife's name is Rosalie.

5 I am happy to see you, your
6 staff, and the C.B.C. crew here.

7 I make my living out of the
8 Old Crow Flats in the spring trapping and hunting
9 muskrats. It does not matter to me if muskrat prices
10 are down to 50¢ or \$1.00, you will still find me out in
11 my country. I shoot the caribou and the moose to eat
12 the meat, and so my mother can tan the hides to make my
13 clothing.

14 The white man, especially the
15 big game hunters from Southern Canada and United
16 States, kill these animals just for trophies, which is
17 their antlers. Then they go to the store to buy beef
18 because they have left the caribou or the moose meat
19 behind the brush to rot.

20 Now if the pipeline goes near
21 Old Crow, who is going stop 800 white men from killing
22 off the animals just for the antlers?

23 We have about 115, 000
24 caribou in the Porcupine herd. How long are these
25 animals going to exist? I myself and the rest of the
26 Old Crow people kill just enough to pass the winter
27 with. We do not waste any of the meat. According to
28 the way the Old Crow people look after their food, the
29 children are taught not to waste any of it.

30 Mr. Berger, this is all I

1 | have to say. Thank you for listening to the few words
2 | I have said.

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
4 | very much, Mr. Abel · Mr.

5 | Abel's statement will be marked as an exhibit and
6 | constitute part of the record of the Inquiry.

7 | (STATEMENT OF JOHN ABEL MARKED EXHIBIT C-83)

8 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

9 |

10 | MRS. JOHN CHARLIE, sworn:

11 | THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, I
12 | have a statement here from my wife I want to read to
13 | you, if it's O.K. with the chief in Old Crow.

14 | THE COMMISSIONER: I think it
15 | is; I'm sure it is.

16 | THE WITNESS: The statement
17 | reads:

18 | "Mr. Berger, staff of C.B.C., chief, ladies and
19 | gentlemen:

20 | I am not from here and I missed the Berger
21 | hearing in McPherson. I was really looking for-
22 | ward to it and was thinking to myself that I
23 | have to come through with it while I'm here.

24 | To start off with, Mr. Berger, this
25 | land is ours, it's our land. We were on it
26 | for long before the white peoples, and when I
27 | think of this pipeline I just get sick of it.
28 | That's how much I don't want it to come
29 | through. Sure, we all know it's going
30 | to come through even though we don't want it

1 to come through. It's going to spoil our land
2 and its people, especially the young people. I
3 say this because I see things with my own eyes
4 through white people. Mr. Berger, some white
5 peoples are real good and some are like dogs.
6 I say this because I have girls, I see what's
7 been done in Inuvik.

8 My sister is right here
9 in this meeting. My niece was nice girl until
10 one day one white man came along and told her
11 he was a single man. After she became an al-
12 coholic, that white man was gone. One day
13 when my sister was in Inuvik, I was with my
14 sister in Inuvik, she had a phone call from
15 Vancouver and someone asked her if she was
16 Mrs. Greenland, and she said 'Yes.'

17 This woman told her, 'I
18 heard your daughter is going out with my hus-
19 band.'

20 And my sister told her, 'I tried so
21 hard to talk to my girls to be good, and knew
22 white woman's husband come down north and say
23 they are single. They don't go only with my
24 girls, they go with Eskimo girls too. Why don't
25 you white women come down with your husbands?
26 Don't ever phone me like that again.

27 Mr. Berger, when the road came
28 through to McPherson last year from Inuvik
29 the first taxi came into town. The next
30 day two girls were missing. My cousin was

1 | looking for them and here they were taken
2 | off with the taxi. All that makes me mad.
3 | That's why I don't like the pipeline.

4 | These are my nieces. They were just
5 | like my own girls. now I worry about my own
6 | girls, how they will grow up. When I hear
7 | that there is going to be 800 people in every
8 | camp I hope they make a law that the white
9 | people will have to stay away from the town.
10 | Like I said before, the white people are good,
11 | but some are no good.

12 | The same way, Mr. Berger, the same
13 | things with the R.C.M.P. If somebody report
14 | to them about under-age girls that drink and
15 | run around, they don't do anything. They just
16 | tell us, 'It's your kids. You try to make
17 | them good.' This again I see. Some women go
18 | to the R.C.M.P. and they ask me to go with
19 | them and interpret for them. That's how I
20 | come to know. The Indians are not stupid as
21 | they think they are. We just take one look at
22 | them and if they don't like us we know it. I
23 | hope something can be done for us for this.

24 | Mr. Berger, another thing I hear
25 | that white people say the younger generation
26 | don't go out in the bush anyway, so they are
27 | going to put the pipeline through, and that's
28 | B.S. because right in McPherson there
29 | are no rats in three years, and this spring
30 | there were lots of rats. I seen some Grade 12

1 students go out and catch those rats, . Sure,
2 they still want to go in the bush, and when
3 there is caribou they all go out then. You
4 can't see those young peoples forgot what to
5 do in the bush.

6 They say young peoples forgot what to
7 do in the bush, if they get stuck in the bush
8 they know what to do. I am the one that goes in
9 the bush every year. We never miss, and I don't
10 believe them saying they never spoil the land.
11 This spring in April I went out in the bush with
12 my husband, every/' day we hauled caribou meat.
13 My husband showed me where they had camped ad
14 where they had dynamite. It was a big place,
15 not one caribou track was on that part. Outside
16 of the part was just tramped with caribou
17 tracks.

18 W. Berger, there used to be lots of rabbits and
19 ptarmigans, now there is nothing. Fish is the
20 same way. They spoil two good fish lakes down
21 around our camp. We used to get fish for a year
22 from those two big lakes. Now we lucky if you
23 can get one. They even spoil our creeks. We
24 never get fish at the mouth of the creeks again.
25 That's putting a bridge across the creeks and
26 they never remove them.

27 So you see, Mr. Berger, this proves
28 that they do spoil the land. They never asked
29 us to come in the land before, they just start
30 up these things. Now they got us to the worst

1 part, they want us to say something. Why don't
2 they ask us when they started to cut up the
3 seismic lines? They never think. They just go
4 everywhere they wanted.

5 Mr. Berger, I have a lot more to say
6 but at this time this is all I can say. Thank
7 you very much. I wish you all luck and with the
8 strength of God you will help us Indians.

9 Thanks again."

10 Signed, "Mrs. Jane Charlie, Fort McPherson."

11 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
12 very much, Mrs. Charlie.

13 (WITNESS ASIDE)

14 THE COMMISSIONER: I would
15 like that statement to be marked as an exhibit, Miss
16 Hutchinson, and would you mark it "A" to the number of
17 the last exhibit that's entered in Fort McPherson so it
18 will go along with all of the statements made at Fort
19 McPherson.

20 I'll instruct the Court
21 reporters to make Mrs. John Charlie's statement, to
22 include it in the transcript of the Fort McPherson
23 hearings as if Mrs. Charlie were the last witness to
24 speak at Fort McPherson, and you might insert her
25 testimony in the Fort McPherson transcript just prior to
26 the testimony of Mr. John Simon and Chief John Charlie
27 on the last day of the hearing.

28 (STATEMENT OF MRS. JOHN CHARLIE MARKED EXHIBIT C-61-A
29 AT FORT MCPHERSON HEARING)

30 JOHN TIZYA resumed:

1 THE INTERPRETER: He already
2 had to say a little yesterday but he wants to put in
3 some more comments. His name is John Tizya, a resident
4 of Old Crow.

5 He was working for an oil
6 company south of Old Crow here a few times and most of
7 the time he was working around the camp and he didn't
8 go out too many times. Sometimes when they were short
9 of men in the camp he would go out with them. He said
10 when he did went out in this seismic work, what they
11 were doing, he says they were blowing up dynamite in
12 the ground, and he said that dynamite put in a pretty
13 big hole in the ground and shake the ground up quite a
14 bit. Even the truck that he was sitting in, he said,
15 would shake up when the thing blew up.

16 He said what he saw in the
17 work he was doing, he said once they blow the dynamite
18 up, it wasn't covered up again, that hole was left
19 there like that, and he said the dynamite cracks up
20 quite a bit of ground because he could see even the
21 trees from where they dynamite is blown up, he said the
22 trees, shakes the snow was off the trees and he believe
23 the ground being cracked up dried up after that and the
24 caribou don't come there to feed any more, He said
25 leaving a hole like that in the ground, he said
26 perhaps sometime the animals are scared and
27 run across the country and supposing he get in deep
28 hole like that, he stays there. Can't get out of it.
29 Probably the animal would get crippled up and stay
30 right there.

1 He said when he was working up
2 there they flew across a lot of country of the trapper
3 and he see that all those seismic line, the timber was
4 drying up and whatever vegetation was growing on it was
5 all turning to dry stuff. When he did work for that
6 company he said they had very low wages, \$1.75 an hour
7 was the most they got at that time.

8 He said when they did cross
9 some creek, it wasn't a very big creek but some of them
10 are good-sized creeks, they're going to have to tear
11 the ground up with a bulldozer to make a bridge, make
12 an ice bridge, you know, tearing down a lot of timber
13 and he thought that they, blocking up the fish runway
14 there. It would take a long time in the spring before
15 the thing will be washed away.

16 He said one place they left
17 the camp and they left everything, all the grocery that
18 they were using they didn't use it so they just left
19 everything there just the way it is. He saw that the
20 animal got, there and was feeding out of that grub that
21 they left there.

22 MR. VEALE: Mr. Tizya, you
23 spoke of the ice bridges. Where did that happen?

24 A Porcupine.

25 THE INTERPRETER: The place
26 where he saw this was up Minor River, one branch named
27 Minor River, that's where he saw this.

28 Q Did this also happen on
29 Crow Flats anywhere?

30 THE INTERPRETER; At the time

1 they were working at Crow Flat, when the company was
2 out there doing a little bit of seismic he said he
3 wasn't there all the time, he didn't work for them but
4 there were some others from Old Crow who worked for
5 them and he heard from them that they were making some
6 ice bridges there in Crow Flat too, and it was left and
7 has never been removed. There were not come too many
8 fish down Old Crow River ever since that. The fish
9 population went pretty low after the seismics were on
10 in Crow, Crow Flat. He said he would like to talk
11 about the pipeline a little bit again.

12 Supposing the pipeline was
13 built through the country, he said there's lots of
14 cigarette smoker and there will be a lot of young
15 people in the traffic, and he says that some of the
16 younger people don't think sometimes and throw
17 cigarette butts away and that could cause fire, too,
18 and supposing they do have over dry land, it would do a
19 lot of damage putting out fire like that.

20 He said sometime the fire
21 starts far away from where is water. Supposing the
22 river was far away and the lake was far away, some
23 place out in the hill, he said. That would cause
24 death, too. People who start fighting fire there, he
25 said, would get smothered with smoke. Caught in caught
26 in the fire, could kill people, too.

27 He said a pipeline built
28 across the river, he said, there's not only one stream
29 up here, there's lots of rivers, lots of side rivers
30 and they are pretty good size rivers too, and supposing

1 Judge Berger about the seismic work on Crow Flats and
2 what happened?

3 THE INTERPRETER: He has
4 already spoken about the seismic work done in this
5 country and he wanted to add a little more to it now.

6 Judge Berger, you must have
7 flown over some of the part of the country where the
8 seismic line been put and looking at it from the air it
9 almost look like a checkerboard.

10 Now he's up to ask you a
11 little question, not a very big question, easy to
12 answer. He said Mr. Berger, you have been flown around
13 the Crow Flat visiting people this spring and he asks
14 you if you saw any seismic line during that time you
15 was flown around the camp?

16 It was back in 1954 when the
17 oil companies start doing seismic south of Old Crow and
18 keep coming closer and closer to Old Crow. He said a
19 few of them went up and worked for those oil company.
20 By working for oil company like that he said the people
21 of Old Crow were finding out what kind of work they are
22 doing on the land, and the people find out that they
23 were doing damage to the country.

24 When they do their seismic
25 work, the trapper they haul their fuel by drums and
26 they build airport far away from camp and they haul
27 those drums there. They work out from there. That's
28 where they fuel up. He saw it when he was working
29 there he saw it himself that when they haul the oil
30 there like that, when they get through working there

1 | some drums with oil/gas in it, they just open it up and
2 | tip it over and let it run out.

3 | He said the people of Old Crow
4 | was worried about their land was getting spoiled so they
5 | start writing Ottawa. They wrote letters outward and
6 | then some people from Ottawa visited Old Crow and he
7 | said those people had helped them out with their
8 | problems. So this was written down and since that time
9 | he said, the oil company was very careful coming in
10 | here. How come when they went as far as Crow Flat one
11 | spring there and then ever since that time nobody come
12 | in? He said last winter an oil company asked to come
13 | into Crow Flat but the people in Old Crow said, "No."

14 | That year 1969 they were
15 | working in Crow Flat in the summer exploding some
16 | dynamite along the lakeshore and this one lake they
17 | call Willow Lake, they were exploding some dynamite
18 | around this lake and ever since that time he said there
19 | was no fish in that lake, and the muskrat never breed
20 | in that lake ever since. Before that it was a very
21 | good lake for muskrat, but now nothing in it.

22 | Anyways he said that if we know
23 | this kind of work were good for this country we wouldn't
24 | be against it and wouldn't said "No" to it, but we find
25 | out it was bad for this country. Now we don't like to
26 | see that kind of work. He believe that if the pipeline
27 | ever goes through, somewhere in between Old Crow
28 | and Crow Flat would do a lot of damage. This is why the
29 | people of Old Crow don't like to see the pipeline near
30 | Old Crow.

1 MR. VEALE: If the oil
2 company will come back to Crow Flats to do seismic work
3 some day?

4 THE INTERPRETER: He said the
5 young generation are growing up now and he said they
6 all know that the older people try to prevent the oil
7 company to come into Crow Flat any more and he probably
8 think the younger people will follow and wouldn't let
9 nobody work in Crow Flat.

10 MR. VEALE: Can you tell
11 Judge Berger about the moratorium? Do you know that
12 word? You went to meetings over this. Can you tell
13 the judge about those meetings and how long the oil
14 companies will stay away?

15 THE INTERPRETER: He said he
16 had been to meetings in Whitehorse about this,
17 complaining about oil company going into Crow Flat and
18 spoiling the country. He said he had been to meetings
19 for that and also before he was chief that Charlie Abel
20 was in term of chief and Charlie Abel been fighting
21 against the oil company for going into Crow Flat, too.

22 MR. VEALE: You could also
23 tell Judge Berger what you think if a large camp of men
24 were near Old Crow.

25 THE INTERPRETER: We all
26 understand that if the pipeline go through there, would
27 be a camp just beyond Old Crow Mountain. That's not too
28 far away from town, but we all feel the same about a lot
29 of people would be near Old Crow. What we would like,
30 to be protected for those people not coming into the

1 town. He said they should be really restricted that
2 they should stay in camp, and once they get out of the
3 job they should be moved away from that camp right from
4 where they started; and he said supposing this happened
5 now, there was a lot of people there, we wouldn't know
6 any of them anyways for start, and then they don't know
7 us, too. He said it wouldn't make no difference to us,
8 if we don't see them that's all the better. Perhaps
9 they will have everything they want, they need in that
10 camp. Probably they don't need anything from the town
11 anyway. There's no reason why they should come to town,
12 they wouldn't need anything from town.

13 THE COMMISSIONER; Thank you
14 very much.

15 (WITNESS ASIDE)

16 MR. VEALE: I just saw Peter
17 Benjamin, is he still --

18

19 PETER BENJAMIN sworn:

20 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger,
21 ladies and gentlemen, my name is Peter Benjamin, a
22 member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police here in Old
23 Crow.

24 First I'd like to bring out
25 this caribou migration and bird migration here in Old
26 Crow. According to Canadian Wildlife Service work here
27 in Old Crow back in 1971, '72, and '73, in '71 Canadian
28 Wildlife Service worked here from March to end of
29 October. They have their airplane base here in 014
30 Crow and they were flying out every day, and at that

1 | time I didn't remember they have hire local boys from
2 | Old Crow, but the only time they hire boys from Old
3 | Crow, when they tagged them in the fall and up to 50
4 | miles the Porcupine and east from Old Crow.

5 | The caribou migration, they
6 | estimate in '71 was 90, 000. That's after calving. in
7 | '72 I don't know, and '73 they estimated caribou
8 | migration population was over 100, 000. So that many
9 | caribou it's been travel between Alaska and up in the
10 | Yukon and Northwest Territories, so next will be birds
11 | -- I don't know what you call it, snow geese, white
12 | geese they call it.; and I flew out with C, W, S. a
13 | couple of days and these birds they travel way up
14 | north. Some go past Sachs Harbour, In the fall on the
15 | way back they stop along the Arctic Coast, like and the
16 | mouth of the Mackenzie and down the Herschel island
17 | area. I saw it myself, the Canadian Wildlife Service
18 | estimates over 100, 000.

19 | So the reason why the people
20 | of Old Crow don't like pipeline through Old Crow, and
21 | the second they don't like pipeline through the coast.
22 | Thank you very much.

23 | MR. VEALE: You've been with
24 | the R.C.M.P. in Old Crow, Peter, What will happen in
25 | Old Crow if the pipeline comes through near Old Crow?

26 | A This pipeline comes through
27 | Old Crow there's going to be lots of people coming
28 | through and the people of Old Crow said -- there is three
29 | or four things they said -- there will be break in
30 | pipeline or the spill, and the fire, and the earthquake.

1 | There's four things could be destroyed, and for this
2 | caribou. On these four things could be, something could
3 | spoil the country and caribou food and that; and
4 | according to C.W.S. said never less than 70, 000 in the
5 | year they work here. So could be happen that caribou
6 | migration could be less.

7 | Q Peter, what about the
8 | construction workers and the Old Crow people?

9 | A Well, I heard this from
10 | people already, but I'm not much answer it.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: Mr.
12 | Benjamin, you said you're against the pipeline coming
13 | through the interior route, that is just eight miles
14 | from here on the Old Crow River, and you're also
15 | against the coastal route, along the coast. Is that
16 | right? Have I got it right?

17 | A Yes.

18 | Q And you're against the
19 | coastal route because of the impact on the calving
20 | grounds of the caribou and the nesting grounds of the
21 | birds along the coast, is that the point?

22 | A It's not the point, and
23 | caribou calving and this bird stop on the way.

24 | Q O.K., thank you very much.

25 | A O.K., sir.

26 | THE COMMISSIONER: Do you have
27 | one more question?

28 | MR. VEALE: We won't let you
29 | go.

30 | Q What about the R.C.M.P.

1 | the work you do in Old Crow, if the pipeline were built
2 | through here what would happen to your work?

3 | A Yes, my job here, before
4 | I work with Indian Affairs the first time and now I
5 | work with part-time work in this Game Branch and custom
6 | work. So if this 800 people, we were saying if this
7 | happen it will be more job for a custom work and the
8 | Game Branch.

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
10 | very much, sir.

11 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

12 | THE COMMISSIONER: I think
13 | we'll just take another very short adjournment, if you
14 | don't mind, maybe another five minutes.

15 | We'll just get up for five
16 | minutes, ma'am, then we'll hear from you.

17 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED FOR FIVE MINUTES)

18 | (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

19 | THE COMMISSIONER: We'll call
20 | our meeting to order again. That last adjournment was
21 | so that I could go out and get a drink of water. Now
22 | that I've had it, we can start again.

23 | Well, there's a witness to be
24 | sworn, I think.

25 |
26 | MRS. HANNAH NETRO sworn:

27 | THE COMMISSIONER: Go ahead
28 | whenever you're ready.

29 |
30 |

1 THE INTERPRETER: She would
2 like to thank Mr. Berger and his staff and everyone,
3 the C. B. C. people there who are working at the table,
4 she would like to thank every one of you. Her name is
5 Hannah Netro, resident of Old Crow.

6 She said they had moved to
7 Whitehorse and stayed there for six years, and she
8 wanted to talk about that.

9 During that six years' stay
10 in Whitehorse she learned and saw quite a bit of the
11 native people up in Whitehorse. She said most of those
12 native people are drinking people. Some of them have
13 families, and while they are drinking like that in the
14 beer parlor, she said the little kids looks pretty
15 poor, they're not clothed right when they walk around;
16 some of them are small kids. She saw that the kids
17 wasn't looked after. Kids are running around like
18 that, pretty soon the welfare pick them up and that's
19 where they're looked after.

20 She came back to her home town
21 in Old Crow and came back to her own people, and she saw
22 a very big difference between Whitehorse Indians and Old
23 Crow Indians. She see that people are well clothed up
24 here and the children are well-clothed, and the
25 children, she see that the children are well-looked
26 after here. As much as that too, she said the country
27 look the same as when she left, looks very good.

28 She said she was born up the
29 Porcupine River at the mouth of the Driftwood Rive. She
30 said she was brought up in this country, but most of all

1 her father brought her up by Crow Flat. She said she
2 raised her family from what we get out of Crow Flat.
3 She said her kids been going to school in Whitehorse and
4 most of them have got married up there. They are in
5 White horse now. Her girls are doing good in Whitehorse,
6 they have good homes up there. They have never
7 forgotten their home in Old Crow, they always mention
8 Old Crow because they get lonesome for Old Crow; and
9 they also talk about Old Crow Flat, too. They always
10 talk about the Old Crow people. She said her kids
11 always mention probably Old Crow people are eating good
12 caribou meat now and probably eating some good fish now.
13 She said they always mention that.

14 She said her other children
15 and herself are very much against the pipeline for
16 this reason, and she said when the time that she was
17 brought up there was no vegetable here in Old Crow.
18 She was brought up mostly fishing and caribou, things
19 like that, and she, too, raised her family that way.
20 She would like to see continued that way. Perhaps,
21 she said, pipeline would be good, she said for some
22 reason, but it would bring -- it would spoil the
23 country, and we know that. It probably would bring
24 hard times, the people in Old Crow are going to have
25 hard times. There's nothing we can do for ourselves
26 then.

27 We get help from the Indian
28 Department, housing, but she said otherwise we don't get
29 no other kind of help. We got a home that's built
30 through Indian Affairs. She's hoping that some day our

1 | children will take over us and she hope that everything
2 | will be the same. She hope that the country is not
3 | spoiled and the children will grow up and the young
4 | children will take it over after the old people are gone.

5 | You have heard from old
6 | people and younger people that the people of Old Crow
7 | are not in favor of pipeline.

8 | MR. VEALE: Mrs. Netro, do you
9 | remember when the white trappers came into the country?

10 | THE INTERPRETER: She said
11 | she was pretty young when the white trappers came up to
12 | this country and she only could recall as far back as
13 | 1934, but her father had told her that it was back
14 | around earlier, in 1900 when the white people came up
15 | here trapping. She said some of the white people white
16 | trappers that came up in the country, they got married
17 | to native women up here and the Indian people thought
18 | they join them part of their families, so they let them
19 | trap, let them do everything without any comments and
20 | it was part of the family anyways; and then they didn't
21 | know all the white trappers had poison to trap animals,
22 | and the native people didn't know that they were
23 | spoiling the country with poison.

24 | She said her dad used to tell
25 | them a story of what things happened around here, but
26 | she can't recall at this time. She can't remember
27 | everything. She said she's very happy to be back in
28 | Old Crow with her own people, and she see that her own
29 | people are still the same, feeding themself the same
30 | kind of food and they have some of it right now. They

1 | have fresh meat and they're all living good.

2 | She is going to say now she
3 | would like to thank again every one of you.

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
5 | very much.

6 | A You're welcome.

7 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

8 |

9 | MISS MARIE BRUCE sworn:

10 | THE WITNESS: I am Marie
11 | Bruce, age 16. I am going to school in Whitehorse and I
12 | come home only for holidays. One of the reasons that I
13 | do not want the pipeline to go through is because we
14 | will not live like we did in the past, and now the kids
15 | going to school in the cities will understand the
16 | pipeline more because they haven't gone through the hard
17 | life of our parents and our grandparents , and other
18 | people before them. Meaningful existence means a lot to
19 | the people of Old Crow. It is probably the most
20 | important thing in a person's life. I like Old Crow to
21 | be the way it is today. It is good to return to Old
22 | Crow after going to school in the city. Old Crow will
23 | end up deserted like Dawson City did before it was
24 | civilized again; in 1898 there was a gold rush in Dawson
25 | and people from all over the world went there. When it
26 | was over, everyone left Dawson City. This also will
27 | happen to Old Crow. It will be very hard to go back to
28 | your own way of life after this happens.

29 | When something happens, you
30 | can never turn back. It is a good feeling when you

1 | have nothing or no one to fear in Old Crow. Everyone
2 | knows each other here, and they all help to make it a
3 | better place to live. My parents have told me stories
4 | of how life was hard when they were young. Already
5 | times have changed a lot since then. Some families
6 | moved to different cities, but they always move back to
7 | Old Crow because it is a pleasant place to live.

8 | You can still go to bed here
9 | without locking your doors and you can still walk alone
10 | at nights without any fear. You also can go hiking
11 | without; thinking you are trespassing, and the people
12 | of Old Crow still live off the land. Some traditions
13 | have been forgotten, but our life is still based on the
14 | life of all the others before us.

15 | We would like our children
16 | and our grandchildren to experience the simple, clean
17 | way of life that we have already experienced. These
18 | are my reasons for not wanting a pipeline to go
19 | through.

20 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
21 | very much. I wonder if we could have your statement,
22 | Miss, and we'll mark that statement as an exhibit and
23 | then it will form a part of the permanent record of the
24 | proceedings of the Inquiry.

25 | (STATEMENT OF MISS MARIE BRUCE MARKED EXHIBIT C-84)

26 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

27 | FATHER MOUCHET sworn:

28 | MR. VEALE: I understand your
29 | name is Father Mouchet and you are a Roman Catholic
30 | priest, and that you first came to Old Crow in 1955.

1 | A That's right, yes.

2 | Q You can proceed in your
3 | own way.

4 | A I was asked by the chief
5 | to appear at this hearing in the spring, although I was
6 | a bit hesitant to come here to speak because I have a
7 | great respect for these people. Actually they have
8 | taught me many things and to come up here as a white
9 | man, I think there is something wrong. I went to Mr.
10 | Veale and I spoke to him about it, and he recognized
11 | that I should be -- what I'm going to do is to present
12 | something here that I hope will be brief and that will
13 | help the Old Crow people.

14 | Now my observation over 20
15 | years here is that we are four different aspects that
16 | really make Old Crow.

17 | The first one is the
18 | geographical position, which creates a very isolated
19 | land from Dawson to the coast, from Alaska to the
20 | Northwest Territories.

21 | The second thing is the
22 | extreme climate, the temperatures from 30 below to 60
23 | below, and a winter that lasts about 8 months. Now the
24 | second aspect that I see up here is the group
25 | relationship. We heard Dr. Irving last night speak in
26 | the old days about 12 families living together and
27 | what I have learned about these families living
28 | together like this is that these group constitute some
29 | form of a democracy and maybe from this particular type
30 | us as white people could learn a lot.

1 Now, one factor that I
2 believe has done a lot for Old Crow is the Anglican
3 community because it seems to me that the church here
4 has been able over the years to reinforce the feelings,
5 some people could call them meteorological or
6 religious, but I believe that the church here has
7 contributed a lot to create this community by, you
8 know, bringing more cohesion, and if we can use the
9 word, by crystallizing feelings.

10 Now the third aspect that I
11 see or have had time to observe over the years -- and
12 this takes quite a long time to realize, it's because
13 it's very abstract, but I know that you're going to
14 understand what I mean -- there is a code here that has
15 to be understood. Over the years I have seen people
16 coming in and out and willingly or not, these people
17 have completely overlooked this code.

18 Now to try to explain myself
19 a little bit better, this code could be in ecological
20 terms may be called a structure or a language, and
21 if we don't observe it-it seems
22 to me that we are not respecting the difference that
23 exists up here between the world outside and the world
24 inside. What I am afraid, I'm afraid today that by not
25 respecting the particular code we are going to start a
26 process here that will speed up a deep deterioration.

27 Now, the fourth aspect that I
28 see up here is that by listening especially to the old
29 people, and also by living up here, I strongly believe
30 that these people have developed a philosophy of life.

1 Now I'd like to explain it this way. You are aware that
2 today we are talking a lot about bio feedback, by which
3 the mind, to a great extent, can control what is going
4 on physiologically in the body, like you know, some
5 people can manage to control heart rate, pulse rate. It
6 seems to me that the demand of nature, the mind of the
7 people and the body of the people over a long period of
8 time manage to create an adaptation. Maybe I should
9 explain better by saying that it's an harmonious
10 religious adaptation to this particular thing that we
11 call, you know, this Old Crow way of life.

12 I don't think it is fair, and
13 especially the respect, I have the greatest respect for
14 the old people because in the modern world of today
15 they are very beautiful people but what I respect in
16 them is the toughness, this particular way of adapting
17 that made them survive against really tough odds.

18 Now this harmony has produced
19 a peace of mind, and this peace of mind is made of
20 self-reliance, to really believe in yourself, in the
21 ones that you live by, the ones you love, and it has
22 created a joy of living. If you -- I know that we
23 heard them talking about hard times, but we never --
24 they never said that they would leave this place for
25 another place, which indicates that they have this
26 peace of mind, this joy of living, and they are very
27 satisfied.

28 Now to me, after I have said
29 this, it seems to me that the very existence of this
30 particular philosophy of life, way of living and so

1 | forth, is very much at stake today. Why is it at
2 | stake? It's because if we look at the Old Crow society
3 | it's a very fragile society, and I have been studying
4 | on my own)the Indians of the Amazon, and I've been
5 | reading some very interesting books on this particular
6 | aborigines of Brazil, and Peru, and Bolivia and
7 | Venezuela; I see the same developing process and it
8 | seems to me that these people over there are suffering
9 | a lot like maybe the Old Crow people are going to do.
10 | It's because, you know, I like to use, you know, you
11 | will understand the French word called a "phylistic" .
12 | This is an atomistic society which means this is a
13 | small society but at the same time because it is
14 | atomistic , it's wide open to any influence.

15 | Now if any influences go into
16 | this particular type of a society, moves in, it could
17 | very well topple the whole thing. Now I know that we
18 | are told, because I am a white man and to a point I
19 | believe what the white man say, we are told that
20 | technology can do a lot. We are told that new ways are
21 | good, the changes are very good. We are told that the
22 | school education is very good, too. But do we have the
23 | right -- this is what I am asking, you know, Canada in
24 | general -- do we have the right when we know that this
25 | society is fragile to put in an influence that could
26 | destroy it?

27 | Now this is something for me
28 | that I cannot reconcile because in the world of
29 | tomorrow, if we take a symbol , like if we say, "Is the
30 | bulldozer --" the bulldozer could be the symbol for

1 everybody to understand it, up here the bulldozer that
2 makes asphalt, road, pipeline, for the world of
3 tomorrow, is this bulldozer more important than the
4 harmony with nature that -- again it's a personal view
5 but I know that most of you, you share this with me --
6 is this more important than this harmony with nature
7 for the world of tomorrow?

8 Now however, because changes
9 brings more changes and so forth, if the people of Old
10 Crow, because they are responsible for what they are
11 going to do and we don't want to be babysitters for
12 them and so forth, if they decide to jump -- pardon
13 this expression -- into the modern society then can we
14 compromise? I know in the past many people have come
15 to me and asked me about this, Well, I don't know,
16 really I don't know; but I agree with Mrs. Berth
17 because I know this person very well, there must be
18 some guarantee and briefly I'm going to try to bring
19 them to you.

20 The first one, the first
21 guarantee would be to give them land, you know, like
22 the land that we see on this map; and with this land
23 either for fishing, trapping, and hunting, whatever
24 they decide is their own decision.

25 Now the second guarantee,
26 and here again maybe I may be blunt and some of you
27 may not understand what I am going to say, but I think
28 we have to prevent the white men influences because I'd
29 like to explain it this way. If we agree that there is
30 a code, there is a structure that is particular to Old

1 Crow, I am afraid by what I have seen in Southern
2 Yukon, in senior atomistic communities, that the white
3 man is going to infiltrate his code and his language in
4 particular to this employer, and it's too bad, with the
5 best intention, also.

6 Now the third guarantee is
7 that the agencies working up here, what I call agency
8 up here -- the school, the nursing station, the
9 R.C.M.P. the Forestry Department, the Co-Op -- I
10 believe that these agencies are doing a tremendous work
11 for the people of Old Crow. But what I am afraid, I am
12 afraid that if the managers of these agencies are not
13 the correct ones, if I follow my thoughts if these
14 managers do not appreciate the difference, or refuse to
15 understand the code or the structure particular to this
16 place, then I am afraid that they are going again to
17 infiltrate this way of life in a way that the people of
18 Old Crow will be unable to defend themselves against

19 Now the fourth guarantee --
20 and this is something I have been working with for a
21 long time -- fitness, health and fitness should be
22 brought into this community by really taking a good
23 look at the youngsters and trying to make them as tough
24 and as strong as their grandfathers or their fathers
25 are or were. Now I know I can speak to you this way
26 because you know yourself very well that now we are
27 using wilderness camp to correct the juvenile
28 delinquents and we start to appreciate more and more
29 the good physiology, of good fitness as an important
30 role of the nervous system. Now at times when we talk

1 | against alcoholism, it seems to me that we are putting
2 | the plough before the oxen because we overlook the main
3 | thing, which is the central nervous system in the human
4 | being, Now I have, in these particular hearings that I
5 | appreciate very much, I have seen these people worrying
6 | about the teenagers. Well, I'm working with those in
7 | seven schools -- the High Schools to the Elementary
8 | Schools -- and I think they have a serious right to
9 | worry about those teenagers because I like to explain
10 | it this way. The teenager of today, I work with white
11 | and native teenagers. It seems that we are leading
12 | them to an impossibility by which they can make a good
13 | choice, They are exposed to many choices but maybe
14 | because the values of disintegrating Indian and native
15 | values, when I try to explain others, they come to the
16 | 15 years old bracket or 16, because they are not strong
17 | enough, because they have not followed a line of action
18 | in thinking then they become split and they can make a
19 | good choice, and I think the process is already
20 | established here where, instead of developing strong
21 | persons we are developing drifters.

22 | You live in Whitehorse for a
23 | while, you live in Old Crow for a while, then you
24 | frustrated from both places and to me it seems that's
25 | because you can't make a good choice. These things
26 | certainly did not happen before.

27 | Now, thank you very much for
28 | your attention.

29 | MR. VEALE: Father, maybe you
30 | could just tell about the changes that you have seen in

1 | Old Crow since you have been here.

2 | A When I came up here I
3 | came from a place called Telegraph Creek in Northern
4 | B.C., where I spent nine years. It took me about three
5 | months to re-study myself and re-study the place
6 | because I couldn't believe how industrious these people
7 | here were. They were capable of self-reliance to do
8 | things by themselves, and I had left a native community
9 | where the process of deterioration was so deep that
10 | only the northern white men were thriving on the baby-
11 | sitting proposition.

12 | Now coming up here I see
13 | these people, they didn't need any baby-sitter or
14 | anything like that. They were doing things of their
15 | own. They have a lot of pride and they were very, very
16 | industrious. Now this I think, Mr. Veale, would you
17 | know, sum up my -- what I've seen in the change.

18 | Now the rest would be the
19 | process of, you know, where we are or maybe we are not
20 | today, by which we see all the change from the airport
21 | to, you know, to the new houses, maybe that are
22 | externally speaking nicer than the old ones but maybe
23 | they don't have the same warmth and so forth.

24 | Q Father, you're familiar
25 | with the Stager Report; I was wondering if you would
26 | just make a comment on that from your point of view?

27 | A Well, maybe I'd like to
28 | say this, I'm not qualified to because I recognize that
29 | the reputation of Dr. Stager is far superior to mine,
30 | but I read this report and I was quite disappointed

1 | because I would like to use the French word for you,
2 | your honor, it's an (French, no interpreter) or in
3 | other words it's a good catalogue by which you see many
4 | fragments of a society and this is what scares me in
5 | the world of today that with our logic we start to take
6 | fragments of statistics, we put them together and then
7 | we overlook the real feeling that is below the surface.
8 | You see what I'm trying to say by this is code or
9 | structure; but again, you know, I recognize that Dr.
10 | Stager has done a lot of work but from my personal
11 | point of view I was disappointed in this.

12 | MR. VEALE: Thank you very
13 | much, father.

14 | A Thank you very much.

15 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
16 | very much.

17 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

18 |

19 | WILLIAM ECKGRADER sworn:

20 | THE WITNESS: Judge Berger,
21 | ladies and gentlemen, my name is William Eckgrader, 22
22 | years of age. If you look behind you on the map there
23 | is the Crow Flat region, you'll see sections of land
24 | where I trap -- not me, but me and my brothers.

25 | There is two seismic lines
26 | that went through that region about four years ago,
27 | and before then there was a lot of muskrats in my area.
28 | If you go out there today you'd be lucky if you get 20
29 | on some' lakes, not even that. About that 800-man camp
30 | you're going to have here if the pipeline do go

1 | through, over the mountains there is a town called
2 | Inuvik and beyond that there is oil camps. I've been
3 | in most every seismic camp and oil camp there, I work
4 | on the oil rigs and I seen different types of people
5 | from down south, how they feel about going to a town
6 | when they have little to drink, and they can't.

7 | THE COMMISSIONER: How they
8 | feel about what?

9 | A Going to town when
10 | they're drinking and they can't, and they're all the
11 | same, they all like to go downtown, hustle some girls,
12 | I guess.

13 | I seen a lot of things that
14 | took place in Inuvik when they do hit town, after three
15 | weeks in the bush or sometimes two months. If there
16 | was an 600-man camp near Old Crow, more than an 800-man
17 | camp there's got to be some drinkers in that 800-man
18 | camp. They're there for three weeks at a time. They ?
19 | get a little booze inside them, they're sure to come to
20 | town and you'll see a lot of mixup fights, a lot of
21 | trouble, you know. They would probably take the girls.
22 | in this town up to their camp like I seen over in
23 | Inuvik there, I seen girls in camp, I didn't know they
24 | were there but I seen them afterwards, I was told. I
25 | couldn't believe it so I seen them myself. They came
26 | by truck through the truck drivers that work on the
27 | rigs there. I feel towards the pipeline that it
28 | shouldn't go through.

29 | MR. VEALE: Where were you
30 | born, William?

1 | A I was born in Williams
2 | Lake, Crow Flats.

3 | Q Do you want to tell
4 | Judge Berger about what you saw in the camps that you
5 | worked with?

6 | A Well, like I said, I was
7 | on almost every rig out of Inuvik and around the
8 | surrounding areas here. I seen lots of damages done
9 | that Lands & Forests never A before. They just look
10 | from the air, they never bother people. They come down
11 | but every time they come to the camp we clean up a
12 | little bit, but they always look from the air. They
13 | can't see very good. Everything looks good from the
14 | air but beneath every shovelful of mud there's lots of
15 | garbage, pieces of steel, and there's lot of oil been
16 | spilled that they don't know.

17 | I was working, that's how I
18 | notice. I seen how they get rid of some stuff in the
19 | ocean. They just bring it up with a helicopter and
20 | drop it right in the sea. How I knew this, I was off-
21 | shore rig on the coast there, Beaufort Sea. They
22 | didn't want anything as heavy, big tanks they just
23 | dropped them right into the ocean with a helicopter.
24 | That's the only way they could get rid of it. The
25 | garbage is all buried. Animals come around and dig it
26 | up anyway, so it doesn't cover -- Lands & Forests
27 | just check it once, I think.

28 | Q Do you plan to stay in
29 | Old Crow?

30 | A Yes, I always come back

1 | here. I went to school in Whitehorse ever since I was
2 | ten years old -- eight years old. Came back here when
3 | I was 12, went to Inuvik, came back here and went to
4 | school again; and from 18 I was working on the rigs.
5 | I'm still working on the rigs, starting out in August
6 | again. But I always come back here. The reason I
7 | leave here is there's hardly any work so I go out and
8 | work. That's all I have to say, thanks.

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
10 | very much, Mr. Eckgrader.

11 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

12 |

13 | REV JOHN WATTS sworn:

14 | MR. VEALE: I understand that
15 | you're Reverend John Watts and you're with the Anglican
16 | Church, and you have been in Old Crow for two years.

17 | A That's right, yes.

18 | Q Go ahead.

19 | A Thank you, first of all,
20 | Mr. Justice Berger, for being with us here.

21 | From 1860 the Anglican Church
22 | has been closely tied in with the life of the Old Crow
23 | people. From the time when they were at Rampart House
24 | until they came to Old Crow in the early 1900's until
25 | now, Archdeacon McDonald working out of the Taku
26 | Mission at Fort McPherson had a very strong early
27 | influence with the people, working tirelessly in
28 | translating the Bible and Prayer Book and a hymn book
29 | into their language. This early influence has stayed
30 | with the people over the years, particularly because

1 | the Archdeacon worked among them for 30 years and was
2 | partly native himself.

3 | The people therefore feel
4 | their religion is their own. The people, too, have
5 | been well served by other missionaries, some of them
6 | have come from their own people within the Taku Mission
7 | area. So they understand Christianity from their own
8 | point of view. The Reverend Amos Anjutily and the
9 | Reverend Julius Kennedy gave many years of service to
10 | the people here in this country; while the Reverend Joe
11 | Kikivitik, who was made a deacon in his 90th year in
12 | 1971, had previously given some 60 years of very long
13 | service as a catechist. These names are mentioned to
14 | give the depth of the influence of the church in these
15 | parts over the years.

16 | The church building locally
17 | is much thought of in the hearts of the people. The
18 | women have gone to great pains in doing excellent bead
19 | work for the altar and other hangings. Pictures and
20 | memorial plaques tell their own story of the central
21 | position the church has held in this community and
22 | hopefully will remain to be so in the future.

23 | The photographs in the church
24 | go back over many years and are often referred to. The
25 | children, too, have their roots kept up in this way and
26 | it is hoped that they will never lose sight of these.

27 | Attending church is still
28 | important with the people, with about 40 to 50 people
29 | coming in the morning on Sunday, and about 20 or so in
30 | the evening. The Women's Organization is a strong one,

1 | being given a good start under Mrs. Julius Kennedy, in
2 | 1929. The people now have a Church Committee, and so
3 | the church's business becomes more and more shared.
4 | The people support the church well financially and soon
5 | it is hope it will be self-supporting.

6 | In addition to this, some
7 | \$500 last year was donated to other mission areas, and
8 | to the relief of world suffering. The people here like
9 | prayers in their homes and at the opening of meetings
10 | they often pray for their future. It is clear at
11 | present, therefore, that spiritual matters are closer
12 | here to the people than in most -- in many other
13 | places; and yet it is feared very strongly that much of
14 | this would change if this village and its environs were
15 | opened up more and more to the outside.

16 | The construction camps
17 | building in the beginning pipelines and having easy
18 | access to this neighborhood would begin seriously to
19 | undermine the life of the people here. The community
20 | life in which members of the church have a major
21 | interest, thus would become weaker and weaker. Church
22 | life, too, would be affected as people become more and
23 | more drawn away materially. Such are the feelings of
24 | many of us here, and we are uncertain as to what might
25 | happen later on were a pipeline ever to be put in. What
26 | other discoveries will be taken advantage of in these
27 | regions after the first successful venture? Having
28 | served in Teslin, Yukon, for two years, I know some of
29 | the very serious effects of the Alaska Highway and all
30 | that followed afterwards, how the people have had so

1 | much trouble in the area of liquor due to their feelings
2 | of being laugh at and having their life badly undermined
3 | so that their life becomes very meaningless.

4 | We hope this will never happen
5 | here, as has so much happened in other native
6 | communities, where people can become so lost spiritually.

7 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
8 | Reverend Watts, I wonder if, since you are reading from
9 | a statement, we might have it and make it an exhibit
10 | and part of the proceedings. Thank you.

11 | (STATEMENT OF REV. JOHN WATTS MARKED EXHIBIT C-85)
12 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

13 | THE COMMISSIONER: I think
14 | that this might be a good time to adjourn for supper
15 | and maybe we could come back at eight o'clock tonight,
16 | would that be all right? Well, we'll adjourn now and
17 | then we'll come back at eight o'clock tonight and I
18 | should say before we adjourn that everything that all
19 | of you have said Friday and Saturday and again today is
20 | being recorded by these young ladies with the masks, on
21 | tape, and a transcript -- that is a book -- with every-
22 | thing that you have said and that your visitors have
23 | said is going to be prepared in Yellowknife and we will
24 | be sending a copy of the book with everything that
25 | everyone has said to Chief John Joe Kaye and in view
26 | of the fact that much of the evidence is of very
27 | great historical interest to the people of Old Crow and
28 | people throughout Canada, we will send a copy of the
29 | transcript or the book to the School Committee for the
30 | school as well. You'll get that in about a month's

1 | time.

2 | Well, at any rate we'll
3 | adjourn now for supper and come back at eight o'clock
4 | tonight.

5 | (APPLAUSE)

6 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED TO 8 P.M.)

7 | (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

8 | MRS. ELLEN ABEL sworn:

9 | THE INTERPRETER: Mrs. Ellen

10 | Abel. First of all, Judge Berger, I would like to tell
11 | you how happy we are that you have come to visit us
12 | here, and also your staff for your visit to listen and
13 | talk with us.

14 | I'd like to say to you, judge
15 | that when I was young I was brought up way up Johnson
16 | Creek way, there was no school but I was able to -- I
17 | had good parents that raised me up, and my parents knew
18 | how to read in both language, and so in that way he
19 | raised me up very good.

20 | She says it wasn't too easy
21 | to travel, but there was a trader by the name of
22 | Jackson and also my dad and his two brothers, Alfred
23 | and Peter, they had good outfit and so they went far as
24 | to Bell River, that's where they would leave them, and
25 | from there they worked their way up to Johnson Creek.

26 | She says that Jackson was a
27 | trader and so when they come up to where the Bell River
28 | forked into the Porcupine or Johnson Creek, well he
29 | leaves them there and there they do one day of trading
30 | and get their winter supply, and then from there they

1 inquiry and you will be working for us, and I hope that
2 they will listen to you to let them know that we don't
3 want the pipeline.

4 She said that she wasn't
5 going to speak, but last night her brother-in-law came
6 along to her and said that, "You better speak about the
7 pipeline because you always go to church, " and he
8 said, "they might put a pipeline between your house and
9 the church."

10 (LAUGHTER)

11 She said that's why I am
12 speaking, I am talking about the pipeline. I don't
13 want it. That's all I have to say to you, Judge
14 Berger, on the matter.

15 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
16 very much, Mrs. Abel.

17 (WITNESS ASIDE)

18
19 MRS. BELLA CHARLIE sworn:

20 THE WITNESS: I am Bella
21 Charlie. I was born and raised here. I am happy that
22 you have come here to Old Crow to listen to the people
23 of Old Crow. This is concerning the pipeline. I'm
24 against the pipeline as it will affect the people if
25 there is a breakage, the oil will damage the Old Crow
26 Flat here, most Old Crow people go to hunt and trap
27 every year. After the pipeline is built all people
28 will leave and not think about us after that except
29 that they are getting their oil. What will we do? We
30 will be left poor again . What will happen if the

1 pipeline breaks at 60 or 70 below weather in the
2 winter? How will they know that pipeline has broken
3 under the ice? Everyone knows we get really cold
4 weather up here. If this happens, what are the plans
5 now to stop it? If this pipeline breaks it will
6 pollute our lakes and rivers and destroy fish,
7 muskrats, an other, animals which we live on.

8 If we go on to live on these
9 animals which live in polluted waters, we, the people
10 will surely get some sort of sickness from this, . This
11 is my reasons for not wanting the pipeline, and you've
12 heard many other reasons from the people of Old Crow.

13 I would like to thank you for
14 coming to Old Crow.

15 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
16 very much we'll mark your
17 statement as an exhibit and it will become part of the
18 record of the proceedings of the inquiry. Thank you,
19 (STATEMENT OF BELLA CHARLIE MARKED EXHIBIT C-86)

20 (WITNESS ASIDE)

21

22 ROGER ALLEN sworn:

23 THE WITNESS: Judge Berger
24 and the people of Old Crow, my name is Roger Allen, and
25 I'm married to one of the local girls here.

26 First I would like to express
27 my views in regards to the proposed pipeline which will
28 eventually cross our northland. One of our main
29 concerns is the employment opportunities given to the
30 native people in the operation and maintenance of the

1 | gas-gathering systems, and on the pipeline itself. I
2 | am presently employed in Alberta by a member of the
3 | Canadian Arctic Gas consortium. I would like to bring
4 | forth an example of unfairness in work distribution
5 | that can occur during the pipeline construction and
6 | during the operation of it.

7 | I think a couple of the guys
8 | from this town here have been on the same program as I
9 | am. Firstly, Arctic Gas told us during our interview
10 | that after a period of on-the-job training we would be
11 | guaranteed operating jobs. However, after ten months
12 | we were still doing the same jobs, so when we
13 | questioned the foreman on this particular matter, he
14 | told us to mind our own business. Yet when a summer
15 | student came in, he was given that job and others
16 | within one month that we were originally promised. It
17 | wasn't that we weren't capable of doing these jobs;
18 | they didn't want to give us an equal opportunity. This
19 | is the way we've been treated during on-the-job
20 | training programs, and what guarantee do we have in the
21 | future that this will not happen?

22 | We know for a fact that we
23 | cannot rely on white man's word alone, as we've had a
24 | past history of too many words and too little action We
25 | must have something more concrete than verbal promises
26 | in order to benefit the young, old, and all those
27 | concerned. Over the past couple of days I have heard
28 | numerous people complain about seismic operations, and
29 | work done in this area.

30 | In 1973 I worked for the

1 Fisheries & Marine Service in Inuvik and had the
2 opportunity to monitor various marine seismic
3 operations in the Beaufort Sea and on the Reindeer
4 Channel, When I represented the Fisheries the seismic
5 companies kept well within the guide-lines set down;
6 however, I have heard from the native employees that
7 when no one was around to monitor these operations they
8 would kill thousands of fish before finally quit
9 shooting. So I feel without constant monitoring of
10 various seismic programs the various seismic companies
11 will not stay within the set guide-lines, and therefore
12 in some way affect our environment which is very
13 sensitive.

14 In concluding, I would like
15 to say what many others have already said, I would not
16 like to see the way of life disturbed by the pipeline -
17 proposed pipeline.

18 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
19 very much, Mr. Allen. Mr. Allen's statement will be
20 marked as an exhibit and will become part of the
21 permanent record of these proceedings. Thank you,
22 (STATEMENT OF ROGER ALLEN MARKED EXHIBIT C-87)

23 (WITNESS ASIDE)

24 MR. VEALE: Charlie Abel, he
25 has already been sworn and spoken at this Inquiry.

26 CHARLIE ABEL, resumed:

27 THE WITNESS: Judge Berger, I
28 would like to say -- I would like to add a little more
29 to my other speech. I hope you don't mind.

30

1 THE INTERPRETER: The other
2 time I have spoken already, but today I want to speak
3 again mostly of the young people and first of all I
4 would like to say I've seen many young people have
5 spoken now, which makes me very happy.

6 If they would keep on, if them
7 young people would keep on doing this, come to the
8 meetings, -take part in all the meetings, and this I know
9 will prepare them for the future. Because of the Inquiry
10 now they have come up and gave their brief, and I thought
11 it was very good because it's all for the future.

12 As I was listening into this
13 Inquiry here, with all the people talking I hear them,
14 I understand them all, a lot of them have brought up
15 points, something that will be a help to every one of
16 us in the future. This is something that I'm really
17 happy about.

18 One of the young boys, Charlie
19 Blake, when he spoke he says, "No matter how close the
20 pipeline is going to be to this little Town of Old Crow,
21 " he would like to see a boundary line in between the
22 pipeline and the settlement here. I thought this was a
23 good idea, have a boundary line in between the pipeline
24 and the settlement here, no matter how close it would
25 be, then this would --in that way they wouldn't come
26 in so often, only just when they need something that
27 they really need.

28 Bertha Allen also brought a
29 brief here and I thought she brought out many good
30 points as she spoke here.

1 Now these names that I've
2 mentioned who spoke something to think about are not
3 the only ones that get to talk. I think everyone that
4 came up here to speak done very well. While I was
5 listening many times Ron Veale here, our lawyer, ask
6 questions to these -- to several people, mostly about
7 this Crow Flat area.

8 A couple of years ago they
9 had a crew of men, oh, six years ago they had a crew of
10 men here working in the Crow Flat, and a lot of the
11 boys that they had on the job are still with us here in
12 town today. These men were working up in the Crow
13 Flats with these boys with them, and many times they
14 blast in the lakes and by blasting in the lakes they
15 see a lot of dead fish come up and also even young dead
16 rats come up from the bottom of this lake.

17 Then there was another crew
18 that came down the winter road and they also went back
19 in the Crow Flats to work on some project. Before they
20 went into the Crow Flat area we had a meeting with them,
21 because of what we seen the other crew did, we don't
22 want them to do the same thing. So we had a meeting
23 with them and told them not to blast any more lakes if
24 they going to do any kind of project up in the Crow
25 Flats. We agreed with them or we told them that if they
26 want to do any blasting, to keep away from the lakes,
27 and then they can do their blasting.

28 Going back towards the Crow
29 Flat area, they were building this winter road and when
30 they got up wherever they wanted to go, they put: up a

1 base camp, and that's where he seen a plane land. This
2 Forestry plane it was, went over there to check on
3 them. I also went there with their mail. Will Taylor
4 was the Forestry person, and when he caught up with us
5 up there, he asked me if we have crossed any small
6 river or creek, and I told him that we did, which was
7 too far away from the camp, so I went back there with
8 him.

9 After that he closed that
10 camp for a while. He asked him how long would he close
11 that camp for. He said that it wasn't too long. He
12 said he had some work to do with them on e project that
13 they were doing; after that is over he would open up
14 for them again.

15 Then they haven't bothered
16 the Crow Flat again. We had a meeting about it and we
17 all told one another that things like this wouldn't
18 happen in Crow Flat again. He says where they cross
19 this small river or creek, they been blocking
20 everything up to make a bridge. They put earth, snow
21 and everything that they could make bridge of, and he
22 told them that before they leave that place they have
23 to clear it out so that it will run same as any other
24 time again.

25 After that was done, after
26 they had crossed that creek, they were told to clear
27 it before they would leave, they would have asked "How
28 should we go about this crossing creek if it would
29 happen again?"

30 And he said that he told them

1 Peter Moses' work. Away back there before he became
2 chief here, when he was made chief, he was chief for 18
3 years , he was the kind of man that everybody liked,
4 both young and old. He said he also looked after the
5 poor people. But when he heard about the war, it was
6 during the war when he was a chief, he felt so sorry
7 for these people killing, one another, a lot of
8 children would be left without a father that he went
9 around town here in this little village talking with
10 different people, collecting money, and so when he
11 collected some money from these people that he talked
12 with, he sent this money over to England to show how
13 they felt about these poor children. And that is how
14 it was in the time of King George that a medal was sent
15 to him by the king, which I mentioned yesterday.

16 On account of that, of what
17 he did, he also had a visitor here, a special visitor.
18 He says he doesn't remember his name too well, but I
19 think his name was McDonald, and this person came here
20 to visit him. He says he still remember the old man's
21 words before when he got old, and not before not long
22 before he died. lie says he wanted Charlie to become
23 chief and he says that it wasn't going to be easy, but
24 he wanted him to try to become a chief.

25 Because of the old man's
26 words, I have tried. I was chief for my group of people
27 here in Old Crow for 17 years. This is about all I
28 would like to say to you again, Judge Berger, but I
29 would just like to let you know that whatever's been
30 said here in this Inquiry, everybody is very happy about

1 | what has been said to you and we hope that everything
2 | will turn out the way the people want their land to be.
3 | He doesn't exactly remember, but
4 | when he first became a chief somewhere in the 1950's,
5 | that it was the same time that Queen Elizabeth, the queen
6 | and her husband was to visit Dawson, and that's where --
7 | that was one of his first trips that he made as a chief
8 | at that time. That's all I have to say to you now. I
9 | thought I just want to show you this, Peter Moses' medal
10 | that was sent to him by King George V.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: It's a
12 | remarkable medal. Thank you very much for allowing us
13 | to see it.

14 | A Well, thank you very
15 | much.

16 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
17 | Mr. Abel, and we appreciate your speaking again,

18 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

19 |
20 | JAMES ALLEN sworn:

21 | THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger and
22 | staff, my name is James Allen. I am employed by the
23 | Yukon Lands & Forests Service. My home town is flames
24 | Junction, I was brought up in Haines Junction, and I
25 | ant a member of the Kootchin Tribe, and being a public
26 | servant I cannot express too much of my own opinion in
27 | the political issues of the pipeline, but I can tell
28 | you about my experience living with the people in Old
29 | Crow.

30 | I first moved into Old Crow

1 | in November, 1972. I have once lived up here one
2 | winter and the past three summers. I was sent up as an
3 | assistant ranger in the middle of winter, too. The
4 | people here were very helpful in getting me settled in.
5 | The house was pretty bare when I moved in, but they
6 | helped me unpack the furniture and other household
7 | article. The first thing I noticed was the generosity
8 | of the people here. Like for instance, the first
9 | winter I spent here I would be invited out for dinner
10 | or supper at least once a day during the whole winter,
11 | and I noticed when a person walks in on a family during
12 | a meal he or she would be invited to the table. Having
13 | to cook my own meals, I used this tactic quite often
14 | during the winter.

15 | THE COMMISSIONER: You
16 | learned quickly.

17 | A Right. In Old Crow there
18 | is also a very strong family unity. Last winter I worked
19 | in Watson Lake and I really noticed the family breakdown
20 | problem there. The main cause is alcohol. In many
21 | communities in Southern Yukon, alcohol is readily
22 | available from the nearest bar or Liquor Store. The
23 | children have no home life whatsoever down there, and the
24 | parents wake up with a hangover and go down to the bar to
25 | find a cure and end up drunk again all over. The
26 | children in Old Crow have respect for their parents and
27 | usually do not touch alcohol until they go to Whitehorse
28 | or any outside community to further their education.

29 | The people of Old Crow are
30 | very independent as compared to the people in the south

1 who live near white communities. They have less
2 welfare and social assistance here than in the south;
3 and in the south they are given welfare assistance,
4 then become dependent on the welfare cheques to buy
5 food, clothing, and mainly alcohol for themselves.

6 Right now the people in Old
7 Crow are proud to be able to make a living on their own.
8 The old people in the community have lived a hard life;
9 it may have been a hard life, but also a healthy one, as
10 can be seen by the number of surviving old people here,
11 as compared to other Indian communities in the south.
12 In the south they are put into Old Folks Homes and
13 looked after, dare they live in their own houses and
14 still pack their own firewood during the winter.

15 I have hunted and fished for
16 the people here during my time with them, and as I have
17 stated many times, they do not waste any meat or any
18 food. When I first arrived in Old Crow I was surprised
19 at how young the boys here participated in the caribou
20 hunts. It has been their way of life for many years,
21 therefore they have to learn young to survive up here.
22 My friend, Stephen Foster, taught me a few tricks in
23 hunting, as have some of the others; but I was
24 fortunate when I was young to help my father in hunting
25 moose where I grew up.

26 If the pipeline moved a camp
27 of 800 men near the Old Crow, I think it would be
28 disastrous for the community as a whole. Many of the
29 ;social diseases which have destroyed many Indian
30 communities in the south would move in, such as

1 | alcoholism, child abuse, mental and physical health,
2 | broken homes, broken marriages, and many other points
3 | that break down a healthy society. Also where there
4 | are 800 men, some sort of liquor outlet soon follows.
5 | Liquor would become easily attainable in the village.

6 | The white people say money is
7 | the root of all evil, but in our Indian communities
8 | today, the liquor is the root of all evil.

9 | That's all I have to say for
10 | tow, Mr. Berger. Thanks.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
12 | Mr. Allen, for a most thoughtful presentation. I
13 | wonder if you would let us keep it and have it marked as
14 | an exhibit?

15 | (STATEMENT OF JAMES ALLEN
16 | MARKED EXHIBIT C-88)

17 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

18 | LAURIE NETRO, sworn:

19 | THE WITNESS: Judge Berger,
20 | first of all I'd like to thank you and all the people
21 | who is travelling with you for coming up to Old Crow
22 | and listening to the people of Old Crow.

23 | My name is Laurie Netro, I was
24 | born and raised in Old Crow. As you know, most of the
25 | people gave their speeches. All of us heard them, we
26 | now that there is much feeling of love for our land which
27 | belongs to us, the people of Old Crow. The proposed
28 | pipeline route is supposed to be put through the most
29 | important piece of land to the Old Crow Love, the Old
30 | Crow Flats. I do not agree with this pipeline route at

1 all. There will be many problems on this project and
2 many good people will be ruined, not only good people but
3 a good land on which they make their living.

4 Also the animals the people
5 live on for many years can be destroyed by this
6 pipeline. The young people, my generation now will
7 need this land for our future, and also for the future
8 of our children. We depend on this land as much as our
9 parents do. We grow up in this area. We grew up in
10 this area. Our parents taught us how to hunt and trap
11 like parents taught them. If the pipeline comes
12 through, what will become of our future? What can we
13 look forward to in Crow Flat if this pipeline breaks?
14 Are we going to look forward to dead or sick muskrats
15 floating in the polluted lakes, or forests with no
16 birds singing? I do not think any stupid person will
17 even go out into the kind of country to try to hunt in
18 that kind of ground. All that they could do is to
19 remember how beautiful and rich this land used to be.

20 I do not want to see this
21 happen to our land, and to our people. I want to bring
22 up the subject on school because this is the most
23 important part of everyone's lives today. This
24 education part can bring some problems to small towns
25 like ours. The problem of leaving home, leaving our way
26 o life, and then trying to get used to different way of
27 life. I know this personally because I hate experienced
28 it, and I know I speak for most of my home-town friends,
29 students who have-t6 leave home need a lot of
30 encouragement from parents and friends all through their

1 | school years.

2 | As some people mentioned, the
3 | school students are coming home after their schooling
4 | is finished, which is right. There is nothing in this
5 | world like home and living our way life, also eating
6 | our kind of food, which is from our own land.

7 | If the pipeline goes through.
8 | the pipeline -- and the pipeline breaks, our town the
9 | pipeline goes through and the pipeline breaks, do you
10 | think our Old Crow students will want to come home
11 | after everything is ruined and not much people in this
12 | town? The people keep assuring us that this pipeline
13 | will not break, yet the only proof they've got is by
14 | putting it in and find out a couple of days or years
15 | later that it can break and disturb the land, people
16 | and animals. How do people get so greedy for such
17 | things when they know it can destroy other human beings
18 | on the other side, or do they care?

19 | Also the large camp of men
20 | that's supposed to be put just outside our community,
21 | this will be a different story. How many of these
22 | people will want to stay at the camp on the days when
23 | they have days off? They will want to come into town.
24 | How many of these guys will be nice people?

25 | There is also a question of
26 | alcohol and drugs. There will probably be a lot of
27 | smuggling of drugs and alcohol into our village and we
28 | don't want it in here. The families, boys and girls
29 | may lose control of themselves with these drugs and
30 | alcohol and later will not even think of going back to

1 their hunting grounds during the different seasons.
2 certainly do not think we need such a disaster in our
3 village, and also to our people.

4 About the camps, where are
5 they going to dump their sewage and the garbage? I
6 hope we can keep on living the way we are today, for
7 tomorrow and forever, developing in our own way for
8 generations to come, I do not want the proposed
9 pipeline route through our country.

10 That will be all for now.

11 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
12 very much, Miss Netro, Maybe you would let us have your
13 statement and it could be marked as an exhibit in the
14 record of the Inquiry. Thank you very much.

15 (STATEMENT OF MISS LAURIE NETRO MARKED EXHIBIT C-8)

16 (WITNESS ASIDE)

17
18 CHARLIE BLAKE, resumed:

19 MR. VEALE: This is Charlie
20 Blake, and he's been sworn in already.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. I
22 remember Mr. Blake well.

23 THE WITNESS: All I would
24 like to say is that I don't want the pipeline to be
25 built by the Crow Flats. The people here need the
26 country to make their living from hunting and trapping,
27 and if the pipeline should be built, say that a break
28 in the pipe occurred and a forest fire started, this
29 will destroy the whole area.

30 I can remember when I was

1 | working for a geological crew at Fort McPherson to Old
2 | Crow, I saw where the ground was all torn up and the
3 | creeks were dammed with trees and muskeg so they
4 | couldn't hardly run. Also I saw where there were tanks
5 | and old trailers had been left.

6 | If the pipeline is built, all
7 | it will bring for the people of Old Crow is that here
8 | will be home breakups, and there will be quite a bit of
9 | hostility among the people if this happened. Why don't
10 | they build the pipeline through Alaska if they need it
11 | that bad? Also I know what happened to the Indian
12 | people down south, and I wouldn't want this to happen
13 | here.

14 | We are living a good life
15 | here in Old Crow, and we don't want to be destroyed by
16 | the white people. Also we would like to run our own
17 | affairs and not be bothered by the pipeline people.
18 | You white people don't know how we make our living in
19 | this isolated village. All I would like to see is that
20 | a freeze line be put between the camp and the village
21 | so that people of the camp cannot come into the village
22 | unless it is for serious business

23 | Also, if the pipeline is to
24 | come through, there should be more R.C.M.P.s to handle
25 | the people from the camp if they should start trouble
26 | in the village. That's all I've got to say.

27 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
28 | Mr. Blake. You were reading your statement. Could we
29 | keep it and have it marked as an exhibit? Thank you.
30 | (STATEMENT OF CHARLIE BLAKE MARKED EXHIBIT C-90)

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(WITNESS ASIDE)

THE COMMISSIONER: I think
we'll just take a five-minute break now Mr. Veale.

(PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED FOR FIVE MINUTES)

(PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, carry
on, please. Ladies and gentlemen, just so we make sure
we hear what everyone is saying who comes forward.

MISS ALICE ROSIE, sworn:

THE WITNESS: Judge Berger
and the people of Old Crow, my name is Alice Rosie. On
behalf of my husband and my children, I would like to
express my views on the proposed gas pipeline.

We do not think that it is
right to spoil our land because we live off it, and do
not know another way of life. How are the older people
going to survive without our fish and caribou? Sure,
you white people may have luxuries and live very
comfortably with a big pile o bills to pay. But e
would much rather live the way we do now. Free and
very much alive. We may not have the luxuries you have
but to give up our beautiful unspoiled land is too big
a price to pay. We may heat up our homes from that gas
and pay a big price for it, but yet too, we can walk a
ways and gather up wood without trespassing or paying
any fees. If we want to go for a ride to see some
wildlife, we don't have to pay \$10 a fee. Do they have
a right to ask us o give up this beautiful land of
ours. Do they have a right to spoil our land and co

1 | destroy our wild game for their benefit? Do they have
2 | any right to ask us to change our way of life that we
3 | have lived for centuries? Do they have any right to
4 | ask us to decide our future?

5 | We live peacefully, or as
6 | someone mentioned earlier, in harmony with nature here
7 | in Old Crow, You won't find very many place like this
8 | left in this world, and we happen to be one of the
9 | lucky ones. So let's get together and fight to keep it
10 | this way.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
12 | thank you very much. That's a very fine statement.
13 | I'd like that marked as an exhibit.

14 | (STATEMENT OF MRS. ALICE FROST MARKED EXHIBIT C-91)

15 |
16 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

17 |
18 | THE COMMISSIONER: I'd like
19 | to see that when you've marked that.

20 | MRS. DOLLY JOSIE sworn;

21 | THE INTERPRETER: First of
22 | all, Judge Berger, I would like to say a few words but
23 | before that I would like to thank you for your visit,
24 | and also your staff to come to this people of Old Crow
25 | and to listen to what they have to say or what they
26 | have to tell you.

27 | I haven't got very much to
28 | say but just a few words that I want to let you know.

29 | When you went out amongst the
30 | Crow Flat people in their hunting camps you seen for

1 yourself how they go about making their living out of
2 the land they are living on. She says that last night
3 Mrs. Bertha Allen spoke to you. Well, we were raised
4 together by the same old man, but since she has grown
5 up she has moved onto Northwest Territory, therefore
6 it's not often that I see her around here.

7 She says now I'm going to say
8 a few words about the pipeline. I don't feel it's
9 right that they should have the pipeline come into our
10 -- this part of our land. She says this spring I was
11 up to the Rat Flats, Crow Flats, and I was with my
12 children, and during the time that they were up there
13 hunting they have a lot of fun doing what they were
14 able to do, go out hunting.

15 She says that when Mrs.
16 Bertha Allen was talking, she told us this is about the
17 only time that we have a chance to put in our words, if
18 we don't want this pipeline to come into our land. Now
19 since this spring when I was out on the Crow Flats I've
20 been thinking, and I also thought what would my grand-
21 dad say if it was in his time that this talk of
22 pipeline was the way it is now? He would have said
23 lots because we don't want to see the pipeline come
24 through because it will really damage all what we enjoy
25 doing today.

26 That's about all that I would
27 like to tell you, Judge Berger.

28 THE COMMISSIONER; Thank you,
29 Mrs. Josie.

30 (WITNESS ASIDE)

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MISS RENE CHARLIE, sworn:

THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, my name is Rene Charlie. I am happy you're here to hear the people of Old Crow speak of their fear against the pipeline. I do not agree with the pipeline going through our land. If it does, what will our people do to make their living? We have lived off our land for many years. Most of the people here are unemployed and depend on the land. This is our land and it should not be disturbed by building a pipeline.

Old Crow Flats is important to our people for hunting and trapping. It is a beautiful country, as you've seen for yourself this spring on your visit to the flats. I like to see our land claim settlement be before the pipeline. If the pipeline does go through, I would like to see rules put down to protect our environment and to give jobs to all native people first. Also keep all outsiders to come into our village. We do not want our people to be disturbed. This is all, and I hope you will think of the people of Old Crow when you make the final decision for the proposed pipeline.

THE COMMISSIONER; Thank you very much. We'll keep this statement, if we may, and mark this as an exhibit.

(STATEMENT OF MISS RENE CHARLIE MARKED EXHIBIT C-92)

(WITNESS ASIDE)

1 MISS LOUISE FROST sworn:

2 THE WITNESS: I, Louise

3 Frost, have been a resident of Old Crow for the past 21
4 years, would not like to see the pipeline go through
5 Old Crow for certain reasons.

6 I can see our country being
7 destroyed and my people pushed on reservations, and the
8 white men taking over as they please. We are very
9 happy here living off the land, free from pollution and
10 fast-moving development. If we wanted to have our,
11 country changed, we would have done so and not worry
12 about it. The pipeline is only the beginning of all
13 this. If it ever does come through there will be a
14 time come when other companies will want to join in on
15 this. Any major development that has taken place in
16 the north has been of a rapid nature. Their only
17 purpose of coming here is extract the nonrenewable
18 resources, not to the benefit of northerners, but of
19 the Northern Canadians, Southern Canadians and
20 Americans. To really bring the whole picture into
21 focus you can describe it as the rape of the northland
22 to satisfy the greed and the needs of southern
23 consumers, and when development of this nature happens
24 it only destroys, it does not leave any permanent jobs
25 for the people who make the north their home.

26 The whole process does not
27 leave very much for us to be proud of, and along with
28 their equipment and technology they also impose on the
29 northern people their white culture and all its value,
30 systems which leaves nothing to the people who have

1 | been living off the land for thousands of years. So to
2 | put it bluntly, the process of the white man is
3 | destroying the Indian ways of life.

4 | If there is any development
5 | takes place in Northern Canada it should be a
6 | controlled development and move according to the wishes
7 | and guidance of the native people. Thank you, THE
8 | COMMISSIONER: Thank you very much. We'll keep your
9 | statement if you'll let us have it and mark it as an
10 | exhibit.

11 | (STATEMENT OF MISS LOUISE FROST MARKED EXHIBIT C-93)

12 |

13 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

14 |

15 | MISS HERTA RICHTER sworn:

16 | MR. VEALE: I understand that
17 | your name is Miss Herta Richter and you are a
18 | registered nurse and a public health nurse. You have
19 | been in Old Crow for 21/2 years and you previously
20 | worked in the communities of Fort Good Hope, Fort
21 | Liard, Fort Resolution, and in Yellowknife. Perhaps
22 | you could just give the judge some of the initial
23 | impressions that you have of old Crow.

24 | A When I first came to
25 | Old Crow I noticed that in some ways it was very much
26 | like some of the other small communities in which I
27 | have worked. I have also worked in several places in
28 | Alberta, in Southern Alberta and in Northern Alberta,
29 | and some of the basic problems are very much the same.
30 | But then there are also other things that are unique to

1 each area.

2 Before I go any further, I
3 think I would just like to mention something that
4 others have talked about that perhaps you might not
5 realize just how important it is, and this is a little
6 advertising for nutrition. You have heard the women
7 mention the berry-picking, how important it is to their
8 lives, and that is very true because as you know, fresh
9 fruit and vegetables are very expensive here and
10 although the store tries, we really do not get enough.
11 So therefore the berries are very important and people
12 have told me in other areas also that when the berry
13 crop was poor there was much more disease, more skin
14 diseases, more colds among the children than the
15 summers where the berry-picking was good. So I hope
16 you understand why we keep saying so much about the
17 berries. Otherwise people may think, "Well, why fuss
18 about a berry patch?"

19 I notice in the "Social Guide
20 Lines," on page 25, guide-line No. 6, that any
21 certificate issued will be strictly conditioned in
22 respect of the protection of the rights of northern
23 residents, and I hope that also includes those of us
24 who are working up here and although we may seem
25 transient, we really are a permanent part of the north.

26 Further down the page, guide-
27 line No, 7:

28 "To give priority to a higher standard of living
29 and equality of opportunity for northerners by
30 means compatible with their own preferences and

1 | that first thing you said, the darkness?

2 | A There was a study done
3 | on the affects of darkness on people, how we react to
4 | the long winter. Unfortunately, we never heard the end
5 | of the study or what the result was.

6 | Q Well, I'd like to find
7 | out about that study. Mr. Wick of my staff is here;
8 | we'll see what he can do about discovering what
9 | happened to it. Anyway, carry on. Sorry to have
10 | interrupted you.

11 | A That's fine. My main
12 | reason for mentioning this -

13 | Q It must have had some
14 | affect on the person who did it.

15 | A -- well, as a side
16 | remark, most of us don't feel that the darkness as the
17 | darkness itself bothers us too much. We become used
18 | to it. It does have some inconveniences, though, like
19 | it's always colder at that time of year and any outside
20 | work becomes more difficult; but as far as it being
21 | dark, that part really -- in some ways it's quite
22 | peaceful and comfortable.

23 | Getting back to the surveys.
24 | Some of the people doing these surveys were very
25 | considerate and did their work. They were fine
26 | people. They gave us information on what they were
27 | doing and gave many interesting talks to the people
28 | here, so that in a way it was a form of education.
29 | They did this without intruding on the private lives;
30 | but then there have been others who came in here

1 | without regard or consideration for peoples' feelings,
2 | and they behaved as though people here were on
3 | exhibition. You realize, how you would feel if you
4 | were having perhaps a barbecue in your back yard and I
5 | came to your home and I said, "Well, isn't that
6 | interesting? May I photograph you? What kind of food
7 | is that you're eating? Well, isn't that strange,
8 | could I have some?"

9 |
10 | You can see how this would
11 | intrude into your private life, and then they would ask
12 | you how you do various things and how you used to live,
13 | and who your relatives were, and just innumerable
14 | things. All this adds to the stress of the people, and
15 | although they may not realize it, it does create quite
16 | a bit of conflict, and conflict in such a way that they
17 | don't know what to do about it.

18 | MR. VEALE: You've had some
19 | experience with the barges coming down the Mackenzie
20 | River, and I wonder if you would tell the judge &out
21 | that and how that may apply to Old Crow?

22 | A When I worked in Fort
23 | Good Hope and the freight barge would come, naturally
24 | we would all be happy to see the goods come because it
25 | meant a lot more food and whatever else -- fuel oil,
26 | different things that we needed, and also a form of
27 | entertainment in a way. However, it did have its
28 | problems, too, because although some of the captains
29 | were very strict with their men, some of the men would
30 | go up-town and fraternize with the local people and
31 | whatever diseases they might have, they passed them on,

1 location of the airport with respect to Old Crow and
2 some of the things that result from that?

3 A Do you mean the amount
4 of freight that can be brought in, or the nearness?
5 Well, you can see from -- I guess they've taken that
6 picture out that you saw before.

7 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, it's
8 in my mind.

9 A You recall the
10 photograph and how large the airport is in relation to
11 the town. Now there is no room for expansion here. We
12 find it hard to accommodate a great number of
13 strangers. We tried our best with the group that came
14 now, but a few extra came and you can see that it did
15 create a little bit of a strain. Now, with any larger
16 group of people, we certainly can't accommodate too
17 many. Well, the ones down south may say, "Why don't
18 they build a hotel and more accommodation?"

19 But if you look closely at
20 the town, where really would you put any more accommo-
21 dation? The land across the airport is mostly a swamp
22 and three lakes, and besides that would take more of
23 our ski territory and we need that skiing for the
24 youngsters.

25 Another small item that does
26 come with easy transportation, probably due to this
27 good airport, is people of a parasitic nature that come
28 up here and buy one-way tickets and expect us to look
29 after them, and then they expect to have a free ride
30 out, and this has happened several times since I have

1 | quite a bit when I came, and there seemed to be quite a
2 | bit of violence; and now that I think back on it, there
3 | still is drinking but they are not fighting as much,
4 | and when they are fighting it's not as bad. They are
5 | not injuring each other quite as badly. It has been
6 | quite some time since I've had to go to someone's home
7 | and check them because of the bruises all over their
8 | face due to a form of violence and fighting that they
9 | tell me, "Well, I didn't do anything to call for this
10 | sort of action."

11 | Q You said when you began
12 | that you first came Old Crow seemed to you like any
13 | other small communities, isolated communities in the
14 | north. Were you going to expand on that? I think Mr.
15 | Veale had a question at that point and you didn't
16 | complete your thought. Do you remember what you said?

17 | A I think I was going to
18 | lead up to the main fact of the tension in the town
19 | that was probably caused by reasons that they couldn't
20 | understand, by the intrusion of the outside world in
21 | too rapid a fashion by too many strangers coming around
22 | and prying into their private lives. Now when I worked
23 | in those other small towns, things had not come to this
24 | stage yet. There was no great concern about the
25 | exploration; there was some going on but people took it
26 | quite casually and there were strangers in town but
27 | some of them did not mix quite as freely.

28 | MR. VEALE: Last question:
29 | How do you personally feel about Old Crow and the
30 | proposed pipeline development?

1 | A Well, I'm glad my
2 | department didn't restrict my speech here. I'm not
3 | sure what they'll say. I hear there was some criticism
4 | in Northwest Territories. However --

5 | THE COMMISSIONER: There was
6 | some.

7 | A considering that they
8 | haven't warned me, I'll just go ahead and say that the
9 | pipeline will certainly be a great disaster to this
10 | area, and I'm not sure if I could tolerate to stay here
11 | after it comes. It would be too painful to see the
12 | change in these people and in the surroundings. Thank
13 | you very much.

14 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
15 | very much.

16 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

17 |
18 | GEORGIE MOSES sworn:

19 | THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger,
20 | my name is Georgie Moses. I live here in Old Crow.
21 | I was born and raised up here. I make my living
22 | off the land I live on. That is why I don't want
23 | the pipeline to be built at all. The people will
24 | change their way of living. Today we have a good life.
25 | The pipeline will spoil everything for the younger
26 | children that are growing up today. What will we get
27 | from the pipeline? Nothing that will help us.

28 | Also it will affect the
29 | caribou and many other animals. A compressor station
30 | that will be built along the line will scare the

1 animals away. We won't see as many caribou as today.
2 Suppose? a camp of 800 men is near Old Crow will be
3 not like today. Some bad people will come to town and
4 give the, young teenagers drink, and that will be bad
5 for the parents.

6 This land once belonged to
7 our great, great grandfathers so why do they want the
8 pipeline to be built through our land? So once again I
9 would like to say I don't want the pipeline to be
10 built.

11 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
12 very much, Mr. Moses. Could we keep or statement that
13 you read, please? Thank you.

14 (STATEMENT OF GEORGIE MOSES MARKED EXHIBIT C-94)

15 THE COMMISSIONER: That
16 statement of Mr. Moses will be marked as an exhibit and
17 constitute a part of the permanent record of the
18 proceedings of the Inquiry.

19 (WITNESS ASIDE)

20
21 RANDY CHARLIE sworn:

22 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, my
23 name is Randy Charlie, and on behalf of the people of
24 Old Crow, I am against the pipeline. I am against
25 pipeline because it would damage our land, land, lakes
26 and probably damage and kill most small animals that we
27 use, like muskrats, fish, birds, etc. If we have a
28 break or bust in-the pipeline, the gas that's running
29 through, it will kill trees and damage the land because
30 I was working on a pipeline down south and we had a

1 | break, one small little break caused 20 acres --

2 | THE COMMISSIONER: Where was
3 | that you were working down south?

4 | A Rocky Mountain House.

5 | Q In Alberta?

6 | A Yes. 8-inch pipe.

7 | Q 8-inch?

8 | A Yes, 8-inch pipe.

9 | Q And that pipe broke?

10 | A It broke and the gas

11 | squirt out and killed about 20 acres of land, big
12 | trees. Pollution would be another problem. There will
13 | probably be oil spills and empty drums and leave other
14 | source of garbage behind because I work with a lot of
15 | oil companies and they always do that. It always
16 | occurs.

17 | But Judge Berger, you know as
18 | much as I do how the native people down south are
19 | treated due to the pipeline, pushed on reserve. I
20 | myself do not want to see another down south. I mean
21 | by this is seeing us being brushed aside like down
22 | south, this is all I have to say.

23 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, thank
24 | you very much. We would like to keep your statement and
25 | have it marked as an exhibit to constitute part of the
26 | permanent record of the Inquiry. Thank you again,
27 | (STATEMENT OF RANDY CHARLIE MARKED EXHIBIT C-95)

28 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

29 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED FOR FIVE MINUTES)

30 | (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and
2 gentlemen, we'll call the meeting together again.

3 MR. VEALE: Judge Berger,
4 Herta Richter is back on the stand and now has two
5 points to clarify her previous evidence.

6
7 MISS HERTA RICHTER resumed:

8 MR. VEALE: You had a comment
9 to make on the surveys and the effect that the surveys
10 had on the community. Do you want to complete that
11 point?

12 A In my remark about the
13 lack of violence now, although they are drinking as
14 much and although there is some fighting going on, I'm
15 not sure whether I mentioned the fact that Canadian
16 Wildlife is no longer doing a survey here this year,
17 and also Renewable Resources do not have a survey, no
18 personnel in town.

19 Now I realize there is an
20 archeological camp, but they are quite some distance
21 away and the intrusion is not as great.

22 Q What effect. has that
23 had on the tension in the community?

24 A The archeological camp
25 being some distance away has lessened the stress on the
26 camp. If they were right in town it probably would be
27 the same as before, and people probably would be
28 reacting, and I believe the reason that they would is
29 because they are not just sure of the future. The
30 stress, when you can do something about it, is much

1 | less than when you don't really know what the future
2 | holds for you and what you can do about it.

3 | Q You were also going to
4 | make a comment about the number of people that are in
5 | town this very day with the Berger Inquiry.

6 | A You can realize that you
7 | group here today is having an impact on us, and in a
8 | way this is an example of what a larger group entering
9 | our community might have upon us. However, the stress
10 | that you are causing us at this moment is only very
11 | temporary, and you being here and your purpose here is
12 | giving us hope for the future, and the fact that we are
13 | able to get up and speak to you and tell you what we
14 | are thinking is giving us hope, and therefore we are
15 | relieving our stress in this fashion.

16 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
17 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

18 |

19 | ROBERT SHARPE sworn;

20 | THE WITNESS: Judge Berger, I
21 | very much appreciate the opportunity of being able to
22 | speak before the Commission and I feel I have some
23 | points.

24 | MR. VEALE: What's your
25 | name?

26 | A Oh, I'm sorry. My name
27 | is Bob Sharpe. I've asked Ron to prompt me because I'm
28 | not as good at this as many people before me. I am the
29 | school principal here. I have been for two years and
30 | will be this coming year. Prior to being the school

1 principal here, I was the senior research assistant in
2 the Stager Study, I worked in the community and was
3 involved in construct research design in many other
4 aspects, aid prior to that was a regional planner and
5 did an amount of work in developing local government in
6 the Territories. Prior to that I was a school
7 principal in Ross River for three years. That's
8 another Yukon community.

9 I want to make two general
10 points, and try to elaborate them, initially starting
11 off with specific details and then put forward two
12 generalizations for your consideration, because I feel
13 they are of quite a bit of importance in the decision
14 you make related to the Federal Government's influence
15 over a pipeline, whether a pipeline should be built
16 OED: not, and which route to adopt.

17 I'd like to preface these
18 comments by saying that I really believe that your
19 Commission Report is going to have a significant effect
20 on these decisions, and it's in this thought that I and
21 many other people in this town have taken part in this
22 Commission as we have.

23 The first issue I want to
24 raise is one dealing with economics. Over the last
25 couple of years we've had many discussions about the
26 opportunities that Gas Arctic will bring, should either
27 Route "A" or Route "B", the Northern Route or the route
28 near Old Crow be built.

29 Let me give an illustration
30 if I may. They have said if their gas line comes near

1 Old Crow, "We can provide gas to the community,
2 reducing your costs for fuel heating, man hours, and so
3 forth."

4 Now, this is only too
5 frequently the kind of decision you see in government,
6 which on the surface appears to be a generous and a well-
7 thought-out economic scheme. But when one makes a closer
8 analysis it falls far short of that kind of thing.

9 Let me give you an illustra-
10 tion of this point, from my view as a school principal,
11 and working in the Old Crow School with the people in
12 Old Crow. Currently we're a wood-burner . I'm sure
13 you must have noticed that as you walked by town, it's
14 difficult to miss 350 cords sitting out in the lot.
15 That supplies jobs to five men. Those men are
16 maintenance crew, custodians, woodstockers, builders,
17 contractors, teachers, they do many things in the
18 community. Should gas be brought into this community
19 it would become a marginal decision as to whether or
20 not we should stay with wood or go into gas, and if?
21 this school went to gas it would mean four men out of
22 jobs. It would mean one man as a custodian in the
23 strictest sense of the word, that means cleaning the
24 floors, this type of stuff. This is only a very small
25 part of the kinds of tasks these men now perform.
26 These four men all support large families. It would
27 mean a loss to the community of about -- I'm not sure
28 what it is, \$35 a cord at 150 cords a year, that much
29 to local people. It's a seasonal kind of job. There
30 are men who want and take advantage of it.

1 Right now we're just about on
2 par with fuel oil. By my calculations I think we're
3 beating the cost of fuel oil barged in or flown in.
4 Should gas come 'With the promises of Arctic Gas, much
5 cheaper prices and so forth, this would mean those
6 opportunities would go by the board.

7 Now, not only would that
8 happen but this school is, in my view, a community
9 school, it belongs to the people in town. The service
10 personnel coming from outside, such as myself, support
11 the community and work with the community. This is
12 partly because of the fact that most of the people that
13 work in the school are local people. A step that
14 removes those people from the school is clearly a step
15 towards making this a government school. A step
16 towards a government school is another step towards
17 fostering the kinds of difficulties we've heard about,
18 education in communities, time and again.

19 Now, this explicit example
20 leads me to the generalization I'd hoped to make, or I
21 want to make. The generalization is this. The major
22 economic developments profit the major economic
23 centres. They have, first an inflationary, then a
24 recessionary effect upon small isolated centres. It has
25 the effect of really depressing the community
26 economically after a boom in prices.

27 I'd like to try to illustrate
28 these points.

29 THE COMMISSIONER: Before you
30 do that --

1 A Yes?
2 Q -- forgive me, but you
3 said that you've been principal here for two years?
4 A Yes.
5 Q Two years. Before that
6 you were senior research assistant to the --
7 A Stager study.
8 Q -- Stager Study --
9 A Yes.
10 Q -- in Old Crow, and be
11 fore that you said you were a town planner --
12 A Community regional
13 planner.
14 Q -- community regional
15 planner somewhere in the Yukon.
16 A Well, I did my -- I was
17 doing individual research on local government and
18 during those two years I was doing my Masters in the
19 Community Regional Planning. There was a period of
20 about ten months in which I worked in the Territory on
21 a thesis which was on local government.
22 Q Which was what?
23 A A thesis on local
24 government.
25 Q Oh, I see, so your
26 training, your academic training, forgive me for
27 asking, was in community planning, was it?
28 A My academic training,
29 first in engineering, then in recreation, then in
30 education. It's sort of a mixed up affair. Then it

1 | most recently was in community and regional planning.

2 | Q I see. Well, carry on.
3 | Forgive me for interrupting.

4 | A Please do, because Ron
5 | knows that I am sort of talking off the top of my head
6 | and I would appreciate any kind of interjection.

7 | MR. VEALE: You were going to
8 | develop an example of the inflationary and recessionary
9 | effect, and I believe you were going to talk about the
10 | airport.

11 | A Let me get to that in a
12 | minute if I can, Ron. I don't want to miss that
13 | because, it is another illustration of the thing.

14 | I'd like to just sort of
15 | support this major proposition, this major concept with
16 | three or four other articles. A description by, I
17 | think it's Phillip Mathias, wrote a book called "Forced
18 | Growth" in which he describes a number of Dree programs
19 | which were essentially attempts to pour money into
20 | regional - economically regionally despair areas, and
21 | he documents these disasters and points to the almost
22 | impossible task of trying to pour money or essentially
23 | equalize these disparities. What happens in a sense
24 | whenever these big projects go on -- and the
25 | pipeline is not just a big project but a colossal
26 | one -- whenever these go on the net effect is
27 | deflationary in the region or recessionary in the
28 | region in which they are supposed to really provide the
29 | benefit. They are a dis-benefit as opposed to a
30 | benefit in both the short run and the long run.

1 This is pretty well documented
2 in Dr. Douglas Webber's Ph.D. thesis in Berkley. He
3 worked in the Peace River Regional District for a couple
4 of years in Alberta and Dree poured money into the Peace
5 River District in an attempt to try to generate activity
6 in the small communities. The net effect of this was
7 that it didn't generate activity in the smaller
8 communities, it forced the prices up in smaller
9 communities, it meant that local persons in small
10 communities had less spending power than before, but the
11 people who really profited were those in Peace River.
12 He initially started this out as an essential place
13 theory development, and found that these programs just
14 weren't working, they weren't panning out.

15 Now, he documents this and
16 generalizes this case, and I think the findings in his
17 dissertation are really worth consideration because
18 they point to what's happening and I think what will
19 well happen with the development of a major pipeline.

20 Let me give you a couple of
21 other illustrations of well-intended decisions. Some
22 of this was privy information and I don't think that
23 I'm disclosing anything - well, I certainly feel I'm
24 not disclosing anything that should not be disclosed.
25 Ron asked a question about the airport. When I was
26 working on the Stager Study I had access to a number of
27 files that related to the development and building of
28 this airport.

29 First of all, as a school
30 principal I'll state categorically I object to the fact

1 | that our property post and our playground is staked out
2 | there on the gravel of the air strip. Now, mind you,
3 | there's a ditch between that. None of this has been
4 | cleared in terms of property and land use. This school
5 | ground was allocated and set aside by Treasury Board
6 | Minute for use of the school

7 | THE COMMISSIONER: The
8 | Treasury Board of Canada?

9 | A Yes, and it has never
10 | been changed.

11 | Q The airport's been built
12 | --

13 | A Without any permission.
14 | The surveyors came out last year because of some
15 | disputes we had, and they put the pegs out there, in
16 | the gravel where the playground ends. You know,,
17 | that's an aside from the airport issue in general.

18 | What has happened -- this has
19 | been documented by a number of people already -people
20 | asked for a small airstrip here as an emergency,
21 | facility. In this town, according to the emergency
22 | airstrip or northern airstrip program, it's a Class "D"
23 | category which was Twin Otter or in a crunch, DC-3
24 | landing. I think it's 3, 500 feet or something of that
25 | sort gravel strip.

26 | Now, I'm not sure of the
27 | mechanics and I don't want to be cynical about them.
28 | decisions were made to build a bigger airport. Private
29 | decisions were clearly done because it's local
30 | employment. We can bring these cats up and train men

1 | to do the job and we can provide a local source of
2 | income. I don't know what influence quite a bit of
3 | development had, the significant oil development in the
4 | Porcupine drainage area and the Crow Flats area had --

5 | Q You mean the seismic?

6 | A -- the seismic works,
7 | and the discussions and this was just the initial
8 | discussions of the pipeline when the decision was made
9 | because it was a pretty snap decision, when the
10 | decision was made to re-classify this from an "D" strip
11 | to a "C" strip. Well, it was classified from a "C"
12 | strip to a "D" strip -

13 | Q You just said --

14 | A -- a "D" to a "C", which
15 | is an up-graded strip, I think it's 4, 500 feet, I'm
16 | not exactly sure I have it offhand. O.K., what
17 | happened is you got an expansion to the airstrip. The
18 | Territorial Government and LOST. worked out an agree-
19 | ment in working and training and local employment and
20 | what in effect happened was well, you know we are
21 | pretty isolated, a beacon would be appreciated -

22 | Q A beacon?

23 | A A beacon. Then for
24 | some reason or other and without real knowledge
25 | of how, the issue snowballed and they had initially
26 | agreed upon a "C" class strip, and they end up building
27 | a strip which if you count past the end of the lights
28 | it's over 6, 000 feet.. I think it's 5, 600 feet
29 | between the end lights. It's an "A" strip except it's
30 | not -- it doesn't have tarmac and we don't have a very

1 fancy -- my apologies to Ethel Frost and Stephen Frost
2 -- we don't have a very fancy control tower even though
3 they might consider their office looks like one at
4 times. We have ended up with an "A" strip which has ,
5 j as, has been documented by many people, really had
6 the effect of creating quite a few disturbances. From
7 the town planning point of view it's certainly
8 restricted the development of the housing. From the
9 point of view of people using the country, it's
10 provided a barrier.

11 I've been actively involved
12 in skiing for a couple of years and it certainly has
13 bisected that program in both a symbolic way and in a
14 natural way.

15 In relation to these kinds of
16 issues and the general point -- the general concept:
17 about how major economic development such as a pipeline
18 benefit -well, they benefit Toronto, Montreal, the
19 southern triangle and provide disbenefits to this
20 region, I'd like to pose a few questions to Gas Arctic.

21 Gas Arctic has spent quite a
22 bit of effort, time and money on trying to figure out
23 ways in which to minimize environmental damages. I
24 have seen only marginal attempts and they are
25 represented by the example I gave you of piping gas
26 into communities, at overcoming some of the economic
27 dis-benefits. The case I would like to make is that --
28 and maybe I can use the Commission as an illustration
29 for this -- you'll be glad to know that since your
30 arrival the price of sandwiches has almost doubled, you

1 know, and if this is only 30 people I'd hate to think
2 that extrapolated 800 people, because that means these
3 sandwiches are going to cost over \$15. That's too much
4 for me, I'm afraid.

5 O.K. The questions that I'd
6 like to pose to Gas Arctic are essentially these; What
7 does Gas Arctic intend to do to offset both specific
8 and general economic dis-benefits that would occur in
9 this region? Now these are not as clearly documented
10 through a testing situation as say, for example,
11 disturbance experience and caribou migration. But they
12 are documented in an academic sense, and I think they
13 tend to be validated after the fact and by that time
14 the commitment's been made and the money's been by the
15 boards. The question I have -- the money's gone by the
16 boards -- the question I have for Arctic Gas is what do
17 they do to tend to offset these things?

18 The second question, are they
19 willing to guarantee or a period which extends beyond
20 the life of the pipeline things like constant rate
21 freight into this community? I would like to suggest
22 that this could apply to all the communities that are
23 going to be affected by this pipeline if the pipeline
24 is built. Are they willing to guarantee and subsidize
25 -- because I would claim the profit they're making in
26 the south allows them and the building of it obliges
27 them this responsibility, are they willing to guarantee
28 us an equitable price on our food and on our goods that
29 we buy in the community? Equitable say with Whitehorse
30 or probably Edmonton.

1 I would argue that just as
2 the price of sandwiches have gone up, the price of many
3 goods go up with this kind of use, and I think Gas
4 Arctic has a very clear responsibility to, participate
5 in equalizing these kind of things if the pipeline goes
6 through.

7 Now, I sort of separated
8 economic from social issues, and I really shouldn't
9 have done that because in fact they are inseparable,
10 and I know in academic scenes they're separated
11 primarily T for convenience. But I'd like to get on
12 with a wider range of issues that I'd like to talk
13 about, and I'd like to spend a minute talking again as
14 a person who works in the school with many people -- I
15 should probably preface this comment by saying a school
16 principal can work in many different ways and I'm glad
17 to see the new education ordinance has made it the
18 responsibility of the School Committee to accept or
19 reject the school principal. I don't know, if this is
20 much of a guard against the kind of thing that Father
21 Mouchet talked about, and I really concur with what
22 Father Mouchet says, that both the sensitivity of
23 people in this community and the influence of people in
24 the service sector are open to clash, and it's a
25 sensitive kind of issue.

26 I'd like to talk a bit about
27 the school programs and describe some of the things
28 that have gone n here. Quite a few things have already
29 been described, and describe the format in which I sort
30 of feel I've been given a mandate by the community to

1 administer the school. You know, we're a small place
2 and it's not a real formal kind of thing, when a guy
3 has an idea he just talks about it with somebody and we
4 have it out, you talk about it and you sort of air
5 issues and work things out that way.

6 There are many local programs
7 in the school. People have asked -* not only the
8 School Committee, but the School Committee really
9 represents because they talk with tremendous numbers of
10 people about this -- the whole town, I think, and they
11 said, "Our children want or we want our children to
12 have the academic option-open to them, so if they
13 wanted, they could go on through university or
14 whatever; but we don't want this at the cost of losing
15 our life, our culture, our skills, our traditions, our
16 language."

17 So what we've done in this
18 school is said, "O.K., I mean that's not an impossible
19 kind of an arrangement by any means of the imagination.

20 We deal with those basic
21 skills that are required to obtain the academic's
22 course, and instead of using the -- or transposing the
23 music curriculum, the art curriculum, there's dozens of
24 examples because our schools are not really as hardcore
25 as maybe suggested, we replaced all of those
26 programs with local programs. So I'm inclined to feel
27 -- this almost sounds like tooting your own horn, I
28 guess -- but I'm inclined to feel we have a very good
29 school here, and it's not really that, I'm tooting the
30 horn of the community because they are the people who

1 | made it that way.

2 | The children, I think, get a
3 | pretty firm academic training, and I know very well
4 | that they get a good local training.

5 | Let me describe some of the
6 | local programs. Charlie Peter Charlie talked a bit
7 | about the program he teaches, and my regret is that I
8 | can't go to every one of Charlie's classes, and I'm
9 | sure everyone of the kids feel this. In fact I wish I
10 | could get the same kind of attention and interest in
11 | the academic programs as Charlie gets in his, or Alfred
12 | gets in his, or Abraham in the ones he was teaching, or
13 | Lazarus in the ones he taught in the spring -- the
14 | fall, I should say, or any of the people who teach from
15 | town.

16 | Charlie teaches a course in
17 | the written language of Loucheux, and teaches how to
18 | write his language. He does so, as he described writing
19 | on the board, and he also does so by relating many of
20 | these words he uses by telling stories, and what Charlie
21 | does is relates the oral history of the people of Old
22 | Crow and it's an immensely rich set of traditions,
23 | stories and history that I certainly can't convey. You
24 | know, it becomes an emotional kind of thing and I am
25 | sure that I speak for not only myself but all the
26 | students that sit there and listen. I know for a fact I
27 | do, because they say, "Let's get over this stuff and
28 | hear another story, Charlie, " you know. This is the
29 | most frequent comment. It's a very important element to
30 | the school program.

1 To balance that part of the
2 language program off, Charlie was fortunate enough to
3 be able to get to a linguistic course in Fort Yukon
4 last year and came back with some suggestions, some
5 advice with the assistance of John Miterall, so we sort
6 of revamped the program a little bit and Elizabeth Kaye
7 teaches oral Loucheux Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
8 afternoons, and she teaches small groups of children
9 and it's an exceptionally good program, I would think,
10 and it's my estimate that many of the children have
11 lost much of their language. Many still speak Loucheux
12 well. It's my guess that in a couple of years every
13 child could go to a community meeting and understand
14 without a translator. Whether or not they will speak
15 is another issue altogether because it's very difficult
16 for a person to rise and present a point.

17 Alfred Charlie teaches two
18 courses in the school. He teaches one related to
19 archeology, using what you see at the museum, describing
20 the history -- now I should probably say and I'm sure
21 that many of the people working in the archeology
22 program would really reinforce this, archeology in
23 many southern museums tends to be separated from the
24 people living today in many other centres. That's
25 not the case in old Crow, in my opinion. It's
26 part of a living history and it's identifiable. I don't
27 know if you've had the opportunity to see some of the
28 old photographs we have. They're not on display,
29 they're for the museum. The museum is the town museum.
30 It's just staged in the school temporarily until a

1 building is acquired for the museum, it's like a Catch-
2 22, you can't get a museum without artifacts and you
3 can't get artifacts without a museum, so we volunteered
4 the school and it's a collection spot. Alfred has used
5 these articles, and he also teaches a series of skills
6 that boys would acquire were they still living in the
7 bush with their parents in Johnson Village, Whitestone,
8 or wherever, so that those things -- and I regret I
9 don't have the key for the case -- things like the
10 lierook (?) and the crooked knife and the awls and those
11 things you see in the display case are made by the
12 children, and this was initiated to offset a program
13 that Alice Frost had been doing for a few years, and
14 before her, Ellen Bruce. This is a beading and sewing
15 program with the girls. There was something missing in
16 the boys' program and Alfred started this out. I know
17 he feels, as do I and do all the boys, that it's been a
18 tremendous success. It's fit in beautifully and
19 corresponds exactly with the regular shop programs they
20 have in the south. Does it make a difference whether
21 the square holes you make in a piece of board goes into
22 a book end or goes into a sleigh? I would argue it
23 doesn't. The skill you're teaching is essentially, the
24 same.

25 I should mention that many
26 people have been teaching. Abraham Peter taught last
27 year, and he taught the archeology course. Abraham had
28 other commitments this year. Lazarus taught this in
29 the fall and just found himself too busy with it. He
30 was building sleighs and working on other issues, so

1 Alfred took the job, and all these people have done not
2 commendable jobs -- well, you know, who am I to commend
3 really, you know they're doing the jobs that they
4 really see necessary to do in their community.

5 Stephen has shown kids how to
6 skin things at times Pete Lord has taken kids out
7 fishing, a fall program where the kids go down and
8 learn about nets and all get their hands gummed up
9 doing salmon. The museum -- by the way, this belongs
10 to the community, it's not mine so I can't submit it
11 for submission, but I'd like to draw your attention to
12 this book, I don't know if you've "Athapascans,
13 Strangers in the North". This for Alfred has be really
14 a guide book, in a sense, because many, many of the
15 things in here come from this country and many things
16 are still in use. The museum, as I said, is part of
17 the living history and is still very much in use in
18 this community.

19 Now, the reason I talked about
20 these is to make a general statement which I think is of
21 vital importance. Many people talked about these things
22 before me. All of these attempts, all of these programs
23 represent not a reaction to a pipeline, not an attempt
24 to say, "No, we don't want something, " but they
25 represent a clear view in the minds of the people in Old
26 Crow of what they want for their children and where they
27 want their community to go. That represents a
28 philosophy of being, a direction, a sense of purpose, an
29 identity, and that's what I think the people of Old Crow
30 really have, the fact that they can make so explicit the

1 kind of things they want for their children in their
2 school, I think is something they can be tremendously
3 proud of.

4 This brings me to the second
5 generalization I wanted to make. This is in relation
6 to the pipeline. Many people have talked about it.
7 They get to a hearing in Old Crow and speak out in
8 favor of the pipeline and many people have given
9 arguments as to why they don't want the pipeline near
10 here. All people have. It, in my view, stems from the
11 fact that this kind of development -- pipeline
12 development --is viewed in a symbolic way. It
13 represents something. Some guys have said to me,
14 "Well, the Mackenzie Zoo in Inuvik is a nice place to
15 visit but I wouldn't want one in my town." You know,
16 it's a laugh to go in there but the laugh stops short
17 when you start, looking at the social ills.

18 What the pipeline represents
19 is an implantation of all of those southern social and
20 environmental ills, and I think the people are truly
21 convinced, as am I, that if a pipeline were built
22 through this country, that it would alter
23 unrecognizably and destroy many of the things that
24 people consider and cherish, consider as valuable to
25 themselves and cherish.

26 I'd like to try to elaborate
27 on this a bit, if I can, because I think this is
28 probably the most crucial issue of all. It represents
29 within the people's mind, I feel -- and I must admit
30 within my mind as well -- a symbol of many things to

1 occur, will in fact result in the kinds of alienation
2 from the environment that people are regretting and are
3 concerned about. You know, we can have wildlife
4 biologists tell us that there are only going to be
5 marginal effects upon the caribou migration if the
6 pipeline is built. Well, that's like saying, "The
7 pipeline is not going to break, " And for all practical,
8 purposes, that pipeline is built it will, from the
9 viewpoint of the people in this country, undeniably ruin
10 the caribou herd. What value is the herd if it cannot
11 be part of the society as it has been in the past?

12 Lorraine said people aren't
13 going to bother going out, so it's just going to mean
14 that people aren't going to bother going out, I think.
15 So that has to be part of, I think, a considered
16 judgment. It's an element of no small importance.
17 Whether or not the environmentalists say something is
18 going to happen, whether or not the engineers say
19 something is going to happen, if people are sincerely
20 convinced and fear that things will happen, then for
21 all practical purposes they may as well happen, because
22 those will be self-fulfilling prophecies if they're
23 convinced the Flats will be ruined, and the decision to
24 go to the Flats and rat in the springtime becomes a
25 decision to say, "What's the sense? It's been ruined."
26 Those are the kinds of costs that I would argue Arctic
27 Gas. has not addressed.

28 Let me, before I get on with
29 the questions I'd like to ask Arctic Gas in relation to
30 these issues, spend a minute talking about the

1 | you feel about the coastal route?"

2 | The third question was: "How
3 | do you feel about the pipeline at all?"

4 | You know, I should also
5 | preface the responses that I got by saying this as
6 | well, that people in Old Crow are quiet-natured people
7 | and I think that's been borne out at the hearings.
8 | Many people have very, very strong and very, very, I'd
9 | say almost bitter feelings - no, I wouldn't say
10 | "bitter", I'd say very strong, intense feelings about
11 | the way they feel about these issues.

12 | THE COMMISSIONER: One man
13 | said that he didn't wish to say any more because he
14 | would become angry if he spoke further.

15 | A That's a fine
16 | illustration of the point I'm trying to make, is that
17 | people don't like to speak in harsh words. They don't
18 | like to cause bad friends, and I can respect that as
19 | part of the living in the community. So that in this
20 | questionnaire, "Give a range of, " this is pretty
21 | typical of many questionnaires, "strongly in favor, in
22 | favor, indifferent, against, strongly opposed."
23 | When a person put down "strongly opposed", then it
24 | really carries a much stronger stress than the same
25 | kind of questionnaire done in a southern urban
26 | environment would carry.

27 | Well, in the first response
28 | about their feelings about a pipeline near Old Crow,
29 | there's no question about that. It was clearly
30 | consolidated over in the "Definitely not" category.

1 About 90-95% of the people -- one person didn't care
2 and three said, "O.K." Nobody said, "Very good". 24
3 said "No, " and 45 said "Definitely not." These were
4 the adults in town.. These were done, by the way, by
5 people, in town, by most of the people, 10 or 12 people
6 who have spoken over the last three days to you.

7 We asked how they felt about
8 a coastal route. Four said "Very good". 30 said
9 "O.K." 24 said, "Don't care." 11 said, "No." 4 said
10 "Definitely not." Now if you read that question
11 independently, it sounds, well, " Yes' we can go the
12 coastal route."

13 If you look at the last
14 question about how do you feel about a pipeline at all?
15 Zero for "Very good." 14 for "O.K." 14 for "Don't
16 care." 27, "No, " and 18, "Definitely not, " which is a
17 scheme in other directions saying, "We don't want a
18 pipeline at all."

19 What you're essentially asking
20 is an issue that cannot be compromised on. It's like --
21 I'm trying to think of an analogy -- like being partly
22 pregnant, you can't be partly pregnant, either you are or
23 you're not. Well, O.K., it's like, "Are we going to get
24 partly damaged by this pipeline or not?" We don't get
25 partly damaged by it; if it comes
26 this way it's going to ruin things and that's the view
27 people have. If it goes the other way, then will there
28 be minimal damage? But when you ask the last question,
29 you say, "Would you like to have this happen to the guys
30 in McPherson?" Nobody wants to cause bad friends. A lot

1 of people are related across those lines. That
2 alternative isn't palatable at all either. It has a bad
3 taste about it, not as bad as having the taste of having
4 your own future destroyed but it's clearly not a very
5 pleasant taste as well. It's like the second of bad
6 choices, you know, the lesser of two evils.

7 O.K., the questions I have to
8 ask Arctic Gas in relation to this category are those
9 related to their willingness to bear part of the social
10 costs. Now, how do you bear part of the social costs
11 of a condition which may place upon people utterly
12 devastating kinds of conditions, which people
13 themselves view as devastating. They lose issues which
14 are in soft language, things like identity which, you
15 know, count for so much. Our systems of social
16 accounting in the south have never been able to weigh
17 these issues out, and they always shrug their shoulder.
18 What costs -- and this is a question I could direct to
19 Arctic Gas -- what part of the costs are they willing
20 to bear? I've seen nothing said by them about this. I
21 don't think there are any costs you can bear for
22 breakdown of families for -- let me make an
23 interjection here, if I may.

24 When I lived in Ross River --
25 as I said, I was the school principal there -- it
26 was before the development of Anvil Mines, which is a
27 large mine which opened about 40 miles from the
28 community -- 30-35 air miles from the community. I was
29 there before the mine was open, during the construction
30 phase, and after the mine was in operation. If what

1 | happened in that case is any representation of what
2 | would happen in Old Crow, well, I wouldn't like to see
3 | it. We have very many tragic memories from the events
4 | that happened as a direct result of that mine opening,
5 | many brutal things happening that I was personally
6 | involved with that I really wouldn't wish upon any
7 | community, and certainly not upon Old Crow.

8 | There are certain kinds of
9 | costs that I think the government will be expected
10 | to bear which I feel Gas Arctic should clearly bear.
11 | If there are -- and these are only real weak sisters
12 | to leaving the condition undisturbed, leaving the
13 | community as it is, I think they should bear the
14 | costs of any increase in social costs that may
15 | occur. I think they should be confronted with the
16 | issue of -- you see, I don't know how to phrase this
17 | effectively or put it in nuts and bolts but there
18 | are certain kinds of social costs. Some cannot be
19 | equated in dollars, it's impossible. Some can be
20 | equated in dollars. Those Arctic Gas should very
21 | clearly be responsible for, and I'd like to know in
22 | the question -- this is a roundabout way of asking
23 | -- whether they are willing to be accountable for
24 | those, be held accountable for those? There are
25 | other costs which cannot be put into dollar form.
26 | Some may be educational I don't know, because if it
27 | represents what happened to ROSS River, then I don't
28 | know however you bear those costs. How does a
29 | person bear the cost of a marital breakdown? You
30 | know, I don't know how you do this.

1 I think clearly a decision
2 can be made and this can apply, I feel, to all of the
3 Mackenzie communities. I feel that Arctic Gas should
4 be held accountable for those kinds of decisions, and
5 for not only sharing but supporting those costs. The
6 places that profit, as I said earlier, are Toronto and
7 the eastern triangle, really. The places that in the
8 long run gain the dis-benefits is the north, I think.

9 I'll give you another
10 illustration, if I can. There's been some discussion
11 of employment opportunities. Anvil Mine was given sort
12 of a free ticket to do what they wanted, this was
13 during the early phase of the northern development
14 boom. There were no hearings about Anvil Mines. There
15 was some initial contractual agreement: between the
16 Federal Government and the Anvil Mining Corporation to
17 employ so many native people from the district. You
18 know, I don't know if there's one guy working, I know
19 there was a guy working a while ago from Ross River in
20 the mine but I'll give you an illustration of the kind
21 of job he got. First of all, the contract was to
22 employ first of all in the first year of operation
23 20%, then another 25%, then 30%, then 40% of the men
24 were supposed to be employed from the local
25 population. First of all, there wasn't that many men
26 in the job market, in the market, you know, that were
27 employable. Secondly, even if all those men who were
28 employable, you know, were there, they were almost none
29 were -interested in this kind of thing. All you had to
30 do was have one or two guys come back with the kind of

1 | thing that Roger Allen said today, and I'll give you an
2 | illustration.

3 | Jimmie Atkinson got a job at
4 | Anvil Mines, His job was standing on the -beside the
5 | coal conveyor belt scraping his hand across the thing
6 | about every 30 seconds, lifting off the chunks of,
7 | metal that the electromagnet was picking up out of the
8 | coal. He stuck it out much longer than I would, I
9 | think he worked a month and a half at it, and then
10 | after coughing up black mucous all the time, he started
11 | to realize it just wasn't much good for him and he
12 | wanted to get out of the scene.

13 | George Miller, I'm not sure
14 | if he has testified before the Commission or not,
15 | worked in McPherson for a while, was asked to look into
16 | the issue of why more people from Ross River didn't
17 | work in this setting, and there is a report on this and
18 | I'm not sure if it's a privy report with Indian
19 | Affairs, and he said that, the essence of the report,
20 | he said, "People just aren't interested in this kind of
21 | thing. You're not offering a sensible alternative."

22 | You know, I can't see first of
23 | all the people getting many jobs with the pipeline. I
24 | can't see anything but economic dis-benefits and social
25 | dis-benefits. No, maybe I've stated the case too
26 | strongly because clearly there will be some marginal
27 | benefit but in the long run, .I think, those are
28 | certainly outweighed by dis-benefits.

29 | Is that the chop-off sign?

30 | MR. VEALE: No, not the chop

1 off sign.

2 THE COMMISSIONER: No, carry
3 on, Mr. Sharpe. Don't feel that anyone is pressing
4 you.

5 A The mind will only take
6 what the seat bears, and I'm afraid I'm just about worn
7 out at this end. Do you have a question, Ron?

8

9 MR. VEALE: Yes, I was just
10 going to direct you toward the Stager Report and
11 possibly the map, you were going to make some comments
12 on those.

13 A Oh yes, thanks.

14 Charlie described the map and
15 the map is an exhibit now, and I wanted to say one
16 thing about the way the map was drawn up. It was an
17 initial thought of the group that were doing the survey
18 that there has been a collapse in the knowledge of the
19 country. So what we did, we asked for the older people
20 representing that we ask people who knew different
21 areas of the country, and then we asked people to say,
22 "O.K., you sit down with us and go through it and draw
23 a map, " and we said, "O.K., we'll -- is there a map
24 name to the place, geographic branches, geographic
25 place names, Federal Government Departments."
26 I'm not sure what it is anyhow, have placed on the map,
27 and we said, "What's your own name for it?"

28 We sat down with the four
29 older people listed there -- I should qualify "older"
30 because there are a few guys who aren't so old, I could

1 include Neil in that but I'm sure that Charlie Peter
2 and Pete will get me for this later on, but people who
3 had lived in the country and trapped extensively. They
4 identified -- and this is quoted in the map -- a
5 tremendous number of those places, I think, and you
6 know they could have gone on at great T length but we'd
7 asked for major or places of significance that they
8 thought were of significance. Then quite independently
9 on a blank sheet we asked for younger people to do
10 this, the same family groups, I think, and we had
11 thought that the four younger people would know
12 considerably less, and well, we were quite shocked.
13 The four younger people knew essentially the same
14 places. There was some difference, you know, but 95%
15 of the places were the same, or 90% of the places,
16 something of that sort. But about 5% of the places
17 they sketched were different places, or different
18 places of importance than the older people.

19 The implication from this was
20 very clearly that people in Old Crow have not given up
21 their interests in land, that all these young people
22 whether they'd been there or not -- and many have been
23 there -- are very familiar with the country. This
24 speaks of the commitment again, the commitment the
25 people have to the land and their real sincere interest
26 in the land. You know, it's not a response to a
27 question, "Do you want a pipeline?" It's clearly
28 something that happened, has been happening within the
29 process of the community for some time.

30 MR. VEALE: Did you want to

1 | elaborate on the Stager Report at all?

2 | A Well, you know, I think
3 | 'Father's comment by saying it was a good catalogue,
4 | it's a fair representation. What it really failed to
5 | do is make some anticipated projections. I had sort
6 | of hoped to, in some generalized way, fill in some
7 | directions I think the report should have gone. Now
8 | mind you, you know, the opportunity of listening to
9 | people the last couple of years has filled in a great
10 | deal that was missed and has provided a substance the
11 | report didn't really have, in terms of anticipating
12 | and in terms of representing those things that Father
13 | talked about when he talked about sort of the
14 | character in the role of a family, the cohesion of a
15 | family, how that works in a community, the basic rules
16 | that people abide by here. It didn't talk about those
17 | issues.

18 | Maybe I could go on with
19 | another aside. People in this community have what I
20 | would consider quite an exceptional form of government
21 | I maybe getting myself into Dutch, not with the
22 | community in this case but with the Department of Local
23 | Government, but I'll run the risk.

24 | Decisions are made. I had
25 | the opportunity to read through about 25 years of
26 | Minutes of the Band meetings, and it was very
27 | interesting the way decisions were made here. Almost
28 | all the decisions are consensus decisions. Everybody
29 | agrees. That's not saying there's not debate,
30 | discussion, but generally if there's a debate or

1 | discussion the question is not called and people talk
2 | about it a while longer until everybody agrees on
3 | something and they go ahead and do it. In my view, and
4 | it still a process that's in operation, I think to this
5 | day, in my view it's unique. It represents community
6 | government where everyone in some way or another has a
7 | say in what goes on in the process of governing the
8 | communities affairs. The Department of Local
9 | Government a little while ago wanted to discuss the
10 | possibility of instituting an L.I.D., which is a local
11 | improvement District which is a three-body elected
12 | member -- this is what I'd written a thesis on a while
13 | ago, objecting to this kind of one form of government
14 | for communities that were so different -- and there was
15 | some discussion about establishing an L.I.D. in Old
16 | Crow and the people here rejected it on the grounds
17 | that they had a functioning form of government as it
18 | was now. But it's these kind of -- again it's a catch-
19 | 22 thing -- if you participate in an L.I.D., and this
20 | is so much the case for Old Crow as it is for any other
21 | community -- if you participate in the L.I.D. then
22 | you're promised great things, like you're promised
23 | opportunities to supply your community services, you're
24 | provided -- you know, I'll give you an example. I
25 | think in Teslin, it's another community in the
26 | Territory, the cost of servicing the community went
27 | from about \$2, 000 a r to \$25, 000 a year when it
28 | became an L.I.D.

29 | So there are some distinct
30 | disadvantages. There is pressure to change, constant

1 | pressure outside, constant pressure from the
2 | communities to change the character of the school,
3 | whatever; but I'm inclined to feel that people here are
4 | quite strong on this issue, the School Committee is
5 | strong on this issue, so you know, we're able to stay
6 | within the framework we described.

7 | MR. VEALE; You also have some
8 | articles there, stories that were comments on the
9 | pipeline that were written by children in the school.

10 | A Well, you know, any
11 | teacher, I think, takes advantage of topical things,
12 | and I asked the students in my classroom -- and I'd
13 | like to underscore the fact that I didn't prompt one
14 | way or another, and there's no prompting necessary in
15 | this case. I asked all students to --

16 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, had
17 | it been necessary, it wouldn't have been forthcoming.

18 | A That's exactly the case.
19 | I asked all the students to write an essay on how they
20 | felt about the pipeline, and this was part of an
21 | English exercise and I just spent a while thumbing
22 | through the books & while ago finding these, and here
23 | are some. This was written by Margaret Lord, and again
24 | an objection. There was consensus on the issue about
25 | not having a pipeline.

26 | "I wouldn't want the pipeline
27 | to come through because it affects the animals we eat,
28 | and if pipe ever bust, it would spoil the animals' food
29 | and water, and also spoil our water. It would spoil
30 | all the rats because that's what the people make their

1 living on in the spring. They use the fur for money.
2 It would spoil all around our country and the people
3 wouldn't like it if it did bust. The son of a family
4 would probably say he's going to his own dad's place,
5 and his dad would like him to because he is born in the
6 country, and he would like his son to be raised up like
7 him. The same with the mother, she will probably want
8 the same with her daughter. It would also spoil the
9 fish in the water when all the gas gets into the water
10 if the pipeline ever bust. And if a match was lit,
11 there would be an explosion, a very big forest fire.
12 They are afraid to put it across rivers because
13 somebody might shoot a bullet through it."

14 I won't read on to Kontiki.
15 that's another thing altogether.

16 "They are afraid to put the pipeline
17 across the river because somebody might
18 shoot a bullet through it. It also might af-
19 fect the people's feelings because some might
20 want it and some might not want it
21 to go through. If it busts the gas will
22 get mixed up with everything around our
23 land. The food and the water will
24 not taste like it was, or even if we
25 killed an animal to eat, it still won't
26 taste the same because the animals probably
27 drank the gas, or ate something that the gas
28 soaked through. People do not want it to go
29 through, maybe because they were raised up on
30 the land and they don't want nobody to touch

1 it because they want their children to be
2 raised up, and then their children, and so on.
3 They probably want the old days to go on and
4 on. But it will never go on because liquor is
5 brought into this world now nowadays. They
6 wouldn't want their food or water to spoil
7 just because of the pipeline. They also
8 wouldn't want their land to burn down if it
9 ever burst. The gas would come flowing down
10 the creeks and streams and down the rivers and
11 all, soon it would be in the towns' rivers.
12 People would be so mad, they might shoot a
13 hole through the pipe. They would break it up
14 by their --"

15 Sorry.

16 "They were brought up by their great
17 grandfathers and their grandmothers long
18 ago and they wouldn't want the white man
19 to take their land away from them now."

20 You know, I am not reading the grammar corrections that I
21 made in the article. I'm trying to leave it intact so --
22 this is William Josie's.

23 "The pipeline. If the pipeline break it could
24 kill everything around it like the plants, ani-
25 mals and people. The pipeline might or might
26 not spoil the town people coming from work and
27 drinking families might split, children with no
28 home, people be leaving town. If they put the
29 pipeline into the lake they could drain the
30 lake. They take the moss from the sides of the

1 lake out and the pipeline lay therefor five
2 years, they will drain the lake. The gas could
3 poison the water and kill the fish. They don't
4 want it on the river because people might shoot
5 it, and if they put it under, the cold gas could
6 froze the ground and the ground would freeze the
7 bottom of the river, it would freeze on the top
8 and it would just be freeze, "

9 sorry,

10 "it would just freeze and hold the river. I'm
11 not in favor of the pipeline."

12 I'm not the one who selected
13 these, by the way. I just asked four students in my
14 classroom to select what they thought were good
15 articles. They've all done these. This is Carl
16 Charlie's -- no, hold it a second, this book is falling
17 apart. This is Donna Frost's.

18 "Some people don't want the pipeline around here
19 and some do want it. Because it will spoil Crow
20 Flats in different ways. If the pipeline leaks
21 out gas, it may catch fire then, or the animals
22 might die off by eating the grass and drinking
23 the water because maybe the gas from the pipe-
24 line goes into the lakes and drips into the
25 grass, then the people probably wouldn't get the
26 caribou or moose. I wouldn't say 'Yes' if they
27 put a pipeline in. It would just spoil every-
28 thing. It will change people's attitudes be-
29 cause they might not get lots of rats."

30 Carl Charlie's.

1 "I do not want the pipeline to go through
2 Crow Flats because it will damage the land
3 and spill oil on the ground and on the
4 plants that are there.

5 The animals will eat the plants and die.
6 If they blow up some dynamite in the lakes,
7 it will kill off all the rats that are
8 there. So they take all of the moss from
9 the land and will melt the permafrost and
10 the lakes will drain out. And if lightning
11 strikes the pipeline it will cause an ex-
12 plosion and forest fire. And if there are
13 ducks on the lakes that they are going to
14 blow up, "

15 that's what I said in the sentence, it wasn't clear,
16 "and the white men want our land if they
17 spoil it we would not want to go back and
18 if the pipeline breaks and the gas will
19 spill and if the wind blows this way, it
20 will come down, it might poison the people
21 and will also spoil the land."

22 Do you want me to carry on? There are two more, a few
23 more.

24 THE COMMISSIONER: Carry on. would you? These are opin-
25 ions that are just as worth hearing as those of the older
26 people who have spoken.

27 A This is Eileen Kaye's.

28 "I don't want the pipeline around the Crow Flats
29 area because we don't want to go hungry. Some
30 people go out to Crow Flats in the springtime

1 for rats and caribou. If they put the pipeline
2 around Crow Flats area, some people wouldn't
3 like it, but some people might like it. But the
4 old people want it around Crow Flats area be-
5 cause they don't want to go hungry. But if here
6 they put it up, people around would even get
7 fish around Porcupine River, If they put the
8 pipeline up, all the animals will go away, then
9 we wouldn't have anything to eat but canned.
10 stuff. The old people don't like the canned
11 stuff. The old people live on caribou, moose,
12 fish for a long time. Everybody is against the
13 pipeline. They will spoil our country. When we
14 were small children we used to go out to Crow
15 Flats with our parents, we learn lots from them.
16 We learn setting traps. If the pipeline bursts
17 then the wind comes it will poison this town.
18 Long ago one man chase all the white men out of
19 this country. Since that time they never came
20 back."

21 This has reference to Corporal Perkin, the Crow Flats
22 trapper.

23 This is Richard Charlie's.
24 "I don't want the pipeline to come through Crow
25 Flats because if the pipe leaks the gas will go
26 onto the ground and spoil all the plants. If
27 the grass grows with the gas in it and if there
28 are any kinds of animals eat it, if any kinds of
29 animals eat the grass they will die. When they
30 are putting the pipeline through Crow Flats,

1 they will move some of the moss away from the
2 lakes and after about a year all the frozen
3 ground will thaw out and the ground go down. It
4 will make a big ditch and all the water in the
5 lakes would drain until the lake is dry. When
6 the pipe leak gas, it will poison the creek wa-
7 ter. When the creek water gets to Crow River,
8 it will spoil the water and all the fish will
9 start to die off. After the pipeline goes
10 through the people might change their minds
11 about going to Crow Flats because the price of
12 stuff might go up. If they buy food and went to
13 Crow Flats, they might not get enough rats to
14 pay their bill. They might also want to leave
15 old Crow."

16 This is Danny Kassie's,
17 "The pipeline could affect the hunting and
18 trapping grounds if the pipeline goes through
19 our country, the caribou won't come near it.
20 We need our country for trapping and hunting.
21 If the pipe goes through here the pipe might
22 break and the gas might run all over the moss
23 and go into the water, and the fish will die
24 off. We get muskrats from Crow Flats. We go
25 out there and learn to set our traps. After we
26 get muskrats we feel happy. If they cut the
27 trail for the pipeline, there will be lots of
28 machines around and even when the pipeline
29 comes through, there will still be lots of ma-
30 chines. People will come and spoil our coun-

1 try. Long ago a man chased the white man out
2 of this country. since this, there were no
3 white men trapping. If the oil spill on the
4 ground, grass will grow through the oil, it's
5 good to take the moss away, then the lakes
6 would cave in. When we were small we used to
7 go to Crow Flats with our mother, and since
8 then we learned from them. The old people here
9 now say that they used to live on fish and
10 caribou, there was no grub; but now they have
11 grub and they do some trapping for money, and
12 that's how they earn their living. If the oil
13 spilled on the ground it might catch on fire
14 and spoil the forests. I am against the pipe-
15 line, and I don't want it to go through our
16 country. Married people might divorce and do
17 drinking."

18
19 I'd like to make reference to
20 a study that was pointed out to me by Dr. Hawthorne at
21 U.B.C. and I'm afraid I can't cite the study and it's
22 unfortunate that I can't because it deals with
23 alcoholism. He wrote a paper some years ago, a few
24 years ago, and saying, "There's nothing much you can do
25 about alcoholism in small communities." He said, "It's
26 a problem, in small Indian communities, it's a problem,
27 it is endemic to small communities, " and he got a
28 response to the Director of National Alcoholics
29 Foundation or something of that sort, a public letter,
30 I believe.

1 That pointed out two
2 experiments that had been -- one experiment that had
3 been carried on in two communities in Scandinavia. One
4 was an isolated community in which there was almost
5 total prohibition, partly because of its isolation and
6 partly because of legislation. The other was in a
7 Danish community which was very open. Liquor was easily
8 accessible and quite inexpensive; and what they looked
9 at over a period of, I believe, 22 years, were alcohol
10 related diseases and death. That is to say nothing of
11 social ills and whatever else you have. There was a
12 tenfold difference between the two communities. Roughly
13 the equivalent size and roughly -- well, in relation to
14 alcohol, quite different temperament -- roughly a
15 similar temperament. The implication he drew from that
16 study and that the director of the person who sent it to
17 him is that it's very easy to -- it's not very easy,
18 it's an issue of some contention -- but the implication
19 of one method of managing alcoholism is to make alcohol
20 more difficult to come by. This is another one of these
21 hidden kinds of things that comes through, should
22 alcohol or should a pipeline come into this country you
23 can rest assured that those kinds of pipelines to
24 alcohol will be opened up and will become much more
25 accessible.

26 That's only part of the
27 question, though, because the other part of the
28 question deals with the deterioration of the fabric of
29 the community. Father Mouchet and Herta Richter
30 touched on this briefly, I think, when they talked

1 | about some of the kinds of difficulties which occur and
2 | what happens when the fabric of the community is
3 | disrupted. Well, if you take a person's identity or
4 | sufficiently raise questions about a person's identity
5 | then I think you leave the way open to these kinds of
6 | issues , and at the same time provide the pipeline for
7 | the liquor to come in.

8 | I'd like to thank you very
9 | much for the opportunity of speaking to you, Judge
10 | Berger. Thank you very much.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
12 | very much, Mr. Sharpe. I can assure you that the
13 | questions that you wanted to be put to Arctic Gas will
14 | be considered by the Inquiry. Any of the questions that
15 | you wanted put to Arctic Gas are essentially the main I
16 | issues the Inquiry itself is considering, so you can
17 | rest assured that those questions will be in the minds 1
18 | of all of us. I hope that before we leave that you will
19 | speak to Mr. Wyck , who is on my staff, about the report
20 | by Matthews, I think it was, the Ph.D. thesis by
21 | Webber, the Ross River Report, and the article by Dr.
22 | Hawthorne. At any rate, I'm sure Mr. Wyck will
23 | speak to you about those matters, and let me thank you
24 | again, Mr. Sharpe.

25 | (OPINION SURVEY MARKED EXHIBIT C-96) (WITNESS ASIDE)

26 | MR. VEALE: Well, we're prepared
27 | to barrel on and complete it this evening, judge.

28 | THE COMMISSIONER: Certainly.

29 | MRS. MARY THOMAS sworn:

30 | MR. VEALE: This is Mary

1 Thomas.

2 THE INTERPRETER: Well, she
3 says I haven't got very much to say because -- but I
4 just wanted to tell you of what has gone in the past.
5 She says people here didn't have an easy time all the
6 time. They went through hard times many times in
7 their; lives. They try to make their living off the
8 land and I've seen times when there wasn't much food,
9 and that's how bad it was many times in the past.

10 This happened to be quite a
11 while ago. I wasn't very big at that time, but still I
12 remember that people had very hard times many times.
13 There's lots of times hard to get things to eat, and
14 many times she remember that people lose their dogs
15 because of no food. Many times during this time she
16 remember people have hard time to get something to eat,
17 and people -- the men are always go out and try to get
18 something but they never seemed to get anything at all.

19 Many times they work very,
20 very hard and after it warms up, that's the only time
21 that they begin to get something, but there are so many
22 people that it takes a long time before they get
23 into shape again. When they had hard times like this,
24 she says they cover up a lot of country. They go way
25 down some place in Alaska, trying to get something to
26 live on. She says one time -- well, many times when
27 they had nothing to live on, they wander around in far-
28 off country to get what they could live on, and that's
29 the way they survived. After they would get all what
30 they need, they generally wandered back to this spot

1 here, in the Old Crow area, and that is how the people
2 are always here living off the country, in this Old
3 Crow area.

4 She says she hasn't got very
5 much to say and she can't stand talking too long, but
6 the main thing I want you to know, she said, I don't
7 want this pipeline. She said all my life I have been
8 very poor. I was an orphan, and later on after being
9 married, now I am a widow, and I never had an easy
10 life. Because of the government help nowadays I am
11 old, that's the only way that I am making a living now.

12 She says she hear a lot of
13 talk about this pipeline but she says I really don't
14 like even to hear about it. That's how much I don't
15 want the pipeline. Maybe I'm the only one like that.
16 She says there is no rabbits nowadays, and no
17 ptarmigan, and all this make it harder for people in
18 this area.

19 That's all I have to say.
20 Judge Berger.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
22 very much, Mrs. Thomas, thank you.

23 (WITNESS ASIDE)
24

25 MISS MARY BUCKLEY sworn:

26 THE WITNESS: Judge Berger, I
27 am Mary Buckley, one of the teachers in Old Crow, and
28 I'd like to read a statement, please.

29 The people of Old Crow have
30 told you how much they do not want the pipeline to come

1 through their country. During my four years in this
2 community I have found the people very friendly, kind
3 and gentle. There is a true community spirit here.
4 People work together and help each other. The way of
5 life is changing in Old Crow, as it is all over the
6 world; but the people are asking for the right to
7 decide about some of these changes for themselves, and
8 perhaps to slow these changes down to give them some
9 time to adjust.

10 The Old Crow people have a
11 very deep feeling for their land and their heritage.
12 They have told you about it. The old people still have
13 a big influence on the younger generation. Their
14 history is not being lost. Too many outside forces
15 will weaken the bond between old and young. Our
16 western white culture has already experienced this
17 breakdown. Old Crow people are proud people, and they
18 have an identity which should not be weakened or taken
19 away from them by external forces.

20 I have learned a great many
21 things from these people, not only the history that
22 they have been telling you, but how to share, how to
23 give, how to be calm, and how to appreciate my
24 surroundings. I am proud to be able to live in Old
25 Crow. I have been teaching the younger children in Old
26 Crow. I have also been learning a great deal from
27 them. These children are very important to me, to
28 their parents, and especially to the community. I can
29 understand the great concern for their future. They
30 should have the opportunity to choose their way of

1 | life, whether it be a life outside old Crow or a life
2 | on their land.

3 | Thank you.

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
5 | very much, and would you leave the statement with the
6 | secretary to be marked as an exhibit?

7 | A I will.

8 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
9 | very much.

10 | (STATEMENT OF MISS MARY BUCKLEY MARKED EXHIBIT C-97)

11 |

12 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

13 |

14 | STEPHEN FROST Jr., Sworn.

15 | THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger,
16 | staff, ladies and gentlemen of Old Crow, as most
17 | everyone knows, we probably have no choice in saying
18 | that we don't want the pipeline because they will
19 | probably put it through anyhow, so it is probably no
20 | use to say we don't want it. We have to give reasons
21 | for not wanting it. That's the most important part.

22 | If the pipeline goes through
23 | and they start hiring boys and people from Old Crow,
24 | most boys from this town will think it's just another
25 | ordinary job, if they get hired. They would probably
26 | get bored with this job because they will want to do
27 | things like hunt and fish like they have always been
28 | doing. There will probably be a lot of prejudice
29 | between different races in the camp. They will have
30 | very many problems like for instance, after the

1 pipeline is finished, is built you will find some
2 people -- some of the people from the camp would just
3 love to settle down here in Old Crow after the job's
4 finished and try to live off this what used to be so-
5 called good land, and I don't and will not say whether
6 or not I want this pipeline, because I really think I
7 have no choice. For me it would be better to see it
8 along the coastline where it, I hope, will not affect
9 our civilization and interfere with Old Crow.

10 Old Crow has been here for
11 some time now. The people of Old Crow made use of the
12 land, they try and keep on going and they got a lot of
13 good from it they just hope to see it keep on going.

14 That's all I have to say.

15 My name is Stephen Frost, Junior.

16 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
17 very much, Stephen, and we would like to have your
18 statement and mark it as an exhibit to the Inquiry.

19 (STATEMENT OF STEPHEN FROST MARKED EXHIBIT C-98)

20 (WITNESS ASIDE)

21 MR. VEALE: Judge Berger, we
22 have a number of statements that have been written out
23 by people, some will be present and some not. Is it
24 appropriate to read out statements if the person isn't
25 present, in any event?

26 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. Just
27 pause just a moment while the reporter changes the
28 tape. We won't get up. All right, we're ready.

29 THE INTERPRETER:

30 "Berger Inquiry. Statement from Tabettha Smith.

1 Since I was a small child I was always
2 sick and just lived in a hospital. I don't
3 really know exactly how to trap most small ani-
4 mals. I want to talk about the pipeline a lit-
5 tle. I do not want the pipeline to come
6 through. We live off this land and it helps us
7 to feed our children that is why they grow like
8 they do. If they destroy our land, how are we
9 going to live? This is why I don't want the
10 pipeline, many problems can come our way. Crow
11 Flat is a very important place to our people,
12 as someone mentioned a bank. Our ancestors
13 looked after the land years ago. That is way
14 we are still using it. Now we want to keep it
15 the same way for our children. If the land
16 should be spoiled and the animals destroyed,
17 how are our children going to eat?"

18 THE COMMISSIONER: Does that
19 complete, Mrs. Smith's statement?

20 THE INTERPRETER: Yes.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, Mrs.
22 Smith's statement will be received as an unsworn
23 submission and marked as an exhibit, and will
24 constitute a part of the permanent record of the
25 Inquiry.

26 (STATEMENT OF MRS. TABITHA SMITH MARKED EXHIBIT C-99)

27 MR. VEALE: Is Albert Abel
28 here?

29
30 ALBERT ABEL sworn:

1 THE WITNESS: Judge Berger,
2 my name is Albert Abel. My concern for the pipeline is
3 as follows, as for jobs. Other settlements along the
4 route have jobs easily but Old Crow is a small place
5 and has few jobs, and depends on trapping as a
6 livelihood. We depend on hunting and trapping so that
7 the pipeline should be put where there is no trapping
8 and hunting. Jobs should be given to people when
9 pipeline passes. Rivers are used in the summer for
10 fish. When fall comes, the surrounding mountain is
11 hunted for caribou. Then when trapping season begins,
12 the surrounding area is trapped and along the head
13 waters of the Porcupine River, also down the river.

14 When on the traplines when
15 there is no food for dogs and trapper, we still have to
16 go out hunting to try and kill something to eat. This
17 has being done even at 50 or 60 below zero. When we
18 don't get anything, that's when we have a hard time.
19 That is why when summer and fall comes, we have to try
20 and get enough. All the young kids all know how to
21 hunt and trap, and they all enjoy hunting and trapping.
22 The older people have pension, but us, we have
23 to live off this land. So before the pipeline comes,
24 land deal should be settled because of the damage which
25 it will be caused by the pipeline. The growth alone
26 will take hundreds of years to grow back.

27 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
28 very much, Mr. Abel for your statement. Mr. Abel's
29 statement will be marked as an exhibit and constitute a
30 part of the permanent record of the Inquiry. Thank

1 | you, sir.

2 | A Thanks.

3 | (STATEMENT OF ALBERT ABEL MARKED EXHIBIT C-100)

4 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

5 | THE INTERPRETER: There's
6 | Joanne Njootli's.

7 |

8 | MRS. JOANNE NJOOTLI sworn:

9 | THE INTERPRETER: First of
10 | all I'd like to say glad to see Judge Berger and
11 | everyone. I've been born somewhere in the Crow Flats;
12 | since I was small, my first father died. Since my mom
13 | raised me those days was very hard times, just my
14 | mother raised me, poor, and Don Cadzow took my mother,
15 | Rachel, put her in a nice house, then I was raised up
16 | good, and then my mother was happy because a trader,
17 | Don Cadzow her a good place to stay, and later on he
18 | died. Till way after that my mother died, all my
19 | sister and brother died, just one sister living with
20 | me. I'd like to talk about my husband. Me and
21 | my old man didn't stay together about 25 years,
22 | Thomas Njootli, and he lived in Aklavik a long
23 | time, been working for R.C.M.P. He passed away this
24 | spring and me and my kids went over for the funeral. I
25 | was happy to be there. I 'sure thank the R.C.M.P. and
26 | Mr. Holman, for helping. May God be with all always.

27 | Another thing I'd like to
28 | talk about Crow Flats, I used to take my kids to Crow
29 | Flats with dog team and when I got out there I set
30 | traps right away, and set snares for rabbits. I used

1 | to work hard for my kids. I sew lots, get Family
2 | Allowance now. They're all grown up. They sure
3 | remember the Crow Flats, This spring one of my son been
4 | to Crow Flats, I didn't go, that's how much people
5 | depend on Crow Flats. While that they mention to put
6 | pipeline around here, I really don't like it. I wish
7 | Judge Berger help us not to put that pipeline around
8 | here.

9 | We really need the Crow River
10 | and Porcupine River. If all that spoil, it's going to
11 | be hard for all the people. Thanks for reading my
12 | statement from Mrs. Joanne Njootli.

13 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
14 | very much for your statement. That will be marked as
15 | an exhibit and will constitute a part of the permanent
16 | record of the Inquiry.

17 | (STATEMENT OF MRS. JOANNE NJOOTLI MARKED EXHIBIT
18 | C-101)

19 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

20 | MR. VEALE: Judge, this is a
21 | statement from John Joseph Kaye, the son of Chief John
22 | Joe Kaye.

23 | JOHN JOSEPH KAYE sworn:

24 | THE WITNESS: Judge Berger,
25 | my name is John Joseph Kaye, and like the rest of my
26 | people, I certainly appreciate your coming to Old Crow,
27 | You come to listen to us and hopefully help us to keep
28 | the pipeline out. You have heard many complaints and
29 | ideas which may affect our beautiful country. You have
30 | travelled throughout the Crow Flats area, and

1 surrounding country. You have seen and heard the
2 wildlife yourself. There is nothing more enjoyable
3 than just hunting, trapping and fishing in this
4 peaceful country of ours.

5 No one from the south ever
6 thought of building anything big as they built outside,
7 now suddenly because they found something valuable, they
8 want it over our land, Why is this? We never interfere
9 with their life-'style. My wife is teaching Loucheux to
10 the children. The children are responding very nicely,
11 and we are hoping they will keep up trying to learn
12 their language. There are other native cultures being
13 taught, which were never taught in our schools before.
14 These are the type of things us natives are doing, not
15 only in Old Crow but surrounding areas.

16 Should the pipeline come
17 through, I am afraid our children would lose interest
18 in what they ha been taught gradually. That's all I
19 have to say. Thanks for listening.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
21 very much, Mr. Kaye. That statement by Mr. Kaye will
22 be marked as an exhibit, and constitute a part of the
23 permanent record of this Inquiry.

24 (STATEMENT OF JOHN JOSEPH KAYE MARKED EXHIBIT C-102)

25

26 (WITNESS ASIDE)

27

28 MRS. LYDIA THOMAS sworn:

29 THE INTERPRETER: I am Mrs.

30 Lydia Thomas. I have made my living by trapping and

1 | hunting in my young days, until 1958. Then I moved to
2 | Inuvik to work as a wage-earner, but every summer I
3 | always return home to Old Crow to have a quiet rest, As
4 | much as I would like to live with my people, my
5 | children come first. As you know, there is not much
6 | jobs here in Old Crow, and I have a son who is a wage-
7 | earner, and he has a job in and out of Inuvik.
8 | Therefore he needs me near him, and also a daughter who
9 | will be in High School soon, and I don't want to leave
10 | her in a hostel so I feel that I must help them to get
11 | on their own, then I want to return home to Old Crow
12 | and make my living here.

13 | If a pipeline should be
14 | built, in the prime area for muskrat trapping, I am
15 | afraid that it will ruin our way of life. Old Crow is
16 | one of the last Indian villages itself that is not
17 | disturbed too much, and the people still live mainly on
18 | hunting T and trapping, and we want to continue to live
19 | this quiet way for many more years.

20 | We have survived without big
21 | development, and we can still live this life. I would
22 | like to encourage the younger generation to
23 | try to get as many years of formal education as
24 | possible so they can help their elders who run our town
25 | business, should our land be settled. Young people
26 | have witnessed some older educated people express their
27 | concern about our way of life. Do the same and we'll
28 | be proud of you for helping us.

29 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
30 | very much. Thank you, and that statement will be

1 | marked and will constitute a part of the permanent
2 | record of the Inquiry.

3 | (STATEMENT OF MRS. LYDIA THOMAS MARKED EXHIBIT C-103)
4 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

5 |

6 | ANDREW TIZYA, sworn:

7 | THE INTERPRETER: Andrew

8 | Tizya. I'd like to thank all of you because you come
9 | to Old Crow. Everybody is glad to see you all happy.

10 | I want to talk about oil
11 | company. They didn't ask the people and they made a
12 | road into Old Crow. Later on we found out about the
13 | road. The people find out so the Brainstorm bring the
14 | stuff.

15 | Another thing, they spilled
16 | gas behind a lake called Ethel Lake. They don't want
17 | to use the gas so they did that. When they first
18 | started to work here they don't want to give food to
19 | the people, so they cover it with bulldozer. They
20 | figure people of Old Crow don't know nothing about it.
21 | In Crow Flats, lake called Willow Lake, they put
22 | dynamite on the lake and they spoiled the fish.
23 | After that they laugh about it. Right now we're all
24 | happy to see you because all your life you people work
25 | for Indians. All my life I live here in Old Crow.

26 | I tried my best with
27 | community. Us people trying to keep this community,
28 | but they trying to make a law for people.

29 | That's all I'm going to say
30 | right now. I don't know nothing about long ago. I

1 | really don't want the pipeline around Old Crow area.
2 | From Andrew Tizya.

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
4 | very much, sir. I appreciate your coming forward, and
5 | your statement will be marked as an exhibit, too.
6 | Thank you, again.

7 | (STATEMENT OF ANDREW TIZYA MARKED EXHIBIT C-104)
8 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

9 |
10 | MISS MARY NETRO sworn:

11 | THE INTERPRETER: Miss Mary
12 | Netro's statement. I want to say that my parents used
13 | to trap and hunt and fished. I can't remember it but
14 | older people talk about it to us. They used to make
15 | caribou fence and make fish traps which we no longer
16 | use. We want Crow Flats to be the way it always was,
17 | untouched by pipeline. Not only for ourselves, but
18 | future grandchildren , so they can know our way of
19 | living. Only the people who know the joys of living
20 | out in the flats in the springtime know what it is, so
21 | I wish you people help us so pipeline don't go through
22 | our country.

23 | I think it will be bad for
24 | caribou, too. We depend on it so much, so I should say
25 | thank you for coming to Old Crow to help us. I hope we
26 | make it. Mary Netro.

27 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
28 | very much, Miss Netro. Miss Netro's statement will be
29 | marked as an exhibit and constitute a part of the
30 | permanent record of the Inquiry.

1 (STATEMENT OF MISS NARY NETRO MARKED EXHIBIT C-105)

2

3

(WITNESS ASIDE)

4

MR. VEALE: The next

5

statement to be read by Peter Nukon is from Bill

6

Webber, who is the president of the Yukon Association

7

of Non-Status Indians. Mr. Webber was present for two

8

days of the hearing, but had to leave on Saturday.

9

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Webber's

10

statement will be received as an unsworn submission.

11

THE INTERPRETER:

12

"It is very clear from the presentations that

13

we've heard that the Old Crow people are very

14

opposed to any industrial development in the

15

Old Crow area, The people have told about the

16

historical use and value of the land, and

17

also how their very future depends on the

18

fish and game, to maintain the type of life

19

style Indian people share and enjoy. One

20

particular statement that Mr. Peter Lord made

21

told how the small plane activity in the area

22

affected the caribou migration. He said one

23

year when the consulting firm of Renewable

24

Resources were doing a study, a plane con-

25

fused and scared the herd of caribou so much

26

they wouldn't cross the Porcupine River. For

27

a few days they would approach the river and

28

then turn back, circle around, finally after

29

much confusion they stampede, and within

30

hours the whole herd had crossed. Normally

1 | the crossing takes a few days, enabling the
2 | old Crow people to obtain their winter supply
3 | of food, which is the key to their very exis-
4 | tence.

5 | Another issue of vital importance that
6 | a lot of speakers didn't point out is the social
7 | impact of a largo construction crew working in
8 | this area, and also the use of the Old Crow air-
9 | port as a main transportation link. A large
10 | number of transient construction workers would
11 | be bringing things like drugs, alcohol and above
12 | all, communicable disease. At one time all of
13 | the Yukon Indian people lived a unique and self-
14 | sufficient life-style. As one speaker put it,
15 | the land of the Indian people was like a farm to
16 | a farmer.

17 | Indian people lived in harmony with na-
18 | ture, Then come the Klondike gold bringing in
19 | thousands of men and with them many disease such
20 | as smallpox, which killed a huge number of our
21 | people. Also greed, which was never known to
22 | the Indian people. The aftermath is a living
23 | example of what major influence people can
24 | bring, such as a large number of our people liv-
25 | ing on welfare. We will no longer be able to
26 | depend on the land for our existence. Some of
27 | the speakers are waiting, some of the speakers
28 | said 'Wait till our land claims are settled be-
29 | fore you build the pipeline.'

30 | It's very difficult to place dol-

1 lar values on the future of the Old Crow
2 people. There is talk of many jobs when
3 the pipeline is being built. After con-
4 struction, how many Old Crow people would
5 be employed on this pipeline? Would their
6 pay cheques make up for the damage that are
7 done to this land and its wildlife? These
8 are the types of questions we should be
9 asking ourselves.

10 I would like to thank Mr. Judge Berger
11 for taking the time to listen to each and every-
12 one on their feelings about the pipeline. Thank
13 you."

14 THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Webber's
15 statement will be marked as an exhibit and constitute a
16 permanent part of the record of this Inquiry.
17 (STATEMENT OF BILL WEBBER MARKED EXHIBIT C-106)

18
19 MISS JULIE LORD sworn:
20 THE WITNESS: My name is Julie
21 Lord, age 17. Judge Berger, I would like to thank you
22 and your staff forthcoming into Old Crow.

23 I for one and other people--

24 THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me.

25 I think we should all try to
26 make sure we can hear what this young lady is saying.
27 I'd like to hear, so you just start again, if you don't
28 mind. We'll try to remain quiet.

29 A My name is Judy Lord.
30 age 17. Judge Berger, I would like to thank you and

1 the judge, Peter, about the problems of short-term
2 employment in Old Crow?

3 A Short-term employment in
4 Old Crow would affect a certain way for some people who
5 work in short-term. Take it this way, if there was a
6 job, supposing there was a pipeline going through and
7 had a job at the pipeline and we understand the job
8 wouldn't last too long, and the job would be during
9 wintertime. This means that some of the people who
10 works on the pipeline wouldn't be able to use their
11 land and come back with a good piece of money in their
12 pockets, big pay cheque. Young people would like to go
13 for good time, and would take off away from Old Crow,
14 the money wouldn't be spent in Old Crow, and they would
15 forget about coming back to their town. Once they come
16 back to town, they would have nothing in their pocket,
17 no money, no job, no more job. This is the affect they
18 will get.

19 Now, if they work for a month
20 or so, if the job was around in the summer and they
21 start working and then they work trapping in the
22 winter, well this short-time job and trapping doesn't
23 go together because I had an experience on that
24 myself.: I used to work in the summer and figure to go
25 back to my trapline in the winter, but what makes it
26 difficult is that if a fellow had a family and work for
27 wages in the summer, he doesn't have time to go back
28 and put up his wood for his family, and then not enough
29 time left to put up winter dog food or fish to eat, and
30 meat. No more time left to hunt, and this part he has

1 | to spend all the rest of his time hunting for meat in
2 | the winter to feed his dogs. So this is the effect of
3 | short-time job.

4 | Q Peter, you hunt caribou
5 | and you've seen the caribou researchers that have been
6 | around Old Crow. Would you tell the judge about what
7 | you feel about what they have done?

8 | A Yes. The Renewable
9 | Resource was sent up here by Gas Arctic, I believe.
10 | They work up here from March until the last part of
11 | October, and they go around the country over the
12 | caribou with airplanes and with chopper. Now we found
13 | out this about the caribou been disturbed by airplane.
14 | We never heard or never see the caribou run across this
15 | land in different direction so many time in one season
16 | as when the airplane was after them, taking photograph
17 | from the air. One summer the caribou went back to
18 | their calving ground and they were migrating through
19 | this Old Crow region right here close to town. Some
20 | small bunch of caribou would go through the town right
21 | below here around airport, and there have been about, I
22 | think that spring they counted about seven to 8, 000
23 | caribou been cross right there a little ways above
24 | Caribou Lookout, about 12 mile from here, and about 15
25 | mile down the river. That's how many caribou they
26 | counted that summer.

27 | Then that summer, the caribou
28 | went back to the coast to their calving ground, and
29 | once the caribou start coming back they were making
30 | another flight down there, one day I went with them and

1 This is in September when the caribou start coming back
2 around the head of Crow River, They were still after it
3 with airplanes every day. One day they were coming
4 right across the Crow Flat again, the whole herd, there
5 was about 130, 000 caribou, they claim.

6 Well now, this herd split up
7 right in the middle of Crow Flat. One herd was
8 travelling east and west -- east and south. Now the
9 other herd come straight towards the Old Crow Mountain
10 was coming straight south, and these caribou that came
11 on top of Old Crow Mountain stayed there for almost two
12 weeks. They didn't cross, they stayed in mountain and
13 the people in old Crow didn't want to go up, they
14 waited till the caribou was going to cross somewhere;
15 but this caribou didn't dare cross the river, they
16 stayed beyond the first mountain. But they didn't dare
17 kill any more, than they have to take down one day.
18 Some of them went up with dog team and kill what they
19 could load onto their toboggan, that's all. Plus the
20 bear was around and they didn't want to kill any meat
21 for spoiling.

22 Now this other herd, around
23 40, 000 caribou, went up around the river, so the
24 airplane came back and told us this herd of caribou
25 that went along river was going to hit the river at
26 mouth of Driftwood again. So some kicker boat went up.
27 One of my boys took another boy with him, he left Old
28 Crow, went up the mouth of Driftwood, and it wasn't my
29 weekend and I wasn't working, so I went up early in the
30 morning and got to the mouth of Driftwood around ten

1 o'clock in the morning, and these boys was still
2 waiting there. So the caribou didn't came out, and
3 they were only about four miles from river when the
4 report came in that the caribou was going to cross
5 there.

6 Now I told them that caribou
7 must have kept going along the river, so just then the
8 airplane flew around, so I waved them down. They
9 landed by me and I asked them where the caribou were,
10 and they told me the caribou was about 25 mile up the
11 river, that's where they going to cross now. So we all
12 took off. We waited there two days before that caribou
13 started crossing. When they do start crossing, they
14 cross late at night, and believe me, the caribou was on
15 the beach there, about 30, 000 caribou along the beach
16 before they start crossing.

17 Just then the airplane got
18 there and chased them all back into the bush.

19 Now my boys was with me with
20 the kicker. They thought the caribou was crossing below
21 because we was waiting for too long, so we all come
22 back, and they killed a few below.

23 Now my boys was with me so I
24 told them, "You go up above There's a river called Bear
25 River, about three mile from where we was waiting. I
26 told them, "Most likely they will cross this side of
27 that river, so you go up there. I'll stay here."

28 So my boy went up with this
29 other friend of his, and they killed 40 caribou out of
30 that herd. Next morning-they cross at night, those

1 | caribou. Next morning there was very few left,
2 | probably three or four in a bunch crossing but once
3 | they cross they don't stop. They really stampede
4 | through -- when going through that river.

5 | Then this herd of caribou went
6 | as far as head of Minor River and then they tramp back
7 | from there because the herd split up. We figure when
8 | the caribou turned back from there they came back across
9 | right over here that open country is, and those caribou
10 | stayed there for one week. People thought they were
11 | going to cross there, but nothing doing. Th caribou
12 | stayed there. They didn't dare come across again. They
13 | turned back, they went down the head of Black River and
14 | crossed about 130 mile down the Porcupine River where
15 | they call Cannon Village. There was a few people who
16 | came up there to trap, they got a good killing out of
17 | those bunch; and then that caribou went back onto Salmon
18 | River. When they hit the Salmon River, they get into
19 | Yukon Flats, the timbers are very, very thick timber
20 | there. There is no more mountains, and swamp and
21 | timber. They did follow that river and start crossing
22 | the Porcupine, River about 17 mile this side of Fort
23 | Yukon. The Fort Yukon people made a good killing out of
24 | that herd.

25 | Once they crossed, they went
26 | up along the Black River and there's a little settlement
27 | there called Fish-Hook Town. They passed there. The
28 | people there made a good killing out of them.

29 | Now from there they kept
30 | going, they keep following it with airplane. They

1 found out these caribou, went right back the Dempster
2 Highway. That's where the caribou, half of the herd of
3 caribou, that's how much the caribou was disturbed
4 travelling this much. They roam the whole country and
5 the other herd went back down to Alaska, and they
6 winter in the high mountains around the head of the
7 Salmon River.

8 Now we found out that the
9 caribou was disturbed by plane's. This is why the
10 people are afraid when the pipeline come, they. would
11 be disturbed again and probably go somewhere where
12 nobody -- take a different route and it probably would
13 be hard for people in Old Crow to get caribou to eat.
14 The settlement of Old Crow, the residents here would
15 use eight to 900 caribou every year.

16 MR. VEALE: Thank you, Peter.

17 THE COMMISSIONER: How many
18 in a year, Mr. Lord?

19 A Eight to 900, and that's
20 nothing waste out of it.

21 Q That case of disturbance
22 by aircraft, how long ago was, that?

23 A Well, that was only a
24 couple of years ago.

25 THE COMMISSIONER: I want the
26 secretary to make sure that the evidence of Mr. Lord on
27 the impact of aircraft and other activity on the
28 caribou is referred to Commission counsel, Mr. Scott
29 and Mr. Ryder, so that it can be the subject of further
30 examination and cross-examination in the formal

1 | hearings at Yellowknife.

2 | MR. VEALE: Thanks, Peter.

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
4 | Mr. Lord.

5 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

6 | MR. VEALE: This is Moses
7 | Tizya, judge.

8 |

9 | MOSES TIZYA sworn:

10 | THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, I'm
11 | happy to meet you and put in my point of view.

12 | First of all, I let you know
13 | how long I lived here. My parents landed here 1905 and
14 | I been, living here ever since, been here for 70 years.
15 | Then we were there for a while with my parents, and
16 | after that when this town started up we trapped from
17 | here, trapped in Crow Flats and I'll tell you about
18 | trapping from my point of view in the trapline.

19 | THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me.
20 | I wonder if we could have a little less noise? I want
21 | to hear what Mr. Tizya is saying to me, and it's
22 | difficult with so much activity going on. Carry on.

23 | A They told me you people
24 | wanted a story about Herschel Island in the earlier
25 | days, so I'm going to tell you a little about it later
26 | on.

27 | In Crow Flats it has been
28 | talked so much about this, of course. In early days
29 | people lived in there, I don't know, nobody know how
30 | long. There is rat there, there is mink there, there's

1 | foxes there, and a lot of big games there; but they're
2 | not always there. Once in a while in my time I see
3 | rats there in Crow Flats two times, and sometimes out
4 | trapping there -- sometimes there's no fur there, no
5 | fox, no mink. If furs aren't there in one place they
6 | travel around the country; maybe furs, there one place,
7 | another time there would be fur another place. It's
8 | just going on that way.

9 | Then we would trap from there
10 | up Porcupine River all the way along right up to
11 | Whitestone. From there we can go up to railroad place
12 | that's up there a ways, from there to Driftwood,
13 | Diamond Cache, way up around Indian Cache and up
14 | Johnson Creek, right up to Whitestone. There always
15 | used to be people trapping in those places.

16 | There is furs up there, mostly
17 | martin. There's lynx there when they come back, and the
18 | mink , we don't depend much on mink up there. There's
19 | just very odd ones; and of course there's beaver there in
20 | those places, different places in those rivers.

21 | Then if it happen to be
22 | pipeline goes through, I understand it coming close to
23 | Crow Flats and run closer up here somewhere, and it
24 | going along the side of the Porcupine River all the way
25 | up and going to cross lots of creeks, rivers, Bear
26 | River, first of all it going to cross Driftwood and
27 | then there's some other little creeks, and then what
28 | they call Bear River, and the next one would be Bell
29 | River. It don't matter which way it run, it's going to
30 | cross all those creeks all the way up the head of

1 Porcupine, all the tributaries of the Porcupine River.
2 It's bound to cross quite a few of them.

3 Now if happen to be something
4 happen to the pipe, it breaks or something, it's bound
5 to flow down the river oil. It's bound to, it's going
6 to ruin all the fishes and up that part of the country
7 going to ruin the beavers, and Crow Flats, if pipe
8 break there it's going to ruin Crow Flats. That's the
9 reason we are afraid of pipeline. It's going to ruin
10 our water, the water we drink and all that sort of
11 thing.

12 Then about Herschel Island
13 there's a story about Herschel Island, there used to
14 be, I was told by people a story. Of course we never
15 seen it. It was around part of 1800 and there used to
16 be one time they say 17 ships there, whalers; and this
17 is the time they talk about liquor. My father told me
18 it was those whiskey what cleaned the Eskimo out of
19 that country. They say at night
20 when they stay on the ship they could hear cry all over
21 out on the snow, drunk; and they say it was a miracle
22
23 anyway, the Indians don't take no drink at that time.
24 That's what happened in those early days out in
25 Herschel Island, up to 1901, I guess then there was no
26 more of that.

27 I was wondering whether if
28 happened to be pipe break up the river and flow down
29 the river, I was wondering if the caribou could swim
30 across in those oil flowing. It's going to do a lot of

1 | ruin. Where the pipeline is supposed to run is close
2 | to the river, even might float the river. It doesn't
3 | matter where. It might not break, of course, but still
4 | if happen to be earthquake around, it's bound to break
5 | then. There's pretty well no earthquake up here, just
6 | a touch of it.

7 |
8 | But what might happen you
9 | never can tell some day. That's the reason we all
10 | against pipeline. It would ruin our living. We've
11 | been living off the country ever since we were all born
12 | here, off the caribou, moose, fish. Fish is very, very
13 | scarce and there's been damage done already in Crow
14 | Flat with al those fish they throw explosives in those
15 | lakes, and those boys out there working there, there's
16 | a whole lot of dead fish floating from that explosion.
17 | We can prove that since that time this Crow river has
18 | not much fish in it no more, after that. River Used to
19 | be Crow was good fishing, and since that time very,
20 | very few fish. You can set net somewhere in winter
21 | time, there are very, very few fish in the fishnets

22 | That's all the point of view
23 | I can give you on my idea. Thank you very much for
24 | coming and I wish you all the good luck when you go
25 | home, wherever you come from.

26 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
27 | very much.

28 | A Thank you.

29 | THE COMMISSIONER: The same
30 | to you.

(WITNESS ASIDE)

1
2 HARVEY KASSIE sworn:
3 THE WITNESS: Harvey Kassie.
4 MR. VEALE: How old are you?
5 Eleven years old. O.K., go ahead.
6 A I am against the
7 pipeline. My mother's a trapper, she goes out to Crow
8 Flats every, year. I go with her every spring and I
9 would like to do the same thing as her when I grow up.
10 That's why I am against the pipeline. Thank you.
11 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
12 very much, Harvey.
13 (APPLAUSE)
14 THE COMMISSIONER: If you'll
15 leave your statement with us
16 it will be marked as an exhibit and constitute part of
17 the permanent record of this Inquiry.
18 (STATEMENT OF HARVEY KASSIE MARKED EXHIBIT C-108)
19 (WITNESS ASIDE)
20 CHIEF JOHN JOE KAYE resumed:
21 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger,
22 ladies and gentlemen --
23
24 THE INTERPRETER: First of
25 all he said, Mr. Berger, you have been spending your
26 time three days with us people in Old Crow, and your
27 staff and other people who came to attend this meeting.
28 He would like to thank every one of you.
29 He said, Mr. Berger, my
30 name's the chief. He said both ladies and men and kids

1 THE WITNESS: Thank you very
2 much.

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
4 thank you, Chief John Joe Kaye, and the members of the
5 Council and the people of Old Crow for the statements
6 that you have made in the past three days to me, and
7 thank you for these presents. As soon as we've
8 adjourned the meeting tonight I'll open mine, but I
9 think I'll open my wife's too.

10 (LAUGHTER)

11 THE COMMISSIONER: Could I
12 thank you, Mr. Lord, for being such a fine interpreter,
13 and could I thank Mr. Sittichinli for being such a fine
14 interpreter for us, and could I thank all of you for
15 your friendship during my visit to Old Crow Flats last
16 month, and for the friendship you've extended to me and
17 my staff and the members of the C.B.C. and the press
18 and the participants in the Inquiry on this visit?
19 Could I say that I bring a lot of people with me
20 because this is a public Inquiry, and it is
21 to enable you to tell me what you think and to enable
22 you to tell the people of the north and the people of
23 Canada what you think, and that's why I bring all of
24 these people from the C.B.C. and the press with me. In
25 fact, now that I've got them all here, they don't want
26 to leave. They all like your village very much and so
27 do I, but we are going tomorrow to the Mackenzie Delta
28 to visit the whalers from Aklavik who are out in the
29 delta, and then we're going to Yellowknife and then to
30 Fort Liard later in the week to hold a community

1 | hearing there.

2 | I have listened to each one
3 | of you because my job is to listen to each one of you,
4 | and to learn from each one of you. I have to hear what
5 | all the people in the Mackenzie Valley and the
6 | Mackenzie Delta and the Northern Yukon think about the
7 | pipeline, and then I have to send a report and
8 | recommendations into the government, and when I am
9 | considering what I will recommend to the government, I
10 | will be thinking about what all of you have said to me
11 | over these past three days about the land and about
12 | your way of life, and maybe you could interpret that,
13 | Mr. Lord, as best you can.

14 | I think that before I adjourn
15 | the hearing I should just read what you have written in
16 | this present to David Berger. It says:

17 | "To David Berger from the Old Crow children. We
18 | are glad your father could bring his son to our
19 | village. Sincerely,

20 | 'CHIEF JOHN JOE KAYE.'

21 | This is to my wife, Mrs.

22 | Berger:

23 | "From the old Crow people. We hope you can come
24 | to our village with your husband some time.
25 | Sincerely.

26 | 'CHIEF JOHN JOE KAYE.'

27 | Well, I know she wants to
28 | come here some day, too.

29 | This one is:

30 | "To Mr. Justice Berger from the Old Crow people,

1 with sincere thanks for listening and learning
2 about our ways. Best wishes.

3 CHIEF JOHN JOE KAYE'."

4 Well, thank you all again, an
5 I will adjourn the hearing now. I see that David has
6 arrived. He must have heard that you had a present
7 him.

8 (LAUGHTER)

9 So I will adjourn the hearing
10 now and thank you all very much.

11 CHIEF KAYE: Mr. Berger, I
12 want you to open your parcels in front of our people.

13 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, I will.

14 (LAUGHTER)

15 Well, these are beautiful.

16 Well, I expect to be here into next winter, so I'm
17 going to need these. They are beautiful, and thank you
18 very much; and I'll open my wife's present now --

19 (LAUGHTER)

20 Well, these are very nice.

21 I'll just leave there here on the table and I think a
22 lot of you when you leave will probably want to come up
23 and look at them. These are very nice. I know my wife
24 will appreciate them, and I thank all of you on her
25 behalf.

26 I'm not going to open my
27 son's present, I think he better come and open it
28 himself.

29 (APPLAUSE)

30 MR. BERGER: Oh, that's very

1 nice. Thank you. I'd like to thank the people of Old
2 Crow for giving me such beautiful moccasins.

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, thank
4 you again, and we'll be leaving tomorrow morning, but we
5 hope to see you again sometime, so thank you again.

6 (APPLAUSE)

7 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED TO JULY 5, 1975)

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