

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)

**Arctic Red River, N.W.T.  
March 13, 1976**

PROCEEDINGS AT COMMUNITY HEARING

**Volume 47**

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APPEARANCES

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Pipeline Limited;

Patrick Beer, Esq., For Foothill Pipe Lines Ltd.

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1 Arctic Red River,  
2 N.W.T. March 13, 1976.

3 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

4 THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and  
5 gentlemen, I'll call our hearing to order today.

6 I am Judge Berger and I am  
7 here to listen to what you have to say about the  
8 proposal to build a pipeline to carry gas from the  
9 Arctic to Southern Canada and the United States.

10 There are two companies that  
11 want to build the pipeline, one is Arctic Gas, the  
12 other is Foothills Pipe Lines. I've invited people  
13 from those companies to come today to listen to what  
14 you have to say. Later on if you want to ask them any  
15 questions, we'll bring them forward and you will have a  
16 chance to question them.

17 But the main reason I'm here  
18 \* is to listen to what you think about the proposal to  
19 build a pipeline.

20 (NOEL ANDRE SWORN AS INTERPRETER)

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Now if  
22 this pipeline is built, there will be 6,000 men  
23 required here in the north to build it, and we are told  
24 it will take three years to build. We are told there  
25 will be 1,200 men needed -- 1,200 more men needed to  
26 build the gas plants for Imperial, Gulf and Shell in  
27 the delta, on Richards Island and at Parsons Lake. We  
28 are told this will be the biggest construction project  
29 in tie history of our country.

30 The government also says, "Well,





1 I was born in 1910, 14th of  
2 May I was born, since that time my mother and my father  
3 look after me. That's why I grow up in this Northwest  
4 Territories. That's why I'm still right on it, and I  
5 don't want to let my land go. That much I like it.  
6 That's why I stay on it till the end of my life.

7 Seeing how much I work I want  
8 to let you know, that time I born my mother grow me up,  
9 my father too grow me up. Just big enough I work for  
10 myself, I started to work since 1925, I. start to  
11 trap. I trap in three years I was single. When I was  
12 18 years old I married in 1928, since then I went in  
13 the bush. Only this year, 1975, I came in this town,  
14 the first town I stayed in in my life. Sometimes I  
15 stayed in the bush year-around, summertime, winter.  
16 That much I like my land, that's why I stay that long.

17 That's the way all my people  
18 think it, everyone of them is just born right here,  
19 right in the Northwest Territories, and they don't want  
20 to let the land go. When they started to talk about  
21 the pipeline, well everybody just like sick, they start  
22 to get sick, never get feel better, just worry about  
23 themselves and worry about all their children and all  
24 grandchildren, just thinking ahead about ten years'  
25 time, we just think about it. That's why we just  
26 started to get sick.

27 Well, since the white man  
28 came in this country, since then the white people never  
29 tell the Indian, the white man what they going to do  
30 never tell the Indian. They just sneak around. They



1 | don't want to let the Indian know it, they just do it.

2 |                                 Since the oil people coming  
3 | down in this country starting to make a cut line, well  
4 | they never tell the people. I started at Tree River,  
5 | about four to five miles up the Mackenzie and every  
6 | year they just make a cut line right back onto my trap  
7 | line. Well, every time they wanted to do that they  
8 | come in to see me, they asked me. I told him, "No,  
9 | that's my living. Just like you got dollar in your  
10 | pocket, same thing, that's why I don't want you to go  
11 | there, I don't want to tear my one dollar." That's what  
12 | I tell them but they go ahead and do it.

13 |                                 Lots of times I cursed him  
14 | but they never listen to me. Now it's no more good up  
15 | there. It used to be good that place, right in Arctic  
16 | Red River is where I make my living, everybody know  
17 | it.

18 |                                 This land, we don't want the  
19 | pipeline go right through the Fish Lake right around  
20 | Travaillant Lake right east side the Mackenzie.  
21 | That's where is Fish Lake, every lake is Fish Lake.  
22 | Not only me, it's all that people over there, that's  
23 | what they think. Any time there's no fish on the  
24 | river, well they have to go to Fish Lake. That's  
25 | where the pipeline is going right through. That's why  
26 | we don't want the pipeline to go through there. Not  
27 | only me I think that way, everyone of them, that's  
28 | what they think.

29 |                                 The white man, he just think  
30 | about his pocket. That's why we don't want the pipeline.







1 and she sees all that.

2 She said the fish are  
3 supposed to run from one lake to another through  
4 creeks, that's the only way fish is good all the time,  
5 she said. It used to be. But now since they work  
6 around there, they block up some creeks and that's  
7 where the fish dies, she said.

8 She said I was born in  
9 between: Thunder River and Tree River, that's Thunder  
10 River here, Tree River here. In between there I'm  
11 born, she said, and I want to die there of old age, she  
12 said. But at Travaillant Lake, that's my lake, she  
13 said. I was thinking of my land, she said, and ever  
14 since my husband died my family stayed at the same  
15 places, that's around Tree River. I think they're  
16 going to stay there a long time.

17 She said that's my land around  
18 where I'm living now, she said. That's around Tree River  
19 and even around Travaillant Lake. Even you try to chase  
20 me away from there, she said, I wouldn't go, she said.  
21 She said this land is ours, she said. I was born in it  
22 and God gave it to us, she said. We didn't buy it, she  
23 says. Why they want to buy it from us, she said? She  
24 said we don't need your money, she said. Even though we  
25 got no money we still don't need your money.

26 I caught one marten last year  
27 but this year I didn't catch nothing, she said. She  
28 said all my life I lived on the land, she said. I don't  
29 know anything about garden stuffs (she means potatoes  
30 and all that). She said every time something killed

1 fresh, she said, that tastes good, she said.

2 She said if we give our land  
3 away what our children's children will do, she said?  
4 They don't even know how -- they won't even know how to  
5 make their own living, she said. (She meant bush life  
6 living). What they will do, I wonder, she said?  
7 They'll be hungry for sure, she said. If we give our  
8 land away we wouldn't be smiling, she said, we'll be  
9 crying just to see our children hungry and that will  
10 make us cry, she said.

11 She said it's good to stay in  
12 the bush and make your living there, she said. It's a  
13 great world out there, she said. If we give our land  
14 away what we going to do, she said? Nobody knows how to  
15 grow anything, garden and things like that. All they  
16 know is how to hunt, and if the pipeline come -through,  
17 what we going to do, she said; nothing, she said.

18 Ever since the seismic line  
19 came through, she said there's nothing in the country,  
20 she said. Nothing. Even fish, she said, I even seen:  
21 fish just he skin over the bones, she said. But right  
22 now she said there's no fish, there's just small little  
23 ones, she said.

24 She said there's no moose, no  
25 caribou, ptarmigan, no rabbit, no beaver, and in case  
26 of fire she said it's going to burn the pipeline, she  
27 said.

28 I been all over the country,  
29 she said, I even went, as far as Dawson over the mountain  
30 and all around this country I've been; but most of all,

1 | I like Travaillant Lake, she said. I'm stingy for it,  
2 | she said, real stingy for it.  
3 | This is all I'm going to say.  
4 | I'm tired, she said.  
5 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
6 | very much, madam.  
7 | (WITNESS ASIDE)  
8 |  
9 | NORBERT NATSIE sworn:  
10 | THE INTERPRETER: This is  
11 | Norbert now.  
12 | THE WITNESS: I am Norbert  
13 | Natsie  
14 | THE INTERPRETER: We are  
15 | poor, he said, but even that, you come around and visit  
16 | us, I thank you very much for that, he said.  
17 | Now I'm going to tell you  
18 | what the chief and the old lady told you, well that's  
19 | the same way I think too, he said. Ever since we heard  
20 | about pipeline we said, "No," and we asked to say "No."  
21 | We asked them, "No," and as long as we live, he said he  
22 | won't quit saying "No pipeline."  
23 | He said a long time ago some  
24 | white man came around. We asked and asked, we never  
25 | did see anything, he said. He gave lots of promise but  
26 | we never did see anything.  
27 | He said today I don't like to  
28 | talk, but I guess we just have to say something, that's  
29 | how come we're talking, he said. He said they should  
30 | settle lands first instead of talking about the pipeline.















1 We ask that our rights as a people for self-  
2 determination be respected. We must all work together  
3 for a successful land settlement. It then becomes a  
4 means to achieve our local needs, our real needs.  
5 Those needs are a landbased and political control to  
6 determine what happens on our land; and above all,  
7 independence for the Dene within Canada.

8 Thank you.

9 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
10 very much, sir. Since your statement is in writing,  
11 will you let us have it and it will be marked as an  
12 exhibit in the proceedings of this Inquiry?

13 (SUBMISSION BY R. ANDRE MARKED EXHIBIT C-262)

14 (WITNESS ASIDE)

15

16 GABE ANDRE sworn:

17 THE WITNESS: Gabe Andre.

18 Good morning, Mr. Berger. What you heard said here,  
19 I'm right behind, and I'll tell you I live in the bush,  
20 I'm a trapper. I come in from my camp today. It's  
21 over 70 miles I travelled by skidoo today, just to say  
22 a few words to you for my land, and I trapped in this  
23 country, I didn't remember the time that I got stuck.

24 That's because I know how to  
25 hunt in my country. But since the oil companies start  
26 in this country lots of places I go there's nothing. I  
27 remember one time in June I come from Travaillant Lake  
28 by dogs by myself, I come to one creek with a seismic  
29 line going across that creek, they blow that creek up  
30 so good that whatever they put across that creek was

1 | still the same. I drove my dogs across that creek and  
2 | all the bush that they put in there, it's still there,  
3 | today it's still right there. There was fish in that  
4 | lake, going back and forth between those two lakes.  
5 | Not only there, at Travaillant Lake (I lived there, I  
6 | settled down there eight years now), first time I got  
7 | there it was good. How many seismic line has been  
8 | coming around there since then? From there to the  
9 | Mackenzie River one line I used to have, I never been  
10 | in it for seven years. I went through. there this  
11 | fall. One lake.; I found four 45-gallon barrels frozen  
12 | in the ice around the lake. There used to be beaver  
13 | houses on that lake. There's nothing. I don't know if  
14 | that's barrel's got gas or oil, I don't know what they  
15 | got in there. It's frozen in the ice.

16 | I travelled around that  
17 | country. Early in the spring after the snow is gone I  
18 | see lots of garbage. One day I seen about two or 300  
19 | feet of cable laying along the road on C.N. line. I  
20 | seen one little wire sticking out of snow. I took it  
21 | out, there was. no end of it. Why is it left on the  
22 | ground? C.N. line now, they don't need it. Why don't  
23 | they tear it down? Most of that lines maybe two or  
24 | three feet off the ground. We want to walk some place.  
25 | If there is something in our way, how can we pass  
26 | there? Just think of the game. The game, do they like  
27 | it?

28 | The fish and the beaver, the  
29 | rats, the moose, caribou, whatever they want to do  
30 | they're going to do it. They're a free country for

1 | them, like I am.

2 |                                   I don't know why they want to  
3 | do that, leave things like that laying around the road  
4 | on the country, even tearing all them bushes, piling it  
5 | on one side of the road. Sometimes I see a caribou or  
6 | moose have to go around and walk long ways before  
7 | they're going to cross the road. I see lots of places  
8 | where they got their camp, their sewer, their  
9 | everything, it's there melting away, I see it.

10 |                                   Now I see they are putting  
11 | some kind of iron in the ground along Mackenzie River.  
12 | It's as far as this side of Travaillant River. Why  
13 | they put them things in there? Big iron bars sticking  
14 | in the ground, in little creeks, every, so many miles I  
15 | see it, it's all like that. If they going to come down  
16 | here, why they doing that? Could they ask us first  
17 | before they going to do that? They never mention  
18 | nothing.

19 |                                   I remember as far as I can  
20 | remember, I'll tell. I remember 1938 I used to trap  
21 | with my dad. If he's going to go on the line, round  
22 | trip, he always take me. That's not having a ride on  
23 | the sled. That's walking. We make living out of this  
24 | country. If we know how to do it, it's nothing to it.  
25 | Quite a few times I hear some people say, "We get help  
26 | from government."

27 |                                   I just sit and smile to myself.  
28 | I listen to radio and I understand. I got no education.  
29 | I don't know what they mean "get help by government".  
30 | Even old age pensioners, my mother's right there, she get



1 her old age pension, it's not even enough for her what  
2 she want to do with it.

3 I want to tell you something  
4 about family allowance, what is good to me? I got five  
5 kids, all of them their family allowance put together  
6 is not even enough to buy a set of clothes for one of  
7 them.

8 Last fall I took my kids to  
9 Inuvik to school. I send my wife and four kids to  
10 the school to get clothes for them. Cost me \$280  
11 just for the top clothes. If I get them kids in the  
12 bush I don't know what they're going to wear. I  
13 don't need no grub for them because I get it out of  
14 the country.

15 Today sometime I coming down  
16 on that river, I just feel mad, you know. What's  
17 happening to us? Nobody know what's happening to us.  
18 My great grandfather had a good time. My grandfather  
19 had a good time. My father had a good time. And we  
20 are the ones that are going to get it. Not too bad  
21 now, but think of our children, our children's  
22 children. Many times something happened to Indians,  
23 well maybe they'll just say, "Ah, it's just another  
24 Indian, that's all."

25 Last fall I was in Inuvik, I  
26 talked to Tree River on the radio. My brother talked  
27 to me and said, "Mummy's sick."

28 I phoned the hospital." We got  
29 nothing to do with it. McPherson's supposed to look  
30 after it." O.K., I phoned .McPherson. McPherson tells

1 me, "How sick she is?" How could I know? They wouldn't  
2 send a plane out there.

3 This winter down Travaillant  
4 Creek, Julius Norberg, his wife is sick, real sick, I  
5 seen with my own eyes. I came back to Tree River and I  
6 got on the radio, got through to Franklin. They got  
7 Inuvik to come and talk to me, they said, "How sick is  
8 that old woman?"

9 I told him she's sick, real  
10 sick.

11 Well, the hospital wanted to  
12 know how sick she is before they can pick her up.

13 I said, "Don't bother with  
14 hospital," I said, "just send a plane and charge it up  
15 to Julius Norberg."

16 Well, he won't pay for that  
17 plane himself. That woman just went home the other  
18 day, over two weeks she stayed in the hospital.

19 Things like that, nobody  
20 think of us. I'm out there. Who is thinking about me?  
21 Nobody. The game warden, what is the game warden here  
22 for? He says he's looking after the game. I never see  
23 game out there, never see no game warden out there.

24 Now there was a time when  
25 there was no game warden in this country and we done  
26 good.

27 I worked for research two  
28 years. What they want to do out there? We know the  
29 country just as -- better than any one of them. We  
30 take them out there, they just going to look how many









1 THE COMMISSIONER: But you're  
2 getting through to me now. You leave it to me to get  
3 through to Ottawa.

4 A Yes.

5 THE COMMISSIONER: You're  
6 getting through to Ottawa too, right now. I think you  
7 should bear that in mind.

8 A Well, all this -- all us  
9 Indians, us people, we want written on a paper to get  
10 where we wanted to get it, and this pipeline I can say  
11 again, we don't want pipeline. Nowhere at all, you can  
12 push it as far as wherever you can put it, I said we  
13 don't want it.

14 You see all them creeks, all  
15 them hills, and what about them people down, Eskimos?  
16 They wouldn't want it down there too.

17 Well, that's all I think I  
18 got to say before I talk too much maybe, Mr. Berger.  
19 That's all I got to say.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.  
21 I'm glad you came to town to  
22 say it.

23 A I come here for you to  
24 listen to my poor words.

25 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.  
26 (WITNESS ASIDE)

27 MRS. MARKA BULLOCK sworn:

28 THE WITNESS: This is one of  
29 the crazy Andres, this is Mrs. Bullock speaking.

30 Mr. Berger, I would like just

1 a few words, not very long. My brother, Hyacinthe  
2 Andre, is the chief of Arctic Red, I'm very proud of  
3 him, what he told you before, and the second one is my  
4 mom. That's my mom right here. I'm kind of a spoiled  
5 brat, but anyway, I've got a little brain in my head as  
6 far as I'm concerned.

7 How come when Willie first,  
8 when he was elected for this place, he told me, "Marka,  
9 you going to elected for me?" he said.

10 I said, "For what?"

11 He likes me, so I said,  
12 "Sure, I going to cross my hand for you," I told him.

13 And then he said, "If you  
14 ever cross your hand for me I going to give you free  
15 water."

16 How many time is that? That's  
17 five years ago. I never see that. Boy, if I see that  
18 guy today I just going to trace him up and down.  
19 Honestly, I'm not joking, I mean it.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: I believe  
21 you.

22 A M-hm. Why you have to put  
23 my name down for him? I was crazy. But anyway, this  
24 bag is my fortune, but I don't want no pipeline, and no  
25 land claim too, nothing. I've got ten of my kids. Who  
26 is going to trap for them? I'm an Indian woman so I'm  
27 married to white man. So what? What is it to be  
28 married to white man? I was crazy to marry a white man.  
29 I love him. That's true.

30 (LAUGHTER)



1 Listen to me, Mr. Berger, I  
2 got six kids of my own skiing. You heard about Herbert  
3 Bullock, the one that's top of the world, he's in North  
4 Bay now. You know how far I come to see you today?  
5 Just guess.

6 THE COMMISSIONER: From  
7 Inuvik?

8 A Inuvik, yes. I left 8:30  
9 this morning just to see you. Are you proud of that?  
10 I'm proud of my brother and Alice Steen and Noel and  
11 Robert, whatever they make out to speak, I'm proud of  
12 whatever it is, and my poor brother Antoine. I'm the  
13 only sister in the family so they can't touch me.  
14 O.K., thank you very much.

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

17 THE COMMISSIONER: I'm ready  
18 whenever you are, sir.

19 NAP NORBERT, sworn:

20 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger,  
21 everything what I wanted to say has already -- I guess  
22 you were listening to it. What I wanted to say, you  
23 know, and they already said it and I agree with them  
24 what they say. But most of all what I want -- I was  
25 going to talk about it but for this land claim, Mr.  
26 Berger, we want to have land claim. Probably you heard  
27 already at each settlement you been to.

28 So it's not asking too much  
29 for that, you know. Mr. Berger, we want to settle this  
30 land claim before any pipeline come through, and before







1 THE WITNESS: Suppose if it  
2 breaks when there is 50 miles between the valve.

3 MR. CARTER: Yes.

4 THE WITNESS: Well, suppose  
5 if this breaks in between 50 miles, suppose this is a  
6 creek or small stream or small little bigger river or  
7 something like that, if pipeline goes through across  
8 that creek or river/ if it breaks, either if it breaks  
9 or stretch or whatever, what will happen? How many  
10 gallons will be in that 50 miles? I'd like to know.

11 MR. CARTER: Well, you may be  
12 thinking more of an oil pipeline.

13 THE WITNESS: Yes.

14 MR. CARTER: And as the judge  
15 said, some of the oil companies are considering whether  
16 or not they would build an oil pipeline along the  
17 Mackenzie Valley.

18 THE WITNESS: This is  
19 supposed to be gas, eh?

20 MR. CARTER: That's right,  
21 Arctic Gas Pipeline is not an oil pipeline, but it's  
22 natural gas, so it wouldn't be a liquid and you  
23 couldn't then measure it in gallons. It wouldn't run  
24 out like a liquid. It would escape and evaporate into  
25 the air more like propane would, and the evidence that  
26 we've heard from other people who know more about it  
27 than I do, is that in many of the cases if there's a  
28 break, the gas would catch on fire so it would burn as  
29 it escaped into the air and it would burn up. If  
30 there was no fire it would escape into the air, and as

1 | it's lighter than air, it would rise up.

2 | THE WITNESS: It wouldn't  
3 | flow in the river?

4 | MR. CARTER: No, it's lighter  
5 | than water and lighter than air, so if it was under the  
6 | water when it broke, it would

7 | THE WITNESS: But it would  
8 | blow with the wind?

9 | MR. CARTER: -- it will mix  
10 | in with the air, all the air that's around.

11 | THE WITNESS: Well, suppose  
12 | it's about a 50-mile wind, the wind is going to take  
13 | that?

14 | MR. CARTER: Well, the wind  
15 | would affect it but it would rise up as well and it  
16 | would mix in with the other gases that are in the air -  
17 | - oxygen and everything else, this would be natural gas  
18 | mixed in with it.

19 | THE WITNESS: Well, I think  
20 | there's a stink too, eh?

21 | MR. CARTER: Pardon?

22 | THE WITNESS: A stink?

23 | MR. CARTER: Well, there's no  
24 | smell, but they put a smell into it so that you know if  
25 | there is a leak, it can be smelled, that's right.

26 | THE WITNESS: Well, I mean if  
27 | it breaks, I said, if the pipeline breaks.

28 | MR. CARTER: Yes.

29 | THE WITNESS: Well, will the  
30 | smell affect the animals, the birds, and everything?

1 MR. CARTER: Well, it's my  
2 understanding it rises up so it doesn't stay along the  
3 ground, and then the animals wouldn't be able to smell  
4 it. But if they were close by I'm sure, they would be  
5 able to smell it and they'd be scared away.

6 THE WITNESS: Probably if I  
7 was five miles away I could smell it myself.

8 MR. CARTER: Yes.

9 THE WITNESS: No, if wind  
10 direction to me.

11 MR. BEER: I think if you  
12 were about five miles away from the pipeline, sir, even  
13 if there's a fairly strong wind blowing towards you the  
14 gas is so much lighter than air that it will have risen  
15 quite a long way and you wouldn't be able to smell it  
16 at that distance.

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,  
18 let's go back a bit, Mr. Beer. If you have a break in  
19 the pipeline, we've been told by Arctic Gas that the  
20 chances are , I think 50-50, that the gas will ignite,  
21 that is you'll have the gas burning when it comes out  
22 of the pipeline, if it breaks.

23 MR. BEER: I couldn't swear  
24 to the 50-50, sir, but there is a fair possibility, I  
25 suppose, that it will ignite, yes.

26 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, the  
27 danger with a gas pipeline if it breaks, one of the  
28 dangers is that there is a good chance that it will  
29 ignite, that is it will burst into flame and it can  
30 then cause a forest fire, that's the principal danger





1 THE COMMISSIONER: They're  
2 fighting about who's going to build the gas pipeline.

3 THE WITNESS: I'm pretty sure  
4 after you build that pipeline, now every news you hear  
5 is a gas pipeline, and then after you build that I'm  
6 pretty sure it's going to be oil pipeline, the oil.

7 MR. BEER: Yes, I imagine it  
8 will be. I don't know how many years later it would be  
9 after the gas pipeline.

10 THE WITNESS: They just  
11 mention that to make us believe, the Indians believe  
12 that it's just only natural gas and gas is all; but  
13 probably they're going to build along side of that  
14 they're going to build oil.

15 MR. BEER: That can't be  
16 denied, that's the way that it will probably be, yes.

17 THE WITNESS: They're going  
18 to operate it, I think so. So if they ever built, that  
19 oil, the oil itself damage lots.

20 MR. BEER: Yes, the oil would  
21 in fact, as Mr. Berger pointed out, cause a lot more  
22 damage if it's built, than natural gas would, yes.

23 THE WITNESS: So I put down  
24 here, "creek, river, lake", if it goes on the creeks  
25 and lakes and streams. So it won't bother the creeks  
26 and the rivers or lakes?

27 MR. BEER: Which is this, the  
28 gas?

29 THE WITNESS: Well, the gas  
30 or oil.

1 MR. BEER: The natural gas 21  
2 would not bother the creeks and the lakes as such, no.  
3 3 If we ever did have a break of a pipeline under a  
4 river or creek, the gas would just bubble up to the top  
5 of 5 the water and just escape. It wouldn't mix in  
6 with the 5 water at all, and it wouldn't float on top  
7 either. 7 I should perhaps add here that B under lakes  
8 -- not under lakes because we don't plan on crossing  
9 any lakes -- but under rivers and creeks including the  
10 Mackenzie, we would put extra strong pipe in order that  
11 the likelihood of a pipeline break there is even more  
12 reduced from the low level we think it is on across dry  
13 land.

14 THE WITNESS: Another thing here  
15 I want to know, since they're talking about pipeline, I  
16 think it's 1970 now since then, is it lately you find  
17 where your route is going to be over there?

18 MR. BEER: Yes, there are  
19 some slight differences in the routes between Arctic  
20 Gas and ourselves.

21 THE WITNESS: Since 1970?

22 MR. BEER: I think Arctic Gas  
23 has changed their route since 1970, yes.

24 THE WITNESS: Can I look at a  
25 map?

26 MR. BEER: Of course.

27 THE WITNESS: This latest one  
28 or-

29 MR. BEER: The red pipeline,  
30 this one here that goes down across Swimming Point and

1 | diverges well to the east of Travaillant Lake here is  
2 | the Foothills Pipeline. The black line -- I'll speak  
3 | for Mr. Carter, I guess -- the black line is the  
4 | current proposed route of the Arctic Gas pipeline.

5 | THE COMMISSIONER: Black is  
6 | the Arctic Gas Pipeline; red is Foothills' pipeline.

7 | THE WITNESS: This is natural  
8 | gas and this is real gas?

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: No,  
10 | they're both natural gas. Don't ask me why they

11 | THE WITNESS: The black one  
12 | looks like an oil pipeline.

13 | (LAUGHTER)

14 | MR. BEER: I won't  
15 | disillusion you.

16 | THE WITNESS: So you know,  
17 | the reason I ask where you're going to put it, you know  
18 | they're talking about putting pipeline through  
19 | Travaillant Lake, they're talking about a lot of  
20 | gravel in there. They say they want to use gravel  
21 | mostly from there, that's why I mention it. The main  
22 | fishing place are these lakes right here, way back  
23 | there.

24 | MR. BEER: I can say here,  
25 | while I don't know exactly where the gravel is coming  
26 | from, in the Travaillant Lake area, that we would not  
27 | be taking gravel out of the lake, That is not our  
28 | proposal at this time, in any way.

29 | THE WITNESS: Well, I understand  
30 | a couple of years ago or a year ago they wanted to

1 take gravel around from Travaillant Lake, around the area  
2 around there.

3 MR. BEER: I don't know who  
4 it as. I don't think it was either Arctic Gas or  
5 Foothills, in any case, sir.

6 THE WITNESS: It's not going  
7 to be done down below here, or down below Arctic Red?  
8 It's not crossing there?

9 MR. BEER: No. This route  
10 has got nothing to do with Foothills anyway, and it's  
11 not being proposed by Arctic Gas at the moment either  
12 Their route is up across the delta. This is no longer  
13 a firm proposal.

14 THE WITNESS: Well, that's  
15 all I wanted to know.

16 MR. BEER: O.K., thank you.

17 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

18 There's one more thing I like to mention about this -is  
19 there any way besides pipeline?

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

21 THE WITNESS: What is it?

22 THE COMMISSIONER: There are  
23 other ways. One would be to use a tanker, tankers, big  
24 ships that would carry large volumes of gas, but you  
25 would have a hard job getting the tankers through the  
26 ice and they don't want to use tankers. They've  
27 suggested building a railway.

28 THE WITNESS: Yes.

29 THE COMMISSIONER: But the  
30 C.N.R. and the C.P.R. don't at this time propose to build

1 a railway and they propose to fly the gas out in big  
2 planes, but that doesn't seem practical. So Arctic Gas  
3 and Foothills are supported by the oil and gas industry,  
4 the oil companies, and they -- the oil companies have  
5 found the gas and they say they want to take it out by a  
6 pipeline, so that's why we're looking at a pipeline and  
7 the National Energy Board, when it resumes its hearings,  
8 will consider whether it should be a railroad instead, or  
9 tankers instead, or big planes instead, or even big  
10 submarines under the ice taking the gas out. Now these  
11 are ideas that have been advanced, but the companies say,  
12 "Well, the best way is a pipeline, if we are going to get  
13 it out."

14 So that's why we're looking  
15 at a pipeline today.

16 THE WITNESS: So for the  
17 train I think you got both ways transportation for  
18 bringing freight out with oil or gas or something like  
19 that.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,  
21 that's the advantage of a train, but to give you an  
22 example, well, let me just put it this way, the only  
23 companies that are apparently able to build railroads  
24 or run them, are the Canadian Pacific Railroad and the  
25 Canadian National Railroad, and they are not prepared  
26 to build a railroad at this stage. But there is a  
27 Board that meets in Ottawa called the Energy Board, and  
28 it will be meeting, I think, in a while, and they will  
29 consider whether it shouldn't be a train or some other  
30 way of getting the gas out besides a pipeline. But

1 | that's not my job.

2 |                                   THE WITNESS: That's all I  
3 | got for pipeline on here, so I got another piece here  
4 | for you which I been keeping for a long time. You  
5 | mentioned bout 12,000 people is going to be employed.

6 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: 6,000.

7 |                                   THE WITNESS: Well, 12,000  
8 | and ,000 too, I guess.

9 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: Well, go  
10 | ahead anyway, don't let me interrupt you.

11 |                                   THE WITNESS: Is it 12,000 or  
12 | ,000?

13 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I  
14 | said ,000 plus 1,200 more, so that's 7,200, maybe more  
15 | than that, though. We'll have to wait and see, if it  
16 | is built, how many people will be needed to build it.

17 |                                   THE WITNESS: Well, I tore  
18 | off his. Thanks very much for talking to me. I think  
19 | Ill read this to you.

20 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: Sure, go  
21 | ahead.

22 |                                   THE WITNESS: This is a piece  
23 | from "The Drum", it was written in '72.

24 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: O.K.

25 |                                   THE WITNESS:

26 |                                   "It may not come to result, but this is what I  
27 | want to say about the land, my land. Back of  
28 | Smith cabin a creek 60 or 70 miles up the  
29 | Mackenzie from Arctic Red is where I lived for  
30 | many years. I know there is only one good

1 fish lake, and I am living at Travaillant Lake  
2 now for the last four years, and all these  
3 lakes used to be good fish lakes, but since  
4 I've been there the fish are not worth eating.  
5 It was worse this fall. The fish there are  
6 nothing but heads, skin, bones. The oil com-  
7 panies have been building roads over this  
8 land. There are no caribou, it's because of  
9 this company tearing up the ground."

10 I believe that, I think.

11 "There are no rabbits, no ptarmigan, no lynx,  
12 no martens. It used to be one of the richest  
13 countries for hunting and trapping, but not  
14 any more. I have been thinking all these  
15 things no more all winter. There are/old-  
16 timers in Arctic Red River except myself.  
17 That's why I talk all about these things.  
18 This is not exactly for myself. I have four  
19 sons and they all have big families. This is  
20 the reason I am still fighting. I live in the  
21 bush all the time. I come to town only  
22 Christmas and Easter, Therefore I know what  
23 I'm talking about. The beaver and the rat are  
24 very scarce. It never had been like this for  
25 100 years, so there is really something wrong.

26 I heard lots about highways coming  
27 through, but this I don't know much about.  
28 But I'm really against pipeline. If something  
29 ever happens to oil pipes due to cold weather  
30 and something, then what? I am old enough to

1                   say that I saw people make fire with flint,"  
2 she mean in the old time,  
3                   "in those days I could work and hunt just as  
4 good as a man. I don't know very much about  
5 white man's way of life but by different  
6 womans I think I heard that the white people  
7 want consultation with the Indians before they  
8 start exploration in the north. I might be  
9 talking for nothing. At least I want to let  
10 the people know what I think. Most of all, I  
11 don't want give away my land. I am 85 years  
12 of age. I have been trying to stop young peo-  
13 ple from drinking. Besides this I still want  
14 to fight for my land. This is all I have to  
15 say."

16 This is Julienne Andre who wrote that.

17                   THE COMMISSIONER: Mrs. Andre  
18 spoke earlier today.

19                   THE WITNESS: Yes, Mrs.  
20 Andre. It's interesting, that's why I kept that.

21                   THE COMMISSIONER: Could you  
22 let us have that to keep that?

23                   THE WITNESS: If you pay for  
24 it.

25                   THE COMMISSIONER: Oh yes.  
26 We'll make a copy of it and send it back to you.  
27 You're pretty sharp herein this town.

28 (LETTER TO EDITOR OF "THE DRUM" BY JULIENNE ANDRE  
29 MARKED EXHIBIT C-263)

30                   THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, you



1 | don't mind to listen to another one, I been put this  
2 | probably a year ago or a year before,

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: Go ahead.

4 | THE WITNESS: This is I want  
5 | to give Tom Berger that, don't say he ever put it in  
6 | "The Drum", probably he's scared to put in there.

7 | "For everything you gain, you also lose some-  
8 | thing. The young native of the north have  
9 | been taken away from their parents at an early  
10 | age from 4 to 9 years, to hostel system, which  
11 | is like a rotten education system. They can't  
12 | learn their language and their culture, and  
13 | it's such a system because the Inuit people  
14 | have always had nomadic livelihood. Freedom  
15 | to do what they want these days. The young  
16 | people are becoming technicians, doctors, etc.  
17 | in their culture of their parents. Ancestors  
18 | starting to die. The young people are caught  
19 | in between two, cultures, their ancestors way  
20 | of life or technical ways of a white man.  
21 | Which way they do go? Everywhere old-time  
22 | trappers, hunters used to do their things.  
23 | This means of trapping and hunting. There are  
24 | seismic lines put there by oil companies.  
25 | There is hardly any animals around there any  
26 | more. We've got to stop what the oil compa-  
27 | nies are doing to our land. This is for our  
28 | good, the good of our children, grandchildren,  
29 | and our land."

30 | Thanks, Mr. Berger, I just

1 | want to talk to you about that today.

2 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: Well,  
3 | thank you very much, sir.

4 |                                   THE WITNESS: That's all that  
5 | come to my head. Thanks very much.

6 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.  
7 |                                   (WITNESS ASIDE)

8 |

9 |                                   EDWARD NAZON sworn:

10 |                                  THE WITNESS: Edward Nazon.  
11 | Mr. Berger, I'm getting old, you know, and I think I'll  
12 | make it briefly because all that I achieved and what I  
13 | said, I think it just about covered up all I had to say  
14 | but before I give my views I would like to say a few  
15 | words on the Inquiry itself.

16 |                                  According to quite a few  
17 | weeks back, I think according to Mr. Fraser, you have  
18 | been criticized somewhere on your trip and also our  
19 | friend, Jim Edwards Sittichinli has been criticized in  
20 | Inuvik. As we all know, anything you do say or you do  
21 | as an individual or some people will always criticize  
22 | and we all agree, so I just want to let you people know  
23 | that these people, if they think they can do better,  
24 | they should push you people aside and take things over  
25 | themselves. But as far as we're concerned, there's  
26 | very few times that I'm miss listening to the Berger  
27 | Inquiry. The only time that I miss is when I was out  
28 | on trapline, if I come home late, that's the only time  
29 | I miss. So I don't want you people to think that  
30 | everybody criticizes you. So much for this.

















1 | just happy that all my people were happy together.  
2 | That's where we want to be. We don't need no pipeline  
3 | or nothing. We want our land claims settled first  
4 | before I we ever go in at the end.

5 | THE COMMISSIONER: O.K.,  
6 | thanks I understand that. You made that point very  
7 | well.

8 | THE WITNESS: Well, that's  
9 | all I want to say. Thank you very much.

10 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

11 | THE WITNESS: O.K., thank  
12 | you.

13 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

14 | MRS. ODILLA COYEN sworn:

15 | THE WITNESS: I'm Odilla  
16 | Coyen. I was born in 1902 and I can't remember what  
17 | was going on since I was five years old., In them days  
18 | we knew nothing of law, we were free to live as we  
19 | pleased until 1921, after then we start to hear about  
20 | the law, the law about that, the law about this. But  
21 | still we were free on our own land.

22 | Between 1930 and 1960 we were  
23 | using our homemade brew. Once in awhile we were  
24 | drinking. Since Inuvik was built and Liquor Store was  
25 | put up, then trouble started, just like fighting one  
26 | another, hurting one another, shooting one another,  
27 | broken homes. So what if the pipeline goes through?

28 | We were told if the pipeline  
29 | goes through 700 people will come from the south, and  
30 | there will be camps here and there, and the worker

1 | will be kept in camp. We don't believe that. We hear  
2 | too much what is going on in Alaska. The same thing  
3 | will happen here. That's why we are sure against the  
4 | pipeline. For our health, doctors and nurses keep us  
5 | very well but if the pipeline goes through they will  
6 | turn their attention to the wages they will get from  
7 | the workers who will get hurt, maybe I'm wrong but  
8 | that's what I think.

9 |  
10 | Now for the trapline and the  
11 | land. I agree with the chief of Good Hope and the  
12 | chief of Fort McPherson, and I agree with the chief J~  
13 | of Arctic Red River, that our land would be destroyed  
14 | by the pipeline. They say man was made out of the soil  
15 | of the earth, so we are made with the soil of our land,  
16 | and if the pipeline goes through, the land will be  
17 | spoiled and the land is part of us. So we do not want  
18 | the pipeline to spoil it. We saw what the oil can do  
19 | to the land. There is a place down around here where  
20 | the oil was spilled. Nothing grow there. We see oil  
21 | people filling up their tank when they finished, they  
22 | just drop their hose there with oil pouring out and  
23 | that's all I have to say.

23 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
24 | very much. Maybe you could let us have your statement,  
25 | which is in writing and we could keep it. Would that  
26 | be all right?

27 | THE WITNESS: Yes,

28 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

29 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

30 |

1 (SUBMISSION BY MRS. O. COYEN MARKED EXHIBIT C-264)

2 MRS. ALICE ANDRE, sworn:

3 THE INTERPRETER: This is  
4 another Andre. This is Alice Andre.

5 THE WITNESS: I don't have too  
6 much to say. Mr. Berger, I'm a married, woman with  
7 children I love. I think of their future, that's why I,  
8 want to say a few words. I'll say what I've got on my  
9 mind.

10 My grandfather, old Paul  
11 Niditchi, was elected first chief here in Arctic Red  
12 River in 1921. He was one of the chiefs that signed  
13 the treaty that year. He didn't understand anything,  
14 he had to sign the treaty with an "X". He died 1955.

15 I'm one of his grand-  
16 daughters that's still living here in Arctic Red River  
17 all my life. It's going on to 55 years since the  
18 treaty was signed in 1921. Judge Berger, today no  
19 white, man is going to make me give our land away. I  
20 don't want the pipeline. I an saying this for myself  
21 and the people, especially the children and the future  
22 generations to come, so they can make use of this land.  
23 I don't want the pipeline, there's no way I'm going to  
24 give this land away.

25 I heard about Alaska and  
26 James Bay. I don't want it to happen around here.  
27 That's all I have to say.

28 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
29 very much. Maybe you would let us keep your written  
30 statement. (WITNESS ASIDE)

1 (SUBMISSION BY MRS. A. ANDRE MARKED EXHIBIT C-265)

2

3

WILLIAM NORMAN sworn:

4

MR. R. ANDRE: A lot of

5

people would like to give presentations, but once --

6

THE COMMISSIONER: I know the

7

feeling.

8

MR. R. ANDRE: -- they can't

9

say all they would like to say.

10

THE COMMISSIONER: Right.

11

MR. R. ANDRE: So what we

12

have done, you know we went to their homes and had them

13

tape, and we read transcripts and tapes on paper.

14

THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, I see.

15

MR. R. ANDRE: I'm just going

16

to say a few words first.

17

THE COMMISSIONER: All right,

18

fir. Norman can say what he wants, but whatever he

19

said on tape that you put on paper, you can just read

20

that and I'll accept that just as if Mr. Norman said it

21

all here today. You understand that? Well, I think

22

we'll listen to these people for a while, Mr. Andre.

23

INTERPRETER: I said a few

24

words not long ago, but I want to say a few more words

25

personally.

26

Everybody spoke a little

27

speech and I'm doing the same, and I appreciate all

28

that the people said today, he said... We talk about

29

our land and I said a few words last time about our

30

land. Even that I want to say a little more about our



1 a mine around Great Bear Lake and there's a mine at  
2 Yellowknife, all that, he said, the native found all  
3 that, he said. But still the white people just took it  
4 away and make money out of it. Today we have to buy our  
5 own fuel from Norman Wells, he said.

6 This is all I want to say, he  
7 said.

8 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,  
9 sir.

10 (WITNESS ASIDE)

11

12

13 THE COMMISSIONER: You're  
14 reading Mr. Norman's statement, I take it?

15 MRS. AGNES ANDRE: Yes.

16 "Now at the present at the age of 73 all my  
17 life I've been out living off the land. I was  
18 born at Fort Franklin, and ever since I was  
19 small I started working in the bush. I worked  
20 in that part of the country till I turned 17,  
21 and then came to Arctic Red. I lived off the  
22 land around here, also around Fort McPherson,  
23 up in the hills, down around Travaillant Lake,  
24 up the river, and up the Red. Now it's hard  
25 for me to work but I know how it is out on the  
26 land. When there were no white men, there  
27 were lots out on the land. Caribou, fish,  
28 rabbits, and muskrats. There was lots, and it  
29 was really good for us. These were good  
30 times.

1           Then the white man came to find oil and to  
2           tear up our land. They found oil, plenty of  
3           it, and there was some oil spillage. In doing  
4           this there is nothing left now. Long ago it  
5           was good to hear birds and to see ducks flying  
6           in from the south. The land changed when the  
7           oil companies came and tore up our land. Now  
8           a bird is hardly seen; rabbits, all these are  
9           slowly disappearing.

10                   The oil companies have slowed down  
11           work on the land now, and plants are growing  
12           back, and the animals are coming back too,  
13           but slowly. It can be seen that it will be  
14           very hard for the native people in the future  
15           when more white people come. I haven't got  
16           very many years to live now, but what will  
17           the young people live off in the land? That's  
18           why we are talking about our land, so our  
19           children in the future can have something.  
20           If they have no jobs, what will they live on?  
21           There will be a lot of white men working, but  
22           our children will not know how to work with  
23           machinery that are being used now.  
24           Probably only the educated ones will have  
25           good jobs and live well. But besides them  
26           there will be a lot of people that will live  
27           poor. That's why when they say 'Pipeline'  
28           it can be seen that life will be made hard  
29           for us. Even though they say the pipeline  
30           will be built good, but things can



1 | always turn out wrong.

2 |           If there is a leakage in the under-  
3 | ground pipeline, then it will be spread  
4 | through to the permafrost and go out into the  
5 | lakes and creeks, and probably the fish will  
6 | die off. People don't want the pipeline built  
7 | along the Mackenzie River, since it will be  
8 | near the settlements. Being built near the  
9 | settlements, the people who trap near and  
10 | around the towns will have nothing left to go  
11 | out for. What will they live on? We know we  
12 | will be poor because of the white man. We can  
13 | see nothing left of fish, caribou, muskrats,  
14 | rabbits and ducks. This is our land. We were  
15 | raised on it and our children were raised on  
16 | the land. We were happy working out on the  
17 | land. Although we didn't always get anything,  
18 | we were happy just the same, just working try-  
19 | ing to get something. What will we have if  
20 | our land. is taken away? How will we live?  
21 | We'll be poor. They tear up our land and take  
22 | gravel. Should we do this in the white man's  
23 | country we will surely have to pay so much a  
24 | yard. White man take our gravel, find oil,  
25 | and they make money out of these things they  
26 | find in our land. It's our land and we aren't  
27 | given a ,dollar for anything taken out. It's  
28 | hard to do this in a white man's land.

29 |           We know we can't even cut down  
30 | one skinny tree on our own. Why do you

1                   spoil our land and it looks like they are try-  
2                   ing to make us more poor."

3 That's all.

4                                   THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
5 very much. I would like to keep that statement you  
6 read.

7 (STATEMENT OF W. NORMAN MARKED EXHIBIT C-266)

8

9                                   GABE BLUECOAT sworn:

10                                  THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, I  
11 missed quite a few words, I should say. Too bad I  
12 never been to school. That's what I kick myself for  
13 and I can't talk myself. I could talk but my mind not  
14 right, don't go straight anyway, so Agnes going to read  
15 it to you what I said.

16                                  THE COMMISSIONER: Fine.

17                                  MRS. ANDRE: "Mr. Berger, I  
18 want to talk to you about what I know."  
19 That's what he said so I'll just keep right on.

20                                  "I am from way back born in 1913, and that's a  
21 long time. I know all this country, which you  
22 don't know. That's why it's easy for you to  
23 talk, but I know how things are going to be.  
24 I know things are going to be bad, really bad.  
25 This land is not like the south. It's not the  
26 same. Down south it's warm and nothing hap-  
27 pens to the pipelines built there. Do you  
28 think it. will be the same around here? No  
29 way, never. It's not going to be the same as  
30 outside, it's cold. I wonder how long you've



1 pipeline above or below this permafrost, it  
2 won't be any good. If it's built under the  
3 ground, then something will surely happen to  
4 the pipeline and you don't know that. No pipe-  
5 line, that's what I want.

6 Mr. Berger, I want no  
7 pipeline. I don't want no pipeline and I know  
8 what I want. There's a lot of years ahead of  
9 us, but I don't know how long I have left to  
10 live. I'm really worried, I'm worried for my  
11 children. Me, I'm old and don't have many  
12 years to live. This land, who made it? I  
13 really want to find out who made it. Me? You?  
14 the government? Who made it?

15 I know only one man made  
16 it. God. But on this land who besides Him made  
17 the land? What is given is not sold to anyone.  
18 We're that kind of people. We're not going to  
19 give away our land. What is given to us -we're  
20 not going to give away what was given to us.  
21 This land was given to us for nothing and  
22 we're no going to give it away. The people  
23 say 'No pipeline.' We really mean it when we  
24 say that.

25 That's all that's in our  
26 heads now. All over this land, I'll show you  
27 on the map where I travel and where I camp. I  
28 suffered at times and things weren't always  
29 bad. Things were good for me too. We stayed  
30 on this cold land, and it's not a very good

1 life. We worry about the cold weather. Now  
2 it's the pipeline to worry about. Also we are  
3 being bothered about our land. Again I say we  
4 won't hand over what was given to us for noth-  
5 ing. It's good enough that they are building  
6 the pipeline, but why bother us for our land  
7 besides that?

8 How strong can our  
9 hearts be? We got only one heart. How strong  
10 can it be? We suffered on this land before.  
11 There were good and bad times for us long ago.  
12 When I was 30-40 years old, I travelled all  
13 over this land. Every winter I travelled,  
14 that's how I know the pipeline will be bad and  
15 we don't want it.

16 Mr. Berger, if I have  
17 been well-educated, it could have been better  
18 for me to talk. It's hard to talk on paper. It  
19 could have been better if I stood and talked  
20 to you. It's not good to have our words trans-  
21 lated, but I am being helped. Someone else is  
22 going to read what I say to you. Should you  
23 build this pipeline, things are going to be  
24 bad for us.

25 Us people, Arctic Red  
26 River people, if a white man came and asked to  
27 stay with us, sure, right away we'd say 'Yes,  
28 yes, my friend.' the white people, why can't  
29 they be like that?

30 Everything they do is

1 money, money, money. That's -- why don't they  
2 be our friends and 'to use everything, one  
3 thing, share everything just the same as the  
4 other? Why they don't do that? It's always  
5 money. It really makes me feel bad. I'm the  
6 only one left of seven brothers. I'm happy  
7 living here among my children. They look af-  
8 ter us good, and we're worried about them and  
9 how things are going to turn out. We're wor-  
10 ried about three things: If this land is  
11 taken away from us what will they do to us af-  
12 ter that? If they do take our land, it is bet-  
13 ter that I die, me and my children, it's bet-  
14 ter we all die. We don't want to be kicked  
15 around like little pups."

16 That's all. (WITNESS ASIDE)

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,  
18 thank you very much, sir. I think that I should just  
19 say that the statements that you and some of the  
20 other people have made about building a pipeline in  
21 the permafrost are statements that are important to  
22 the Inquiry because the engineers and scientists who  
23 have given evidence to the Inquiry are concerned  
24 about that, too. One scientist, Dr. Williams, of the  
25 Scott Polar Institute, has been to the Inquiry and  
26 has said that the plan that these companies have to  
27 build a pipeline is one that won't work because he  
28 says if they build it the way they intend to, the  
29 heave in the ground -that is the pipe will be heaved  
30 up five times as far as the engineers for the

1 | pipeline companies think it will, according to their  
2 | present plans. So you're talking about a problem  
3 | that the scientists and engineers are talking about,  
4 | too. So your views based on your experience are  
5 | important to me.

6 | We can hear one more person  
7 | before six o'clock.

8 | MRS. ANDRE: I' ll do my own.

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, all  
10 | right.

11 |

12 |

13 | MRS. AGNES ANDRE sworn:

14 | THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger,  
15 | this is something for you to think about. Has it ever  
16 | occurred to you that the native people might have  
17 | violence on their minds to get back at the decision  
18 | made to have the pipeline built? That the violence may  
19 | be taken out on the workers building the pipeline?

20 | In your past community  
21 | hearings a lot of people were against the pipeline and  
22 | what it will do to the land, and the animals on it ,  
23 | and how much they value the two. It will only take a  
24 | small group of people to think of their revenge.  
25 | Should this happen you will have a lot of problems  
26 | with the native people, but then too, natives might  
27 | not only be the ones to cause violence. The builders  
28 | themselves may do physical harm. If they do they will,  
29 | probably get off easy since they will have the money,  
30 | or they might even go as far as paying the law to keep







1 THE COMMISSIONER: I should  
2 say that These people here are putting everything  
3 that's said on tape, and Then it will be typed up and  
4 written up, and There will be a book that will have  
5 everything that you've said in it, and I'll keep one of  
6 those so that I'll remember it, and we'll send one to  
7 Chief Andre of the Settlement Council so that -- the  
8 Band Council, I mean -- so that he will have one here  
9 so that people here in the village can read it when  
10 They want to. But we'll photostat those and send Them  
11 back. Well, should we stop for supper, do you think?

12 THE INTERPRETER: Well, it's  
13 just about time.

14 THE COMMISSIONER: What time  
15 should we come back? Eight o'clock, do you think?

16 THE INTERPRETER: That would  
17 be better.

18 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,  
19 we'll stop now for supper, ladies and gentlemen, and  
20 we'll come back at eight o'clock tonight and carry on  
21 the meeting.

22 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 6 P.M.)  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30

1 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AT 9:00 P.M.)

2 THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and  
3 gentlemen, I think we'll begin again. Just before we  
4 start, let me say for all of the people who are  
5 visiting here today -- all of the Inquiry people and  
6 myself, that we certainly want to say how much we  
7 enjoyed the drumming and the dancing and we want to  
8 thank the boys and girls and their parents for making  
9 sure that we had such a good time this evening. So, I  
10 speak for all of us, ma'am when I express our thanks to  
11 you and to you, chief.

12 (APPLAUSE)

13 MRS. LIZA ANDRE sworn

14 THE INTERPRETER: This is  
15 Liza Andre. Mr. Berger came to visit us and just like  
16 we don't like we don't care about him and we don't  
17 think of him the way we think now way. But anyway,  
18 we've done our best and we made our little childrens  
19 dance for you and we're very happy for that.

20 I want to say a few words.  
21 Ever since I got married to my husband, we made a good  
22 living out in the bushes and we raised up our children  
23 there. We raised them up with good food and now  
24 They're all grown up and making their own living.

25 See how much I said, but  
26 still they think of our land and we want our childrens  
27 to live that way.

28 We moved to Three Rivers 1942  
29 until today. That's way over thirty years and we made  
30 our living there and we travelled all over, me and my



1 settlement, we want the benefit from the land. If we  
2 sell our land for money, it wouldn't last very long.  
3 Just a little ways I guess.

4 What about our children behind?  
5 What they're going to use? This is all I can say.

6 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
7 ma'am. Thank you. (WITNESS ASIDE)

8 MRS. ALESTINE ANDRE sworn:

9 THE WITNESS: My name is  
10 Alestine Andre, I am 25 years old and like all the  
11 young native northerners who have already spoken before  
12 you, I was born and raised here and like them, I am  
13 concerned about the future of the people who live here  
14 and what will likely happen to our future people once  
15 the pipeline is built.

16 I too have been through the  
17 regular channels of education and hostel system. My  
18 first grade in a mission school in Aklavik in 1958 and  
19 the rest of my education to grade 12 in the hostel  
20 school system.

21 Things in general in those  
22 days looked good; well run, well managed. Then I  
23 started seeing what has happened in regards to the way  
24 things have gone on in the past and how these same  
25 things were still going on silently now-a-days. For  
26 what has happened, my people have had to suffer. We  
27 have been through a great deal since the white man has  
28 literally deposited themselves on our land, carrying on  
29 with no shame.

30 At the signing of treaty 8

1 | and 11, was at the time Indian chiefs and counsellors  
2 | who couldn't even understand English, let alone read  
3 | it. It was understood by chiefs that they were signing  
4 | a peace treaty. Simply a peace treaty between the  
5 | whites and the natives. No giving up of rights to the  
6 | land was mentioned. Complicated English wording was  
7 | used in regards to the treaty at the time.

8 |                                 We were always a peaceful  
9 | tribe, minding our own business, too kindhearted to  
10 | newcomers and strangers. We were always willing to  
11 | help our own kind, plus the others. This was our  
12 | nature. We naturally went out of way to help people.  
13 | We were too kind and not harsh enough about the  
14 | activities being carried on on our land and into our  
15 | everyday lives.

16 |                                 Ever since the government  
17 | moved into the Northwest Territories and even before  
18 | then, when they ruled from Ottawa, our future has been  
19 | continually planned for us; decisions being made on our  
20 | behalf in Ottawa by people who knew best -- who thought  
21 | they knew best.

22 |                                 Back then, we were never  
23 | involved. I say never, because that was what it was.  
24 | When we were involved, the big sophisticated words went  
25 | over our heads and we didn't understand because they  
26 | used political language. What common person could  
27 | understand such a language? English is bad enough and  
28 | they damn well knew it too. That we didn't understand  
29 | what they meant, which made their case stranger and  
30 | more reason to go ahead with development. Then they









1 native people are where they are today. Regulations  
2 set down in Ottawa or their Yellowknife offices, and  
3 how and why one has to follow these regulations.

4                   As native people of this  
5 land, we have unwritten laws and regulations. It was  
6 always there, passed from generation to generation and  
7 the people knew it well, nothing written down on paper.  
8 The government knows we are at our weakest now,  
9 especially with the constant dispute between Indians  
10 and Indians, and Indians and the so-called leaders in  
11 the Northwest Territories.

12                   Like what a native leader  
13 once said, "If we allow ourselves to be divided in our  
14 feelings, the government will have more reason to make  
15 decisions for us". This statement couldn't be more  
16 true for what's happening now. the control is in the  
17 hands of the government with them snickering behind our  
18 backs on how easily we let them get away with it.

19                   We don't have leadership when  
20 we need it at the most crucial time, people allowing  
21 themselves to keep quiet because they already know  
22 what's going on. Do native people know this? No,  
23 instead, they are being misinformed about a lot of  
24 things and when they are misinformed, how does anyone  
25 expect them to understand the political games that-is  
26 being played, their lives and their future in jeopardy?

27                   Our lives and futures  
28 dangling from an already broken thin piece of string  
29 being held by a few who only want power. If we were to  
30 let them go ahead with the pipeline and further



1 commercial businesses, own housing system. We can  
2 control our future.

3 We want the control before  
4 there is too many of you to push us aside and control  
5 the government, the money and the resources from our  
6 land; before a powerful few will control the people.  
7 We want a strong say in the development of this land.  
8 Sure, it's fine to say that a pipeline hasn't damaged  
9 areas in southern Canada where pipe is running.

10 Sure, it's fine to say that,  
11 but this is the north with it's 50 to 60 below winter  
12 temperatures and permafrost year-round. Why else are  
13 we concerned?

14 We can control development at  
15 our own pace. We want to be able to control game laws,  
16 with native people getting full rights in regards to  
17 trapping and hunting and with limits on outsiders  
18 getting big game license, sports fishing license.  
19 Native people have always had a law in regards to the  
20 land and its animals.

21 They only killed how much  
22 they needed and when an animal was killed, they use  
23 every part of it. Nothing went to waste. We want the  
24 control on this so we can retain and save the animals  
25 for the future. Otherwise, as years go by and more and  
26 more outsiders are licensed, overkilling will result  
27 with extinguished species of animals. We have to be  
28 very careful.

29 We want to be able to bargain  
30 with labor unions and get a guarantee of no breaks when





1 | easily come up here, screw our minds up and push us  
2 | around, I think maybe they should think about it again.  
3 | We will not be taken that easily any longer. Native  
4 | people have put their foot down on what they have said.  
5 | We don't value our land for the resources in it.

6 | Thank you very much.

7 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
8 | very much, Mrs. Andre.

9 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

10 | MRS. CAROLINE CARDINAL sworn:

11 | THE WITNESS: There's very  
12 | little I'm going to say with the treaty party we had.  
13 | In 1921 when the treaty party was here and it was the  
14 | first time the people had treaty. That time it was  
15 | only to have what we called a peace treaty. To have  
16 | peace between the white and native people.

17 | Since that time, the white  
18 | people and the native people were as one and never had  
19 | trouble. The white people came down and do hat they  
20 | like, put up towns, hotels and all - kinds of  
21 | buildings. Us natives, we never say nothing. At least  
22 | we were in peace like thinking we are on our own land  
23 | and the rest just let it go, like. This land is ours.  
24 | God put us on it and we are happy to be on it, on our  
25 | land.

26 | We used to be happy but today  
27 | the white people those peoples worry by tearing our  
28 | land in all kinds of ways. They make money on our land  
29 | too.

30 | We see all this so far, but

1 still again we donut say nothing. Today is the first  
2 time we are asking for something very important;  
3 settlement of the land claim before anything else will  
4 go on.

5 The white people wants  
6 development in our country. Why don't they develop the  
7 country some other way than the pipeline? We worry  
8 about our land and the white people that have nothing  
9 in their head but pipeline instead of trying to listen  
10 to what we are asking. We hear nothing but pipeline;  
11 pipeline on the radio and T.V. Every day the same  
12 thing.

13 You white people, you do not  
14 know what you are doing to us. You are going to destroy  
15 the animals like caribou, moose, ducks and fish. Already  
16 there no rabbit since a few years. After you put up the  
17 pipeline, what will-happen to those animals? Maybe they  
18 will never come back. What do you think we are going to  
19 live on after that? the worst worry we have on the  
20 pipeline will go under the Mackenzie River.

21 I don't think any one of you  
22 ever seen the Mackenzie River ice running in the  
23 spring. Did you ever check under the water when the  
24 Mackenzie River is running? Sometimes the ice stop and  
25 it stop right down to the bottom of the river. That's  
26 what we think. It look like that to anyway.

27 We hear that the pipeline will  
28 pass under the Mackenzie River. the ice running is so  
29 powerful that we feel it might break or crack the  
30 pipeline. We get used to be at peace today. We feel







1 side of the delta, they have three main river crossings;  
2 Swimming Point, Great Bear River and then another  
3 crossing of the Mackenzie south of Fort Simpson.

4 Arctic Gas, because they want  
5 to bring this gas from Alaska, they have to cross the  
6 Mackenzie Delta.

7 THE WITNESS: Yes.

8 THE COMMISSIONER: And they  
9 have to cross Shallow Bay. That's about four miles  
10 crossing. But they say they will make all these  
11 major river crossings two pipes under the river, in  
12 case one breaks, then the other will still be O.K.  
13 That's what they say they're going to do. Now, they  
14 cross altogether 600 streams, channels and rivers in  
15 the routed pipeline in the Northwest Territories and  
16 the Yukon, but the main crossings are the crossing of  
17 the delta you can see right across Shallow Bay, then  
18 across the MacKenzie at Swimming Point) then across  
19 the Bear River) and then across the Mackenzie south of  
20 Fort Simpson.

21 They have to cross those  
22 rivers, or they'll never get the gas and then the oil  
23 out of here. That's their problem.

24 THE WITNESS: Well, I'm  
25 asking that right now, if possible, could they keep  
26 away from the Mackenzie River?

27 THE COMMISSIONER:, No, I  
28 don't think they could.

29 THE WITNESS: Well, it'll cost  
30 them how much money? Billions and billions and then --

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.  
2 Well, they say that to build these pipelines will cost  
3 billion

4 THE WITNESS: If you destroy  
5 our country, what we're going to live on? the  
6 government could spend money to build a highway from  
7 Edmonton to Inuvik, to train them young boys there  
8 ten, twelve years 014. Train them to run the heavy  
9 equipment or a train, that will be cheaper to the  
10 government instead of using billions and billions of  
11 dollars. The next thing I'll say, that'll be cheaper  
12 to the government instead of you wouldn't see it after  
13 the pipeline is built. You wouldn't see them young  
14 generations. Our young generations would have no job.  
15 If they take course, they could run a train or heavy  
16 equipment and boat beside. they could do something  
17 about it.

18 But this pipeline is going to  
19 be a terrible thing to build up a pipeline. If you  
20 want to cross a creek or anything, I wouldn't mind, but  
21 not Mackenzie. You could have two pipes to cross  
22 Mackenzie and have four valves on it. If anything  
23 happened to one you would just have to close the thing.  
24 There'd be always somebody to watch that, I guess.

25 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, they  
26 say They're going to have two pipes across the Mackenzie

27 THE WITNESS: Across Mackenzie?  
28 I rather: it's not under the bottom of the water. I'd  
29 rather see that pipe going up maybe a hundred feet high  
30 from --

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Well they  
2 say they can't put it overhead. they say they can't  
3 string it on piers and extend it across the river.  
4 they say that overhead crossings don't work very well.  
5 So that's why they want to put it under the river.  
6 Now, as I told you this afternoon, one scientist has  
7 already come to the Inquiry and that it won't work  
8 under the river. He agrees with you. He says that  
9 the whole thing should be above ground -

10 THE WITNESS: Yes.

11 THE COMMISSIONER: --  
12 overhead. But Arctic Gas and Foothills, their  
13 scientists and engineers, they say they can put it  
14 underground and under the river. Now that's one of  
15 things that I am looking into and will have to report  
16 to the government on.

17 THE WITNESS: We'll that'll  
18 take a lot of heat to -- if this is under the water,  
19 it'll take a lot of heat to run that oil. the bottom  
20 water is not -

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, when  
22 they come to an oil pipeline

23 THE WITNESS: It's not thirty  
24 or forty. degrees you know.

25 THE COMMISSIONER: When they  
26 come to an oil pipeline, They'll have to build it  
27 overhead. That's the way They're building the one  
28 in Alaska. They're building it above ground most of  
29 the way.

30 THE WITNESS: Well, I'm asking



1 | lose his hoof. the same with the caribou or moose and  
2 | then they have to walk there barefoot after they lose  
3 | their hoof. Now, you've got to think about that all what  
4 | is going on. We sure don't mind. Long as we got our land  
5 | claim. That's all we wish but we don't want to suffer the  
6 | animals.

7 | I know, the old lady was talking  
8 | there this afternoon. That's my father's sister She's  
9 | older. But me, I haven't got the experience. No  
10 | knowledge in me you know. I was a trapper one time. I  
11 | started to work for the police, R.C.M.P., for 11 years and  
12 | here I am down there at N.C.P.C. since I got hurt. I'm  
13 | 23 years on the government job. But still, I was trapping  
14 | one time and I hope you agree with me.

15 | That's all I have thinking to  
16 | say. Thank you Mr. Berger.

17 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
18 | sir.

19 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

20 |  
21 | ROBERT ANDRE, resumed:

22 | THE WITNESS: Well, perhaps  
23 | at this time maybe we should bring your attention to  
24 | the map behind you.

25 | THE COMMISSIONER: Fine.

26 | THE WITNESS: The area that  
27 | has been used by our people for the last hundred of  
28 | years. At present, there is many of our people that are  
29 | still out on the land. There's some the Arctic Red  
30 | River, up the Mackenzie down around Point Separation and





1 WITNESS N. ANDRE: Yes.  
2 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.  
3 Well, that's helpful though to understand the area in  
4 which the people have been hunting and trapping and  
5 fishing. As I understand, the Brotherhood will submit  
6 a complete map later on to this Inquiry.  
7 WITNESS N. ANDRE: Yes.  
8 WITNESS R. ANDRE: Well, I  
9 think so, yes.  
10 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, that's  
11 fine. We were looking at the maps at suppertime, so we  
12 have a pretty good idea of what they indicate.  
13 WITNESS R. ANDRE: I think  
14 the area of most of our concern for the people of this  
15 community is the area around Travaillant Lake.  
16 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.  
17 WITNESS R. ANDRE: I think  
18 all the lakes there are fish lakes and the proposed  
19 pipeline route will go directly into that area.  
20 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. Yes,  
21 I see that. WITNESS R. ANDRE ASIDE  
22 WITNESS N. ANDRE: First of  
23 all, I want to welcome you, Mr. Berger and all the rest,  
24 thanks for coming to hear us. Sorry to say, I was going  
25 to say that but, there's lots of them there. I was'  
26 going to say, sorry to say most of the community are out  
27 of town. But anyway, we'll say what we can get into. I  
28 guess you heard a lot since you start inquiring. The  
29 more you hear us, the more you like it. But you always  
30 hear one side of a story. You will hear our side





1 THE WITNESS: And there's a  
2 little more for the gas people. I've got a few words  
3 for you. You may promise lots but it'll never happen.  
4 You promise us jobs but you never think of union. They  
5 are the ones who will get the jobs. You promise them,  
6 not us. Not us Indians. They say no one from the  
7 outside bother our settlement but look back at Alaska.  
8 What happened? I know and you know.

9 You put that pipeline through  
10 it will happen here too. You just keep your pipes  
11 where they are. We don't need it. It's just like  
12 Charlie Barnaby from Fort Good Hope said for some more  
13 Indians to trip over. But now, we have to watch where  
14 we are going. O.K., that's true.

15 Now for Mackenzie River. You  
16 put the pipeline under the water. You never think of  
17 water pressure. It will never stay. You watch  
18 Mackenzie River at breakup. It piles up as high as  
19 those hills you see around us and right down to the  
20 bottom. So you see what we want. What we got, we  
21 might as well hang on to. That's it, no pipeline. No  
22 way. We had some clean country. You're going to dirty  
23 it. We never bother the south. Why bother us?

24 That gas and oil in the  
25 Arctic are for the Eskimos for them to use. You know  
26 why? They got no trees for firewood, so leave it where  
27 it is. Leave it for them. Don't bother. Keep away.

28 Thank you.

29 (APPLAUSE) (WITNESS ASIDE)

30 WILLIE SIMON sworn:

1 THE WITNESS: You already  
2 heard my name, Willie Simon and I'm 34 years old. I  
3 wasn't going to start telling my life story, but just  
4 for the benefit of the people and getting to remember  
5 back, and those who don't know me, to bring it to them.

6 I was born here in Arctic Red  
7 and went to school in Aklavik for two years and went to  
8 school here in this building for six months or so.  
9 While I was going to school here, I used to live with  
10 my grandmother. My parents were out in the bush about  
11 twenty miles the other side of Travaillant Lake. I  
12 used to go to school about a mile from here. Those  
13 were pretty rough days. Used to have to come to school  
14 when it was blowing, thirty below, forty below. I was  
15 only twelve years old.

16 After I had trouble with the  
17 law. The R.C.M.P. at that time was quite a man, a  
18 miserable man. Most of the people here probably  
19 remember him. His name was Osier. I don't know his  
20 last name. I don't want to know it either but anyway,  
21 he gave me such a rough time that I had to leave school  
22 here. I told my parents I didn't want to go to school  
23 anymore. I went back in the bush with them.

24 Then, I went to Fort Good Hope  
25 and I stayed there for two years. Then I had a sister  
26 living in Yellowknife. I went to Yellowknife and started  
27 working. I went to school a while, for about three  
28 years. I was lucky I made grade eight. I don't know  
29 how I did it. But anyway, after I was 15 years old, I  
30 got to Yellowknife and I worked for two years there.



1 | plans.

2 |                                   MR. BEER: You'll notice by  
3 | looking at the map that we are, I think, about five or  
4 | six miles east of Travaillant Lake, maybe a little  
5 | further. That's the red line to the east there. I'd  
6 | like to say at this time, the proposed line is just  
7 | that. It's a proposal and if it really is going to  
8 | interfere with hunting and trapping and so on, we  
9 | wouldn't regard that line as necessarily final. We're  
10 | doing route refinements all the time and trying to take  
11 | into account people's problems and terrain problems  
12 | with the pipeline. So, it could be moved to the east.

13 |                                   THE WITNESS: The red line is  
14 | Foothills?

15 |                                   MR. BEER: Yes, that's correct.

16 |                                   THE WITNESS: Well, if you're  
17 | going to move it, I would say you have to go at least  
18 | twenty miles further to the east.

19 |                                   MR. BEER: Twenty miles, I see.

20 |                                   THE WITNESS: At least.

21 |                                   MR. BEER: I guess we'd have  
22 | to take a note of that and look at it. I can't promise  
23 | right at the moment that we could move it twenty miles  
24 | to the east. I'm not the president of the company and  
25 | I really can't make that sort of a promise, but I. can  
26 | relay that message to the management of the company and  
27 | see what response comes back.

28 |                                   THE WITNESS: As you know,  
29 | the border lies in between Good Hope and here. It lies  
30 | about twenty miles so you would be hitting the border





1 | corner with the white there and straight down. That  
2 | wouldn't be too much extra pipe. Not when you start  
3 | considering how much you'll save for us.

4 |                                   MR. CARTER: Yes, I  
5 | appreciate what you're saying that it wouldn't be that  
6 | much additional cost when you look at the whole cost of  
7 | the project and you're suggestion will be passed on.  
8 | But I can't say tonight that it's going to moved. In  
9 | fact, to be as honest as I can, I would think that it's  
10 | not that likely that it would be moved.

11 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: You're  
12 | saying that it should take a jog out and around  
13 | Travaillant Lake.

14 |                                   THE WITNESS: Yes.

15 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: Returning  
16 | to --

17 |                                   THE WITNESS: You don't have  
18 | return. I can see by the map there where you just have  
19 | to go east and then come straight south.

20 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: Why don't  
21 | you just show me that so that I won't forget it.

22 |                                   THE WITNESS: Instead of  
23 | going down through here past Travaillant Lake, instead  
24 | of coming here, come up from here this way. Here lies  
25 | the border, right in here someplace between Good Hope  
26 | and come down through here where your line is going  
27 | through here so you'd probably come down through here.  
28 | Now, this would cut off this area completely and if I  
29 | am correct, I'm not too, sure, I think the water runs  
30 | this way, so --

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Right, I  
2 follow you.

3 THE WITNESS: There's a break  
4 or flow away from the lakes.

5 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes,  
6 right.

7 THE WITNESS: An old lady  
8 came up here today and said something about the men  
9 in camp, about coming into town and may I ask the  
10 question of Arctic Gas or Foothills could ensure if the  
11 pipeline comes through that the men who'd come from the  
12 south come into camp, work, get their time in and sent  
13 back?

14 MR. BEER: Yes, that indeed  
15 is our plan. We have no intention of permitting  
16 construction crews to leave the construction camp and  
17 come into any of the settlements in the Territories.  
18 They'll be brought in through the airports at say  
19 Inuvik and straight out to the construction camp and  
20 those will be sufficiently remote and they'll be in the  
21 winter and I don't think that they will be able to get  
22 into communities such as Arctic Red, let alone be  
23 allowed in.

24 THE WITNESS: Could I get the  
25 same answer from Arctic Gas?

26 MR. CARTER: Yes, it's Arctic  
27 Gas' policy as well not to permit the workers to go  
28 into the villages and that will be enforced by having  
29 vehicles, snowmobiles, any sort of transportation off  
30 bounds, if I can use those words, to the workers.



1 | talking about Inuvik just as much as here.

2 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: O.K. But,  
3 | well, I'm thinking of it too. I just wanted to go on  
4 | and add something. You see, the companies say that  
5 | their policy will be to keep the men in camp, they  
6 | won't let them have any vehicles and if a man breaks  
7 | the rules, they'll insist that he go right back to  
8 | Edmonton.

9 |                                   THE WITNESS: Yes.

10 |                                  THE COMMISSIONER: Well, the  
11 | trouble with that is, and one of you raised this  
12 | question before, the unions will have an awful lot to  
13 | say about that. It's not just the companies we're  
14 | concerned with here.

15 |                                  THE WITNESS: Yes.

16 |                                  THE COMMISSIONER: It's the  
17 | unions too, and you know in Alaska that the unions have  
18 | an awful to say about what happens on that pipeline  
19 | project in Alaska. So, we are getting the unions to come  
20 | to the Inquiry and to tell us what they're prepared to do  
21 | so that we're in a better position to know, what the  
22 | companies say and they say it in good faith, is something  
23 | they really can do. There's another thing you should  
24 | remember. This is a free country and if a man is fired  
25 | from one of the camps, and wants to go to Inuvik or  
26 | Arctic Red or Aklavik or Fort McPherson --

27 |                                  THE WITNESS: Yes.

28 |                                  THE COMMISSIONER: In our  
29 | country, he can. Arctic Gas has no right to say to  
30 | him, "You get on that plane", anymore than they can say

1 anybody, "Get on that plane". Once they've fired  
2 somebody, they have no right to tell him to do anything  
3 and if he wanted to go to Inuvik or Arctic Red, they  
4 couldn't stop him. I want you to understand that.

5 THE WITNESS: Yes. I  
6 understand.

7 THE COMMISSIONER: So that  
8 while the two companies are anxious to do their best to  
9 co-operate with you people and to keep these men in the  
10 camps, away from your settlements and away from your  
11 villages, it isn't going to be an easy thing to do and  
12 I'm thinking about it and we're going to get the unions  
13 in as well as the companies and see what we can do  
14 about it. So, I'm sorry to interrupt you, but I just  
15 wanted you to understand there's a lot more to it that  
16 what these gentlemen say, even though they're going as  
17 far as they can to co-operate. So, go ahead with your  
18 questions, sorry.

19 THE WITNESS: Just another,  
20 question. Another question somebody brought to you  
21 earlier. He was speaking about five miles. I was  
22 going to ask you if the line broke and with the wind,  
23 and he was two, three hundred feet away, what would  
24 happen then? Would he smell the gas?

25 MR. CARTER: Mr. Beer here is  
26 more experienced in this than I am and he told me I was  
27 wrong when I said that they injected the smell into the  
28 gas before they shipped it down the pipe. He said they  
29 only did that once it reached southern Canada so  
30 perhaps he can deal with that.

1 MR. BEER: I suppose if you had  
2 a major leak of gas from a rupture in the pipeline and  
3 there was a very strong wind blowing, then if you were  
4 two or three hundred feet away only, there could be some  
5 gas around, you know, surrounding you at that point. I  
6 think, however, that because natural gas is so much  
7 lighter than air, that the concentration of gas around  
8 you would be quite small. It would also, to an extent,  
9 be difficult to detect because, as Mr. Carter just said,  
10 pipeline companies simply don't inject a smell into the  
11 gas until it gets into the distribution system in the  
12 city or community where it's to be used. I'm not sure  
13 that I've a hundred percent answered your question.  
14 Maybe you could perhaps follow it up a little.

15 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, if  
16 you were two hundred or three hundred feet away and the  
17 pipe broke, and there was an inversion and the gas  
18 didn't rise, would you stand a chance of being  
19 asphyxiated, of being smothered?

20 MR. BEER: I don't know that  
21 I can answer that question entirely sir, I don't think  
22 that even a fairly strong inversion would hold natural  
23 gas down completely. We've, I believe, discussed the,  
24 business of it holding exhausts from compressor  
25 stations down, for example, but I would have to do 'a  
26 little research before I could answer the question  
27 whether it hold natural gas down entirely, although I  
28 don't believe so.

29 THE WITNESS: I was going to  
30 ask you another question you've probably answered. I

1 | was going to ask you what effects would it take within  
2 | one mile? I suppose the 200 feet covered that.

3 |                                   MR. BEER: Well, in the sense  
4 | that a mile is further away, and the effects is going  
5 | to be very, very much less again than at two or 300  
6 | feet. I think you probably wouldn't get any effect at  
7 | all at about a mile's distance.

8 |                                   THE WITNESS: Say the pipe's  
9 | broke on the side, underneath, would it shoot straight  
10 | out?

11 |                                   MR. BEER: You mean buried  
12 | underground?

13 |                                   THE WITNESS: No, it was  
14 | laying on top, it would be laying on top the ground,  
15 | wouldn't it?

16 |                                   MR. BEER: No, it wouldn't.  
17 | Perhaps I'd better take this opportunity to clarify a  
18 | point here. The pipeline will be buried underground  
19 | for the whole of its distance, the whole of its-  
20 | ,length, from the delta to the 60th Parallel and beyond  
21 | in Southern Canada. Even at the river crossings it  
22 | will be not only below the water, but it will be below  
23 | the bottom of the river bed some considerable distance  
24 | so that ice cannot get at it to break it up during the  
25 | spring breakup that you -- that several people have  
26 | expressed concern about. At that point it might be  
27 | buried 30 or 40 feet below the base of the river bed.  
28 | When it's not passing under a river or a stream, it  
29 | would probably have about five feet of earth on top  
30 | of it. The only time that it would ever come above

1 | ground would be inside the compressor stations.

2 |                                   THE WITNESS: You should have  
3 | told me that before and I wouldn't have had to ask you  
4 | these questions.

5 |                                   MR. BEER: Well, I'm sorry, I  
6 | didn't realize that we hadn't cleared that point up.

7 |                                   THE WITNESS: All right,  
8 | that's all I've got for you.

9 |                                   Now that I spoke to the  
10 | people, Arctic Gas, I'd like to speak to Mr. Berger.

11 |                                   I'd like to speak about land  
12 | claims and the pipeline. A lot of people would say  
13 | that if you want to build a pipeline we'd like to see  
14 | the land claims first. I don't see why the government  
15 | didn't see that a long time ago, like to settle the  
16 | land claims first and then speak about pipeline. Seems  
17 | like the pipeline is beating the land claims, as far as  
18 | I can see.

19 |                                   But like a letter I wrote, a  
20 | letter that I read in "The Drum" about Len Cardinal or  
21 | something speaking there, why don't the government and  
22 | the Indian people get together and settle this land  
23 | claims, get the things settled with? You know, instead  
24 | of beating around the bush. They've been beating  
25 | around the bush now for six years. Now that the  
26 | Indian Brotherhood is sort of broken up, with no  
27 | president, it seem to be a waste of time there for six  
28 | years. I don't know what's taken them so long to  
29 | settle it, but they should go ahead and get together,  
30 | and you know, speak like you and I are talking to each



1 other. It seems the government doesn't really -the  
2 whole bunch of people don't know what they're doing.  
3 There's one smart guy sitting over there, and another  
4 smart guy sitting over there, and another guy got a  
5 different opinion, and they all know too much, pretty  
6 soon you know, they don't know what to do, they don't  
7 know nothing.

8 Not too long ago, about back  
9 when Judd Buchanan was in Yellowknife there he made a  
10 statement about cutting the Indian Brotherhood off with  
11 money and I thought that was kind of a poor statement  
12 to make. I don't like it very much when he's Minister  
13 of Northern Affairs or Indian Affairs. He should be on  
14 the Indian's side a little bit instead of speaking  
15 against the Indian like that.

16 It seems to me that he's on -  
17 - more on the white side. The government started up  
18 this -- I don't know too much about it, the first time  
19 I started realizing our land claims, but as you know I  
20 spent most of my years in the bush. They started up  
21 this, they financed the Brotherhood for money, after  
22 six years doing it or how long, now they start cutting  
23 them off of it. That's a funny thing. I wonder if the  
24 Government of Canada will ever look at the other  
25 countries in the eyes like Japan, England, Russia, I  
26 wonder what those countries would say about Canada if  
27 the government made a decision not to give the Indian  
28 land claims? They would probably laugh at them and  
29 say, "What kind of a government do they run in Canada?"

30 The Indian was the first

1 | people that was here. He's the guy that owns the land,  
2 | in the right way, you know. If you work for something  
3 | or if you were there, you got yourself a package of  
4 | cigarettes or something, it's yours. If somebody come  
5 | along and grab it away from you, it's not really his,  
6 | he just took it, stole it.

7 | I think if the Government of  
8 | Canada want to compete with other countries in the good  
9 | sense of doing things the right way, they should look  
10 | more strongly about making the right decision about the  
11 | land claims. That's what the Indian people are asking.  
12 | I don't think it's too much. I don't know anything  
13 | about how much it will be, it's just an interest on a  
14 | dollar, interest on everything and controlling the old  
15 | land.

16 | I think some people like the  
17 | white people, most of the people that are working with  
18 | the government and for the government get the impression  
19 | that as soon as the government is turned over to the  
20 | Indian people they're going to be out of a job or  
21 | something like that. I don't think it's going to happen  
22 | I think they'll still be on the job. The only changes  
23 | going to be made there is the Indians will have the  
24 | rights of the land and it will be sort of the government,  
25 | like, in the Territories, not the Federal Government.  
26 | That's up to the Indians of the south, not us.

27 | Why don't the Government of  
28 | Canada make the right decision and do the right thing  
29 | and do it quick? They're holding up everybody.  
30 | They're making us all confused, fighting against each



1 Indian people and know their way, go into their homes  
2 and see how they live and things run right over, just  
3 like the R.C.M.P. was here when I was a little boy  
4 running me around, they don't do that any more. When I  
5 start looking at that I simply forget about my  
6 business, Everything, I'd like to see them get what  
7 they want But I think that if I was a white man and if  
8 they had a problem with the Indians, the white man he  
9 would probably pull. for the pipeline, even if it was  
10 you bossing me.

11 That's the way I think,  
12 anyway. I go along with my brothers, they stretch all  
13 over the Northwest Territories and go into the States  
14 wherever they are. I would say "No" to the pipeline,  
15 not until land claims is settled anyway.

16 Speaking about the government  
17 doing a lot of good for the people, you put up houses,  
18 and I don't know whoever -- such a stupid thing, they  
19 make decisions, they -- who ever dreamed up the social  
20 development, whatever they call it?

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Welfare?

22 THE WITNESS: Yeah, who ever  
23 dreamed that system up, whoever done that must have  
24 beer crazy. Go and give money to somebody for nothing  
25 so that he don't have to work, and that flow down into  
26 this country and people are starting to do it there.  
27 Not around here, surprisingly here in Arctic Red with  
28 no unemployment no employment, with no work, we manage  
29 in this town to keep out of welfare. We're a very prow  
30 people for that. But in other towns., when a person

1 | start getting welfare, start looking towards the  
2 | government for this and that, houses, he starts to look  
3 | down on themselves, lose his self-respect, you know  
4 | Maybe he don't show it on top, but inside he do. It's  
5 | all on account of a whole bunch of people sitting  
6 | together and drinking coffee at a party and talking  
7 | about making decisions like that, I suppose, then they  
8 | come and sit around a table like this.

9 | I suppose we all do things  
10 | wrong, and I did a little things wrong. Anyway,  
11 | I'll repeat again that the Government of Canada  
12 | should make the right decision, give the Indian  
13 | people their land claims, give them what they want.  
14 | If it's too much well then we'll negotiate with them  
15 | and cut it down and get this thing settled with  
16 | instead of beating around the bush, spending all the  
17 | tax money and years flying by, people talking about  
18 | it. We don't know whether it's going to be settled  
19 | now or 20 years from now, they've been fooling  
20 | around for the last six years. In Alaska they  
21 | settled it, I don't know how long it took them, but  
22 | the Eskimos are -I don't know if they settled it now  
23 | or they're still going to reach it anyway.

24 | That's about all I have to  
25 | say. Thank you very much.

26 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

27 | (APPLAUSE)

28 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

29 |  
30 |

1 NAP NORBERT resumed:

2 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, I  
3 just come by again here this afternoon, just to take  
4 back -I been listening to the pipeline, now I'm just  
5 going, just to find out, you know, how come they stop  
6 this highway, the Mackenzie Highway? It's got nothing  
7 to do with the pipeline hearing

8 THE COMMISSIONER: I don't  
9 think so. I think that the government -- well the  
10 government said that they didn't have enough money to  
11 carry on with the highway, so they have decided that  
12 they will complete the highway to Wrigley by 1979, and  
13 that's as far as they intend to go. They say that at  
14 this time they have no plans to go any further than  
15 that. I think they found it was costing a lot of  
16 money, and that may be why they decided to suspend  
17 construction once they reached Wrigley.

18 THE WITNESS:: Okay. How  
19 come they're still building a Dempster Highway

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, they  
21 want to complete the Dempster Highway in 1977 they say,  
22 so that's what they are going to do.

23 THE WITNESS: So it sound  
24 like a sense to me, like they're just waiting to build  
25 the pipeline first, and then they build the Mackenzie  
26 Highway, or something like that.

27 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I  
28 don't know. I just told you what the government has  
29 said about the Mackenzie Highway.

30 THE WITNESS: Well, I just

1 think that, that's why 'm just asking, that's all.  
2 It's good asking anyway.

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Sure.

4 THE WITNESS: I'm still going  
5 further on to Arctic Gas, and Foothills, which I said  
6 you can smell it from five miles away. I still can't  
7 understand yet, you know, so I just want to ask me, he  
8 says he can smell it yet.

9 THE COMMISSIONER: He says,  
10 he says -- he says he made a mistake.

11 THE WITNESS: Well suppose --  
12 I said suppose it doesn't go up in the air, and just  
13 like smoke it'll come out from a stovepipe, stay on the  
14 ground?

15 MR. BEER: Because natural  
16 gas is so much lighter than air, it's about half the  
17 weight of air, it really can't do that. It just has to  
18 rise. It's like bubbles coming up through water.  
19 There really isn't any way that you can stop the  
20 bubbles rising through water, so there's no way that  
21 you can stop natural gas rising through air, and that  
22 really is the reason that you wouldn't find it -- or  
23 you wouldn't encounter it five miles away from the  
24 pipeline, from the leak. It would all have gone up in  
25 the air, long before you get to the five mile point.

26 THE WITNESS: Yes, I  
27 understand that, but have you ever been to a camp, a  
28 native camp, or a tent or --a cabin. Have you ever  
29 been to a camp like that?

30 MR. BEER: I've been to camps,

1 | not to the one that you're referring to -- not to the  
2 | type that you're referring to though.

3 |                   THE WITNESS: I know that,  
4 | but the bush people, like myself, bush, trapping rats,  
5 | most of the time the smoke gets in the air just like  
6 | natural gas, gets in the air from a stovepipe, and you  
7 | don't smell it from a few feet away. Most of the time  
8 | the down to smoke stay right! the treetops, probably  
9 | lower than that, and if you come to a camp like that,  
10 | you smell smoke maybe two or three miles. That's why I  
11 | can't understand what you mean about this natural gas,  
12 | you can't smell it.

13 |                   MR. BEER: Yes, I understand  
14 | what you mean about smoke. I've smelled it myself a  
15 | long way from a wood fire, and really all I can say is  
16 | that the natural gas is just so much lighter than the  
17 | smoke if you like, that it will just continue to go on  
18 | up into the air. Smoke -- I guess it depends on the  
19 | temperature of the fire, and the atmospheric conditions  
20 | and so on, can and does very often, as you very well  
21 | know, just hang there, but all I can say is that  
22 | natural gas just doesn't do that.

23 |                   THE WITNESS: It don't hang?

24 |                   MR. BEER: It doesn't hang, no.  
25 | It can't. Smoke tends to be -- or can tend to be very much  
26 | closer to the weight of air, so it doesn't have the force  
27 | causing it to rise up, under certain circumstances.

28 |                   THE WITNESS: Well, I thought  
29 | natural gas and smoke, I thought it was just the same.

30 |                   MR. BEER: Not quite. The



1 | natural gas is just so much lighter.

2 |                               THE WITNESS: They weigh the  
3 | same, same as natural gas and smoke, do they weigh the  
4 | same?

5 |                               MR. BEER: No, no, no.  
6 | Natural gas is lighter than air, and a lot lighter than  
7 | smoke, you know.

8 |                               THE WITNESS: Well how come  
9 | the smoke don't go up then?

10 |                              MR. BEER: Well, the smoke  
11 | often does go up, but because it is lighter than air,  
12 | or it goes up on light air, but there are circumstances  
13 | where it just can't do that.

14 |                              THE WITNESS: But the last  
15 | time I see the smoke, it stay on -- from a camp stove  
16 | and then -- oh, see, that's what I want to know, if  
17 | it's the same thing?

18 |                              MR. BEER: No, it's not the  
19 | same thing.

20 |                              THE WITNESS: Well, that's  
21 | what I want to know. Thank you very much. That's all  
22 | I want to know Mr. Berger, about the highway and this.  
23 | Thank you very much.

24 |                              (WITNESS ASIDE)

25 |

26 |                              THE COMMISSIONER: Well if  
27 | there's anyone else to say anything?

28 |                              ROBERT ANDRE resumed:

29 |                              THE WITNESS: I'd just like  
30 | to mention that there's a lot of technicalities and

1 | there's a lot of technical things that people don't  
2 | understand, and it's pretty hard, you know, people are  
3 | scared when they don't understand anything. There's a  
4 | lot of things that we don't know about the pipeline.  
5 | That's why all these concerns are expressed.

6 |   THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.  
7 | Well, we have the same concerns. I have the same  
8 | concerns, and at Yellowknife, we bring Arctic Gas and  
9 | all their people, and other people from the government  
10 | before us to explain these problems, so we understand  
11 | them better and then when we go to the communities we  
12 | try to make sure the people have a better idea of  
13 | what's going on. Do you have a question?

14 |   (WITNESS ASIDE)

15 |   JAMES ANDRE resumed:

16 |   THE WITNESS: I went to work  
17 | for Arctic Gas three years ago at Fort Smith. People  
18 | down there, they don't like to work down south, we don't  
19 | like to work down south. We say, that's for the  
20 | pipeline, we don't want to work for the pipeline. We  
21 | don't like it. We want to work right in our country  
22 | right here. Here's our people here -- we want to keep  
23 | with our people. We want to be right here with them to  
24 | understand what our people want, and what everybody  
25 | wants. Go south, if you want to work for Arctic Gas. I  
26 | got the experience. When I went to work at Fort Smith,  
27 | in Fort Smith they tell me, you have to go to Moose Jaw,  
28 | to (inaudible), that was sixteen miles from Moose Jaw. I  
29 | don't want to go down there. Why should I go down there?  
30 | I don't anybody know down there. I don't know no native

1 | people. I don't know one, not even one person down there.  
2 | Why should I go down there?

3 |                           THE COMMISSIONER: Okay, I  
4 | understand that. You've made that point very  
5 | effectively. That's the point other people have made in  
6 | other, meetings. Okay, I've got that, that's fine.

7 |                           THE WITNESS: If you want to  
8 | put that some way, some kind of training put them down  
9 | right here where we are right now.

10 |                           THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

11 |                           THE WITNESS: Right here in :  
12 | N.W.T. Right here, where we are.

13 |                           THE COMMISSIONER: Okay, I'll  
14 | think about that. It's a good point.

15 |                           THE WITNESS: Left shit all  
16 | over the Territories, I mean, you come back, and we're  
17 | going to find out after you finish one year you come  
18 | back here, and say --

19 |                           A VOICE: He's not the only  
20 | one you know. I'm from Fort McPherson, and I can  
21 | point that out to myself, because you go down to the  
22 | States, I mean to the -- in Calgary or something like  
23 | that, trying to do something on your own. Everybody  
24 | say you're stupid because you're an Indian. You're  
25 | not a walking dictionary you know. That's all I can  
26 | say.

27 |                           THE COMMISSIONER: Right.

28 |                           A VOICE: Because we're stupid  
29 | we're supposed to be stupid, according to anything.  
30 | You see all the movies they make? The Indians are



1 THE COMMISSIONER: I think  
2 the gentleman here wants to say something. O.K.

3 (WITNESS ASIDE)

4 PASCALE BAPTISTE sworn:

5 THE INTERPRETER: He's  
6 travelled quite a bit, and he said he was born in the  
7 year 1898.

8 He used to stay with his  
9 parents. That's all they done, he said, travel around.  
10 It was in 1904 he went down with them down the Mackenzie  
11 River. He was in school for six years. After he came  
12 back, he say he went back to his parents again.

13 In 1916 was when he got  
14 married so after he got married, they done a lot a  
15 travelling; but he said for two years, he was down by  
16 the mouth close to the mouth of Anderson River, that's  
17 where he means. From there, they travelled quite a  
18 ways to get little supplies, but he said they made  
19 their first trip to Kittigazuit , and he said at that  
20 time he had a chance to go down and see Tuk. You see  
21 at that time, Tuktoyaktuk had just one little log  
22 cabin, so from what I hear today it's a big town.

23 At that time, he had a chance  
24 to go down to Baillie Island, but he said there was.  
25 nothing there, just a big point, and he said that's all  
26 -there was there. There was no other cabins at all, lu  
27 bare. He said he stayed down there as he told you  
28 before, and he said at 1917 he came back here into this  
29 town here, Arctic Red River.

30 He said we never stayed one

1 | place. We were forever travelling, and from here he  
2 | said we went up the Arctic Red River. We travelled all  
3 | over in that country too. He said them days it was  
4 | pretty hard going, but still  
5 | he said they keep travelling and going from place to  
6 | place, and he said from here we moved up 85 miles up  
7 | the Arctic Red River. From there he says, we done a  
8 | lot of travelling in that mountains, and he said that's  
9 | we practically stayed all winter, looking around for  
10 | caribou and moose. It was the year 1919.

11 | You see I done a lot of  
12 | travelling up in the mountains there. From there, they  
13 | went into the Yukon. There's a little town they call  
14 | Lansing Creek. He said we even went over there; and  
15 | that was the year he said we stayed up this river for  
16 | one year. That was the year 1918 when the war was just  
17 | about ending, and he said we stayed up there pretty  
18 | near two years. We didn't come back to Arctic Red  
19 | River here.

20 | The year 1921 he said we spent  
21 | the New Year up the river in the mountains. He said the  
22 | year after that we came back here, to this town here.  
23 | That's the year 1921, when the first treaty was paid  
24 | out, and he says I was there when the treaty was paid  
25 | out. He said the person that paid out the treaty was a  
26 | fairly big man, and he said I remember his name very  
27 | well, Mr. Conroy. When he paid out treaty, that's the  
28 | first time he says, they done that. He says I met the  
29 | chief, the first chief and also the second chief.

30 | He says they told the people,



1 of these public housing down there. Over half of that  
2 pension is going to pay -- has got to be paid for that  
3 public housing every month.

4                                   The way I look right now --  
5 he means to say how old he is -- is that he still traps  
6 and he says he's trying to help himself by replacing  
7 some of that old age pension he spends on his housing,  
8 but he says, not too much luck this year. Now he wants  
9 to talk about land.

10                                   He says originally he came  
11 from here, this Arctic Red River, and he travelled on  
12 the east side of this, right down to Anderson River,  
13 way down to a place they call Kugaluk, and he knows  
14 every lake that' got fish in it. He say all these  
15 lakes, especially the big lakes, and the rivers, they  
16 got names, and I know every one of them. That's how  
17 much he used to travel down this country.

18                                   He said he had a couple maps  
19 sent to him, I think it's from the Indian Brotherhood,  
20 and he says that's a white woman asked him to map out  
21 where he trapped, where he travelled, and what lakes  
22 got fish in it. It's something familiar to that there.  
23 He says some of them lakes, he know the names but it's  
24 hard for him to explain it in English, but as far as  
25 out language is concerned, he knows practically every  
26 one of them.

27                                   He says I don't know, something  
28 happened that he lost that map, but he said the lady that  
29 helped him make out that map told him that she was  
30 going to send them to Ottawa, but he said I don't think





1 Arctic Red River here, he say if we went down there  
2 now, all of us, we still -- I figure we still could  
3 make good living out of it. He says, another thing he  
4 wants to talk about, this settlement here.

5 He say, we get lots of fish  
6 here, but we must remember, all that fish comes from the  
7 coast. Most of this fish that comes up here, don't even  
8 go out to Fort Good Hope. He says this town here, the  
9 fish are very plentiful. Everybody used to get lots of  
10 fish, even people from Fort McPherson come over here and  
11 fish, and when we get lots of fish, he said, they send  
12 them down to Inuvik. People make use of that fish that  
13 we get around here, from this little town here.

14 He said this is one reason,  
15 he said, me too, I'm strongly against the pipeline. He  
16 sail before I got married, he said my wife comes from  
17 up the Arctic Red River; he said, him, he comes from  
18 the east land, I mean on the east side from here, down  
19 in that Travaillant Lake country. So he said, both of  
20 us, she comes from one side of the river, I come from  
21 the other side, and that's how we got married.

22 He said one thing he really  
23 wants now, he'd sure like to move back to Arctic Red  
24 River. He said he mentioned this to different people  
25 down in Inuvik, he say he dislike Inuvik, but he tell  
26 some of the white people that he really want to come  
27 back here, and they told him , sure, that might help you  
28 out. They said that should clear your mind from  
29 thinking too much. Why don't you move back to where  
30 your people are?"

1 He say if he had a house, if  
2 he could get a house here, he'd move back here before,  
3 it's too late, because he say his wife is old, and he  
4 says me too, I'm getting old; but he said the day I  
5 could get a house, I'll move back here to my people.  
6 He says that's all I have to say to you Mr. Berger.

7 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,  
8 thank you, sir. Do you want to come forward sir?

9 (WITNESS ASIDE)

10  
11 BARNEY NATSIE sworn:

12 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger,  
13 Barney Natsie's my name, and I say that I just, you  
14 know, I'm here at the respect of my people, and you  
15 knob I come forward -- I got some words for you, and I  
16 kept that for a long time, I heard about all your  
17 travelling and everything. I'm pleased to meet you  
18 today, and I got few words for you to say for you, and  
19 I'm pleased to say you're welcomed to listen to it.

20 You know, I'm not too good,  
21 but you know I hope it makes sense that way. I don't  
22 think you know you'll all put it down, and you'll get  
23 back in Ottawa or wherever you come from -- government  
24 -well I'll tell you about the government, to start  
25 with. I worked with the government for over two and a  
26 half years. I went through local government, and now I  
27 work with D.P.W. because I'm a helping hand. Well I'll  
28 tell you for instance, when you ask the government for  
29 something, you know, there's something wrong with your  
30 cat, or anything. Now you ask them, you want something

1 repaired, they say, "Sure, we give it to you, we give  
2 it to you, lots of promise. Then when you ask for it,  
3 see you never 4t, a month later, you never see nothing.  
4 So you go back and phone and ask them, "Oh yeah, we  
5 order it, we got it on order." It's all promise.  
6 That's the same thing, you're working for the  
7 government, aren't you?

8 THE COMMISSIONER: Pardon me?

9 THE WITNESS: You're working  
10 for the government aren't you?

11 THE COMMISSIONER: No, I  
12 don't work for the government, but go on anyway.

13 THE WITNESS: You know, you  
14 spend a lot of money travelling. That's what I'm get  
15 into. You spend a lot of money travelling. Now,  
16 that's where the government's spending it all, they got  
17 you on the road and whether the pipeline or not, eh,  
18 pipeline. You're getting down to think that pipeline

19 oh sure, you'll get it,  
20 because, look, I'll tell you planned for instance, you  
21 got that years ago, and now you're travelling. You got  
22 all the money -- oh, you got big crew and you're  
23 travelling all over, plane expenses, and hotel room and  
24 sleeping every night. You got money to play around  
25 with. But if you get doing to wages and ask for your  
26 money, you never get it, they say they got no money.  
27 But they sure got money to play around with though, eh?

28 That's what I'm trying to get  
29 down. I don't see the point in things, you know. I  
30 got no education, I'm not -- you know, I'm nothing.



1 | recommendations to them; and members of the government  
2 | have said, publicly, that they will not make a decision  
3 | about whether a pipeline should be built, until I have  
4 | reported to them about what it will mean to the north.

5 |                   Now, you're not the first to  
6 | suggest that it has all been planned, and is going to  
7 | go ahead, no matter what this Inquiry says. No matter  
8 | what you say, no matter what I say. Now lots of people  
9 | think that there's something in that, but as far as I'm  
10 | concerned we live in a country where, when the  
11 | government makes a solemn statement that it has not  
12 | made a decision and will not, until I have been to the  
13 | north and heard what the people have to say, then I  
14 | accept the government's statement. But it may be that  
15 | -- well, there are people besides yourself, who aren't  
16 | as confident in the things the government says as I am,  
17 | I suppose. Well, that's -- I understand your point.

18 |                   THE WITNESS: When you get back  
19 | to your office eh, I'll ask you one question, when you  
20 | get back your office, they all do, they get back to the  
21 | south, they pick up all the letters and bring it back  
22 | south. What they do, they throw it in the waste basket.  
23 | They forget about it. Then we never hear no more after  
24 | that. And here we keep writing letter and you never hear  
25 | no answer. Big promise to the poor people down here eh?  
26 | Big promise, I heard lots. I lived forty years in the  
27 | country now, I was born here and I lived 40 years 40  
28 | years old; and I worked for the government about two and  
29 | a half years, and I got a lot of experience, I know, and  
30 | I got no education or nothing, but I got it all up in the

1 head here. I sitting, I was waiting to speak to you a  
2 little. Not that I don't like you or anything, but you  
3 know it's just for the sake of our kids and our future  
4 life eh? It's the same way. You travel all over, you  
5 get it all the way, same word, you know. Well that's why  
6 I asked you. You get back to the office, all you going  
7 to do is just throw your papers in the waste basket and  
8 that's it, eh? And you wait while you bargain and say  
9 "What happened?" You'll be sitting there weeks where  
10 you'll watch what's going on. Is that okay?

11 THE COMMISSIONER: Pardon me?

12 THE WITNESS: Well that's all  
13 I'm going to say to you and thanks a lot for coming and  
14 pleased to meet you, okay?

15 (WITNESS ASIDE)

16

17

18 CHIEF HYACINTHE ANDRE resumed:

19 THE WITNESS: I just want to  
20 say a few words too. This man just came to listen to  
21 us, not to argue. We're going to say something, talk  
22 about our land. That's what we came down for. We're  
23 going to talk about pipeline. That's one too. Nothing  
24 else, that's what I want myself. Maybe end of the  
25 meeting now.

26 (WITNESS ASIDE)

27

28 ROBERT ANDRE resumed: Can I  
29 just ask you a few questions? I just want to know, the  
30 ultimate decision to build a pipeline, where does that

1 rest?

2 THE COMMISSIONER: That rests  
3 with the Government of Canada, with the Prime Minister,  
4 and the members of the Cabinet, who have been -- who  
5 have a majority in Parliament, and they are elected to  
6 govern to make these choices, and my job is to tell  
7 them what it will mean to the north if they build a gas  
8 pipeline, and then an oil pipeline; what it will mean  
9 if there is an energy corridor from the Arctic to the  
10 south; to make sure that they are in a position to make  
11 an intelligent choice; but they will decide, and decide  
12 they must.

13 I want to make sure that they  
14 understand the consequences of the decision they have  
15 to make, one way or the other.

16 THE WITNESS: What role does  
17 the National Energy Board play in this?

18 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I'm  
19 going to tell the government what it will mean to the  
20 north and the people who live here, and the environment  
21 of the north, the economy of the north, and the people  
22 of the north. The Energy Board is in Ottawa, and they  
23 will be holding hearings to find out how much gas there  
24 is in the delta, and to find out how much gas the  
25 people in southern Canada and the United States are  
26 going to need to get along for the next so many years;  
27 and then they will say to the government, "Well, this  
28 is how much it'll cost to bring this gas here, and this  
29 is how much we've got, and this is how much we need."  
30 The Government of Canada will have my report which will



1 | tell them what the impact will be on the north.  
2 | They'll have the Energy Board's report which will tell  
3 | them what Canada's requirements for gas are, and then  
4 | the government will have to weigh it all up, and make a  
5 | decision; and I'm here to make sure you have a chance  
6 | to say what you think about the whole thing.

7 | THE WITNESS: That's good.  
8 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I  
10 | think I'll bring the meeting to a close, and say that  
11 | we've had a long day, but it's been a good day, and I  
12 | have listened carefully to what everybody has said who  
13 | came forward and spoke, and some who didn't come forward  
14 | but stayed at the back of the room. I listened to all  
15 | of you because I think I can learn something from each  
16 | one of you. That's what I'm here for, to listen and to  
17 | learn. We will have a transcript made of what has been  
18 | said. It'll be typed up and printed, and we'll send  
19 | that to Chief Andre and the Band Council; and I'll have  
20 | a copy so I will be able to look up what you said. This  
21 | is the first place I've been to where people are a  
22 | little bit suspicious, that, having come all this way  
23 | and taken all these notes, I might throw them in the  
24 | garbage when I get back to Inuvik, but I can tell you I  
25 | won't do that. I didn't come all this way for the fun  
26 | of it. I came here to listen to you people and to  
27 | learn, and I think I have learned a lot about Arctic Red  
28 | River, and about the way you feel and the way you think  
29 | about the land, about the future, and about the  
30 | pipeline. So, I want to thank all of you and once

