

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)

Edmonton, Alberta
May 17, 1976

PROCEEDINGS AT COMMUNITY HEARING

Volume 54

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Mr. Russell Anthony and pro. Alastair Lucas	for Canadian Arctic Resources Committee
Mr. Glen Bell, ries	for Northwest Territories Indian Brotherhood, and Metis Association of the Northwest Territories.

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1 Inquiry is to make sure that we understand the
2 consequences of what we are doing to enable the
3 government to make an informed judgment.

4 This Inquiry began its
5 hearing on March 3rd, 1975 something like 14 or 15
6 months ago, in Yellowknife. Since then, we have held
7 many months of formal hearings listening to the
8 evidence of engineers, scientists, biologists,
9 anthropologists, economists, listening to the people
10 who have made it the work of their lifetime to study
11 the north and northern conditions.

12 The environment of the Arctic
13 has been called fragile and that may or may not be true.
14 Arctic species certainly are tough. They have to be to
15 survive but at certain times of the year, especially when
16 they are having their young, they are vulnerable.

17 If you build a pipeline from
18 Alaska along the Arctic coast of the Yukon, you will be
19 opening up a wilderness where the porcupine caribou
20 herd calves on the coastal plain and in the foothills
21 every summer. This is one of the last great herds of
22 caribou in North America. Then it is proposed that the
23 pipeline from Alaska should cross the mouth of the
24 Mackenzie Delta where the white whales of the Beaufort
25 Sea have their young each summer. Millions of birds
26 come to the Mackenzie Delta and the coast of the
27 Beaufort Sea each summer from all over the western
28 hemisphere to breed and to store up energy for their
29 long journey south in the fall. Can we build pipelines
30 from the north under conditions that will ensure the

1 survival of these species? These are some of the
2 questions that we are examining.

3 But it is the people of the
4 north that have the most at stake here because they
5 will have to live with whatever decisions are made.
6 That is why the Inquiry has held hearings in 28 cities
7 and towns, villages, settlements and outposts in the
8 north, to enable the peoples of the north to tell me,
9 to tell the government and to tell all of us what their
10 life and their own experience have taught them about
11 the north and the likely impact of a pipeline and
12 energy corridor.

13 The Inquiry has been from
14 Sachs Harbour to Fort Smith, from Old Crow to Fort
15 Franklin and has heard from 700 witnesses in English,
16 French, Loucheux, Slavey, Dogrib, Chipewyan and
17 Eskimo.

18 Our task is to establish
19 constructive approaches to northern development. If we
20 are to do that, we have an obligation to canvass all
21 the questions before us. Some of these questions are:
22 Should native land claims be settled before the
23 pipeline is built? If the pipeline is to be built and
24 the native people want to participate in its
25 construction, how can we ensure that they are given an
26 opportunity to work on the pipeline? Can they develop
27 skills on the pipeline that will be of some use to
28 themselves and to the north after the pipeline is
29 built? Can we provide a sound basis for northern
30 business to obtain contracts and subcontracts the

1 | pipeline? What about the unions?

2 | We are told they have an
3 | awesome measure of control over pipeline construction
4 | in Alaska. Should they have the same measure of
5 | control over pipeline construction in the Mackenzie
6 | Valley? What about the local taxpayer in larger
7 | centers in the north such as Yellowknife and Inuvik?

8 | If you have a pipeline boom
9 | you will have to expand your schools, your hospitals,
10 | your police force, your local services. What measures
11 | ought to be taken to enable the municipalities and
12 | other institutions of local government in the north to
13 | cope with the impact?

14 | We Canadians think of
15 | ourselves as a northern people, so the future of the
16 | north is a matter of concern to all of us. In fact, it
17 | is our own appetite for oil and gas and our own
18 | patterns of energy consumption that have given rise to
19 | proposals to bring oil and gas from the Arctic. It may
20 | well be that what happens in the north and to northern
21 | peoples will tell us something about what kind of a
22 | country Canada is and what kind of a people we are.
23 | That is why we are here to listen to you.

24 | We have some visitors with us
25 | from the Canadian north today. This table on the left
26 | consists of the representatives of the press and the
27 | media from many parts of Canada but among them are the
28 | members of the C.B.C.'s broadcasting unit that
29 | accompanies the Inquiry wherever it goes and which
30 | broadcasts every night for an hour on the radio in the

1 Northwest Territories and the Yukon in English and the
2 native languages to northern people, and they are
3 accompanying us here to the main centers of southern
4 Canada to broadcast from the south to the north each
5 evening on the northern network.

6 They are Whit Fraser who
7 broadcast in English, Joe Toby who broadcasts in
8 Chipewyan and Dogrib, Abe Okpik who broadcast in
9 Inuktitut, the Eskimo language of the western Arctic,
10 Jim Sittichinli who broadcasts in Loucheux and Louis
11 Blondin who broadcasts in Slavey. They have been
12 reporting each evening on the northern network on the
13 hearings the Inquiry has held in the north and now they
14 are reporting each evening on the hearings the Inquiry
15 is holding in southern Canada.

16 Before we begin with the
17 representations that you wish to make today I'll ask
18 Alick Ryder of Commission Counsel to outline the
19 procedure. Mr. Ryder?

20 MR. RYDER: Thank you Mr.
21 Commissioner. The first thing that should be said
22 about the procedure is that it has been agreed upon by
23 the two pipeline applicants and by all the other
24 participants who regularly appear before you in
25 Yellowknife.

26 The procedures were designed
27 to conduct an informal hearing, as informal as
28 possible, and at the same time to allow all those who
29 wish to make submissions to you an opportunity to do so
30 as conveniently as possible.

1 First of all we sent out
2 advertisements throughout the cities of southern
3 Canada, including a newspaper in Edmonton and in this
4 advertisement we invited all those who wish to speak to
5 you, to make submissions to you, we invited these
6 people to advise us of their wish and that has
7 permitted us to know how much time it was necessary to
8 set aside at each city in order to accommodate all
9 those who wish to make submissions to you and it also
10 enabled u to prepare a timetable for each session so
11 that each person who is making a submission can be
12 given, and was given an appointment setting out the
13 time when we expected them to able to make the
14 presentation.

15 Now a word should be said sir
16 to those in the room who didn't respond to our ad, but
17 at the same tine would like to make a submission to you
18 and that can be done in either one of two ways. The
19 first way is simply to write their submission in a
20 letter form addressed to the Inquiry or to yourself at
21 Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories and that
22 submission will be given to you to consider when you
23 return to Yellowknife.

24 The other way, and I address
25 these remarks to those who wish to make oral submission
26 at the Inquiry's hearings today and tomorrow, to speak
27 to Mr. Waddell here who will do his best without any
28 fit guarantee but do his best to him in and put the
29 person into the existing timetable.

30 Now, we should add that it's

1 City. These inadequacies are nowhere more apparent
2 than in the case of an undertaking such as the
3 Mackenzie Valley line which, while economically
4 justified, nevertheless distributes its cost in such a
5 fashion as to place much of the burden on the local
6 municipality and on services that it must, by law,
7 provide and at the same time cast the benefits over a
8 much broader sphere.

9
10 In particular and
11 specifically, the City of Edmonton wishes to emphasize
12 to this Commission that the financial needs of the
13 local communities ought to be of paramount importance
14 to the senior governments and an integral part of the
15 economic and social planning related to this particular
16 project.

17 We believe that the
18 Provincial and Federal Governments must provide
19 supplementary and additional assistance to fast growing
20 areas such as ours when that growth is brought on by
21 activities promoted by those governments.

22 Sir, we recommend -- we urge
23 you to recommend the creation of a small task force
24 comprised of representatives of the Federal Government,
25 the Provincial Government and the local municipalities
26 to define and quantify the financial requirements of
27 the local municipalities impacted by the Mackenzie
28 Valley line. Such a committee or task force should
29 have the power to establish and recommend procedures to
30 meet the social problems discussed and the degree and
character of the financial assistance to be provided to

1 | that we do not ask questions of the people who come
2 | forward to present briefs is that the lawyers who
3 | represent the pipeline companies, the native
4 | organizations and the environmental groups have all
5 | agreed not to ask questions, and it is agreed though
6 | that if anyone comes forward and delivers a brief and
7 | the lawyers want to ask extensive questions, we will
8 | arrange to bring the particular person or organization
9 | to Yellowknife for a week and let these lawyers spend
10 | all kinds of time asking questions without the rest of
11 | us having to wait around for our chance to say
12 | something. I am used to that but you are not, and for
13 | that reason we felt that it would be better if we let
14 | all of you have a chance to say what you want to say,
15 | and then later on if we wanted to ask some questions we
16 | would have to get in touch with you in the way that I
17 | have outlined.

18 | *So, yes sir, go ahead.*

19 | DON MCKENZIE, sworn;

20 | THE WITNESS: Thank you your
21 | honor. I bring apologies from our president Mr. Ed
22 | Baxter who is at Canadian Chamber of Commerce
23 | Conference in Jasper. My position is management of
24 | business development and northern affairs so you can
25 | see they've brought in the mercenaries your honor. The
26 | executive as such are in Jasper.

27 | *The Edmonton Chamber of*
28 | *Commerce received its Charter in 1889. We have 3200*
29 | *members, businesses, which employ in excess of 60,000*
30 | *citizens of Edmonton. The following is our report.*

1 First we deal with the
2 environment. There are many studies and volumes of
3 resource material available to the Commission in
4 support of the necessary precautions needed in the
5 construction of a project of this magnitude. The
6 regulations laid down by the conservation authorities
7 are quite explicit and it is the Edmonton Chamber of
8 commerce's opinion that the available regulations be
9 attended to rigidly. The proposal for the pipeline to
10 be constructed in the winter season and the line buried
11 is the most acceptable method of construction in
12 the permafrost area and summer construction is
13 achieved where the terrain is not ecologically
14 sensitive.

15 The energy requirements of
16 the Canadian economy can be served without significant
17 sacrifice of any specific environmental or social
18 concerns. The overall energy requirements of the
19 nation outweigh the temporary environmental
20 inconveniences. In dealing with the people, the
21 Edmonton Chamber of Commerce is on record as supporting
22 an early settlement of the claims of the native people.
23 The arguments of the native people against any resource
24 development in the north represents a challenge to
25 Federal sovereignty. The assurance of a fair and just
26 settlement of native claims, both social and economic,
27 must be tendered with authority.

28 The use of native labor in
29 jobs meeting the level of their competence and skills
30 should be given top priority and continued training

1 residents on matters of location and minimizing
2 environmental damage should be made use of as this is
3 in the interest of all Canadians.

4 In view of the already
5 accrued expense, no other method is viable to supply
6 this much needed resource. An alternative method of
7 transport would cause more delay and further expense.

8 I thank you, your honor.

9 (SUBMISSION OF THE EDMONTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
10 MARKED AS EXHIBIT C-321)

11 (WITNESS ASIDE)

12 MR. WADDELL: Mr.

13 Commissioner I'm going to jump down our list a little
14 bit and call as our next brief Dr. Thomas Leadbeater
15 who is with the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton and is
16 also a member of the National Executive Council of the
17 Anglican Church of Canada. Dr. Leadbeater?

18 DR THOMAS LEADBEATER sworn;

19 MR. WADDELL: While Dr.

20 Leadbeater is coming forward Judge Berger and being
21 sworn, I should tell you that we have with us today
22 sir, a group of students from the Cartier McGee School,
23 grade seven who apparently have been studying this
24 issue and writing about it and their teacher is Mr.
25 Bill Kobluk. They're here.

26 THE COMMISSIONER: I am glad
27 they are here. I hope they can stay with us until we
28 leave on Wednesday morning at 6:55 a.m.

29 Well sir, go ahead.

30 THE WITNESS: You honor, Mr.

1 Commissioner this brief is an expression of opinion
2 approved by the Program Committee of the Anglican
3 Diocese of Edmonton which works in close cooperation
4 with the Program Committee of our national church.

5 At first we would like to
6 express our appreciation for this process of public
7 hearings. We are impressed by the care taken to hear
8 all parties and we trust that your findings will
9 provide a sound basis for settlement of the issues.

10 Second, we hope that the
11 Federal Government will take your recommendations with
12 the utmost seriousness.

13 We begin by endorsing a
14 resolution of general synod of the Anglican Church
15 in Canada which met in Quebec
16 City in June 1975, the one which is clearly related to
17 the business of this Inquiry. It reads as follows:

18 "This general synod through the primate requests
19 the Federal Government and through the appropri-
20 ate dioceses and bishops request Provincial and
21 Territorial Governments to halt planned develop-
22 ment until aboriginal claims are settled and to
23 initiate negotiations on the land claim issue
24 without prior conditions and taking serious
25 these aboriginal claims."

26 Our concern is to ensure that
27 the reasonable demands of the Dene and Inuit peoples of
28 the north will not be overridden by the powerful self-
29 interests of our southern economy. We relate this to a
30 basic Christian teaching so ably expressed by John This

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1 Sperry, Anglican Bishop of the Arctic at general Synod.
2 Ire said:

3 "We must be like the good Samaritan who not only
4 bound up the wounds inflicted by a cruel and
5 heartless society that left a race of people to
6 die, but who stood clearly beside this man and
7 continued to support him and help him morally
8 and with action.

9 If we fail today to place ourselves
10 clearly on the side of native people in Canada
11 and instead pass by on the other side by refus-
12 ing to state clearly with words and actions
13 where we stand, then we must return to our homes
14 from this place and hang our heads in shame."

15 Mr. Commissioner, we do not
16 presume to speak for our native people of the north but
17 rather speak as advocates, that is, speaking along side
18 of the voiceless in our society. We are pleased to
19 note that no one has been voiceless in this present
20 Inquiry and we hope that this will set a precedent for
21 future inquiries.

22 However, having stated our
23 support of the resolution, passed with a considerable
24 majority at the General Synod of the Anglican Church in
25 Canada we would like to give our reasons for this
26 support and our presumption in appearing before you.

27 No doubt Mr. Commissioner you
28 know that whenever the church speaks out on issues
29 relating to politics and/or economics, we are usually
30 accused of meddling. In fact, quite recently a

1 | leading Federal Government Minister during a news
2 | interview said that it was silly for church leaders to
3 | make statements on political and economic issues. The
4 | Minister withdrew his comment when church leaders
5 | presented the Cabinet with the statement:

6 | "Justice demands action."

7 | The church is ready to accept
8 | such criticism when pursuing what we believe to be
9 | truth and justice. Indeed, if the contrary were true,
10 | the church would never have got out of the city of
11 | Jerusalem. It would have remained a middleclass club
12 | for local mystics.

13 | However, it is interesting to
14 | note that another leading government official has
15 | commended the churches and other organizations the
16 | responsibility of enunciating values in our national
17 | life. He said:

18 | "Government officials are not expert on what Ca-
19 | nadian values and perceptions of social equity
20 | are. That is not the domain of government offi-
21 | cials but of citizens themselves expressed by
22 | Canadians collectively through their organiza-
23 | tions, their churches, their unions, etc."

24 | We accept this latter
25 | proposition. It is an historic fact that the church
26 | has been involved with our native people for over a
27 | hundred years, for better and for worse, and we accept
28 | our share of the responsibility for creating what we
29 | unhappily call the native problem. What we did in the
30 | past through ignorance and pride, we hope to avoid in

1 participation of native peoples in the north and
2 before a just settlement has been reached on
3 their land claims. For a people whose land is
4 their life and to wish to gain control over
5 their economic future, a just settlement of
6 their land claims lies at the very heart of
7 their struggle for justice."

8 The Indian Brotherhood of the Northwest Territories
9 puts it this way:

10 "A land settlement is a unique opportunity to
11 bring the Indian people into the economic, social
12 and political mosaic of Canada in a way that would
13 be a source of pride to all Canadians."

14 The Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, representing the Eskimo
15 of the Northwest Territories say:

16 "What the Inuit want is not really much different
17 from what most Canadians already take for granted.
18 The Inuit are not separatists. They are Canadi-
19 ans, but they don't want to be a colonial subject.
20 They want to be partners in Confederation."

21 Mr. Commissioner, we are
22 persuaded that our native peoples of the north do not
23 want to stop development. They want to have some say
24 in the way in which it is developed. They are aware of
25 the benefits which accrue from it. What they want
26 above all is self-sufficiency, socially, culturally and
27 economically. The alternative to that is continued
28 colonial rule at ever increasing cost, both to native
29 people and other Canadians.

30 Therefore, if we cannot

1 Thank you very much,
2 (THE SUBMISSION OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF EDMONTON
3 MARKED AS EXHIBIT C-322)

4 (WITNESS ASIDE)

5 MR. WADDELL: Mr.
6 Commissioner, our next brief is from Mr. Elmer Berlie,
7 That's spelled B-e-r-l-i-e--. Mr. Berlie, from the
8 Association of Professional Engineers and Geologists
9 and Geophysicists of Alberta. Mr. Berlie?

10 ELMER BERLIE sworn;

11 THE WITNESS: Mr.
12 Commissioner the Association of Professional Engineers,
13 Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta is a private
14 professional organization appointed by the Government
15 of the Province of Alberta to administer the
16 Engineering and Related Professions Act.

17 The Association is more
18 commonly referred to by its short title APEGGA. APEGGA
19 has a total membership of approximately 11,000 made UP
20 of 8300 professional engineers, 1120 professional
21 geologists, 240 professional geophysicists, 1200
22 members in training and 520 licensees. The major
23 disciplines of our members are civil, electrical,
24 mechanical, chemical, petroleum and mining engineering,
25 geology and geophysics.

26 Approximately 20 percent of
27 APEGGA members are in private practise and 80 percent
28 occupy salaried positions. Areas of work are very
29 diversified and include light and heavy industry,
30 general business, consulting, petroleum, agriculture,

1 | government, education, utilities, construction, law,
2 | manufacturing, medical research and so on.

3 | APEGGA has historically held
4 | a high priority interest in development of northern
5 | Canada, particularly the Yukon and western districts of
6 | the Northwestern Territories. For many years, our
7 | members have provided engineering services to northern
8 | communities and we therefore consider that we have a
9 | legitimate special interest and expertise in northern
10 | development. The engineers, geologists and
11 | geophysicists are certainly no strangers to the north.
12 | Our members have been kept informed of the Berger
13 | Inquiry by the printing of periodic summaries in our
14 | publications dating as far back as 1972 and as
15 | illustrated by the attached reprints.

16 | It is therefore in keeping
17 | with this past involvement that APEGGA wishes to assist
18 | the Commission by adding the thoughts and suggestions
19 | of our members to this Inquiry.

20 | The need for continued and
21 | even expanded development of energy sources has been
22 | proclaimed by APEGGA for several years. We are
23 | extremely concerned both as technical people and as
24 | private citizens about the steadily advancing energy
25 | crisis. This concern has been expressed repeatedly to
26 | all levels of government. Two letters expressing our
27 | concern were directed to Prime Minister Pierre Elliott
28 | Trudeau, one in 1974, another in 1975, where the
29 | Association stated:

30 | "Serious reduction in exploration and production

1 activities in the petroleum and mining indus-
2 tries will impact on all Canadians. Statistics
3 indicate that even with accelerated developments
4 of our energy resources, we may be facing a se-
5 vere shortage in Canada by mid-1980."

6 Today sir, we would
7 conclude that statement with the words "or sooner".
8 Whereas we remind ourselves that this Inquiry at
9 this time is dealing with impact on the north and
10 the questions relating to gas supply, Canadian gas
11 requirements and gas exports are matters for the
12 National Energy Board to consider, we would be
13 seriously remiss if we did not state our very strong
14 belief that an economic crisis of considerable
15 proportion will develop due to an energy shortfall
16 and that the impact of this crisis, will be felt
17 throughout Canada and by all Canadians. There will
18 be no exceptions from the damaging effects of this
19 crisis but only degrees of impact which will
20 escalate in damaging effect in the less populated
21 and northern areas.

22 One need only to ponder
23 briefly the resulting cost in northern travel alone to
24 realize the magnitude of the setback in progressive
25 development of northern communities. One must
26 constantly remain aware of the time factor associated
27 with this crisis. Many Canadians are of the mistaken
28 belief that solutions to the energy crisis can be
29 quickly achieved. This is not so. After allowing for
30 the many years required for design, the time required

1 Canadian talents from all sectors. Development of
2 these talents will have international impact as well.

3 For example, as a direct
4 result of skills developed by Canadians in northern
5 drilling, the Canadian Drilling and Research
6 Association was able to trade Canadian expertise in
7 this area for U.S.S.R. expertise in the use of
8 turbodrills. A further example is the advancement of
9 Canadian geotechnical engineering as a direct result of
10 research already generated by the Mackenzie Pipeline
11 Project studies. Significant advances recognized
12 internationally have been made by Canadians in the
13 first method developed to predict the rate and amount
14 of frost heave, analysis of slope stability and soil
15 creep and in general river engineering.

16 Also, Canadian expertise in
17 the design, specifications and winter construction of
18 large diameter pipelines is internationally recognized.
19 Development of such expertise puts Canada in an
20 advantageous trading position to obtain knowledge in
21 other areas, many dealing with northern living
22 environment.

23 It must also be recognized
24 that development of Canadian talent will be needed in
25 future years when additional energy demands will
26 necessitate development of Arctic Island reserves and
27 construction of the Polar Gas Pipeline down the
28 shoreline of Hudson's Bay.

29 All of this can't be done
30 without consideration of the native northerners. It is

1 | drug education. We're not anti-drink and I would like
2 | to get that clear and get the nervousness out. We're
3 | against drunkenness and alcoholism.

4 | I'm as nervous as a pregnant
5 | fox in a forest fire.

6 | THE COMMISSIONER; Just take
7 | your time and take it easy.

8 | A I just heard about this
9 | Inquiry today from a friend of mine. His name is Billy
10 | Erasmias. He runs a treatment center up in Fort
11 | Simpson. We're up there to help him organize several
12 | times and he's a very good worker, very concerned and
13 | we believe he's in the right direction. As a matter of
14 | fact we know he's in the right direction because one of
15 | the things that we do know is that alcoholism programs
16 | save human life.

17 | I'd like to go back just a
18 | little while, a number of years ago, about a hundred
19 | years, two hundred years ago. More than two hundred
20 | years ago. The United States of America, they were in
21 | Iowa and they were going to sign a treaty with the
22 | Indians up there and seven days before they signed that
23 | treaty, in the documents from the Smithsonian Institute
24 | that were written by the man who was putting together
25 | that treaty signing. Seven days before they signed
26 | that treaty, they used to parade wagon loads of whiskey
27 | before that village every day. They didn't open them.
28 | Every day they paraded them, every morning.

29 | On the seventh day which was
30 | the day they were going to sign the treaty, they opened

1 | It's like if you had sickle-cell here. I wouldn't want
2 | sickle-cell monies to come to Indian people because we
3 | don't have no sickle-cell problem. We want them to
4 | where the problem is and that's the same kind of thing
5 | that we're talking about with regards to alcoholism in
6 | Indian country. So with that, I'd like to express our
7 | concern and concern of alcoholism program people
8 | throughout the country.

9 | Thank you Mr. Berger.

10 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
11 | Mr. Shirt. Thank you very much.

12 | (PAPER ON NATIVE ALCOHOLISM PROBLEMS DATED FEBRUARY 22,
13 | 1974 MARKED AS EXHIBIT C-325A)

14 | (REPORT, "ALCOHOL AND HEALTH" BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
15 | HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE, FIRST REPORT DATE
16 | DECEMBER, 1971; SECOND REPORT DATED JUNE, 1974 MARKED
17 | AS EXHIBIT C-325B)

18 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

19 | MR. WADDELL: Mr.

20 | Commissioner, perhaps we could have one more brief, one
21 | more witness before we adjourn for coffee and I call
22 | upon Mr. Keith Johnson who is with the Development and
23 | Peace Committee of the Edmonton Catholic Diocese.

24 | KEITH JOHNSON sworn;

25 | THE WITNESS: Mr.

26 | Commissioner the Edmonton Committee of the Canadian
27 | Catholic Organization for Development and Peace wishes
28 | at this time to publicly state its principle concerns
29 | related to northern resource development proposals.

30 | As introduction, the

1 solving species which has always risen to its own
2 salvation once genuine threats have been recognized.

3 Dr. Joseph Meeker writes:

4 "Scientists and politicians proclaim their
5 readiness to seek technological solutions to en-
6 vironmental problems on the assumption that the
7 same mental inventiveness which has fouled the
8 world can surely tidy it up again. Futurists
9 consult their computers in search of new sys-
10 tems, complex enough to accommodate all known
11 needs, human and natural. Conservationists
12 lobby for better wilderness protection, better
13 sewage systems, restricted use of agricultural
14 chemicals etc. Excellent as such medicines may
15 be, everyone knows in honesty that they treat
16 only the symptoms of environmental disease not
17 it causes."

18 This committee would reaffirm
19 that the root cause of our environmental crisis is to
20 be found in the crisis of knowledge which is also
21 crisis of idealism. We have never in the history of our
22 species possessed as much knowledge as we do today, but
23 it is a special kind knowledge born of a special
24 attitude toward the world that began only comparatively
25 recently and that is marked by the growth of
26 technology and by the almost incredible ability that
27 man has now to control and use his physical
28 environment.

29 This kind of knowledge
30 however has been singularly unsuccessful in allowing

1 man to shape and control his social environment in a
2 way that does not damage those qualities of love,
3 compassion and moral initiative that we identify as
4 fully human. Here we seem to have done much damage and
5 promise to extend this damage to the native people of
6 the north for our newly found powers, despite their
7 beginnings in the altruism of science appear to have
8 strengthened mainly the forces of egotism, domination,
9 competitiveness, acquisitiveness and self-seeking in
10 man.

11 We conclude this rationale
12 supporting our concerns related to proposed northern
13 development with our affirmation of Sections 28 and 29
14 of the Labor Day message of the Canadian Catholic
15 Bishops Conference, September 1st , 1975 which states
16 as follows:

17 "We contend therefore that
18 there are better ways of developing the Canadian north.
19 What is required today is a public search for
20 alternative policies for northern development. This
21 search is already underway through the activities of
22 native peoples and public interest groups across the
23 country. We find ourselves in solidarity with many of
24 these initiatives based on, the ethical principles of
25 social justice and responsible stewardship, we believe
26 that the following conditions must be met before any
27 final decisions are made to proceed with specific
28 proposals for northern development

29 a. Sufficient public discussion and debate about
30 proposed industrial projects based on independent

1 studies of energy needs and social costs of the
2 proposed developments
3 b. Achievement of a just land settlement with the
4 native peoples, including hunting, fishing and
5 trapping rights and fair royalties in return for the
6 extraction of valuable resources from their land
7 claims.
8 c. Effective participation by the native peoples in
9 shaping the kind of regional development, beginning
10 with effective control over their own future
11 economic development.
12 d. Adequate measures to protect the terrain,
13 vegetation, wildlife, and waters of northern areas
14 based on complete and independent studies of the
15 regional environment to be affected by proposed
16 developments.
17 e. Adequate controls to regulate the extraction of
18 energy resources from the north to prevent the rapid
19 depletion of oil, gas and other resources which are
20 non-renewable."

21 Thank you.

22 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
23 very much sir. Thank you.

24 (THE SUBMISSION OF THE EDMONTON COMMITTEE OF THE
25 CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND
26 PEACE MARKED AS EXHIBIT C-326)

27 (WITNESS ASIDE)

28 MR. WADDELL: Mr.

29 Commissioner, after we break or coffee, we'll hear --
30 we'll go on with a group called S.T.O.P. We will

1 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

2 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
3 ladies and gentlemen, let's resume our hearing again
4 now, and consider the briefs that are to be presented
5 in the remainder of the afternoon.

6 I think, Mr. Waddell, we'll
7 ask you to tell us what is going to happen now.

8 MR. WADDELL: Mr.
9 Commissioner I inadvertently left off a brief from the
10 list this morning, and I apologize, and I'd like to
11 call that brief now. That is Mr. Preston Manning,
12 representing the Slave Lake Developments Limited. Is
13 Mr. Manning here?

14
15 E PRESTON MANNING sworn:

16 THE WITNESS: Mr.
17 Commissioner this brief pertains to the potential
18 social and economic impact of the Mackenzie Valley
19 Pipeline on the people and communities of the north.
20 It is presented on behalf of Slave Lake Developments
21 Limited, which is a public company which has had some
22 direct experience with the social and economic impact
23 of petroleum resource development in Northern Alberta.

24 Our presentation rests on the
25 premise that the social-economic impact of any
26 Mackenzie Valley Pipeline project will be enhanced if
27 better mechanisms can be created to enable northern
28 residents and the petroleum industry to work together
29 to their mutual advantage. If the Inquiry accepts the
30 validity of this premise, then you will undoubtedly be

1 a variety of individuals and organizations. On the
2 recommendation of an Edmonton consulting firm, an
3 associate company was established and named Slave Lake
4 Developments Associates, or S.L.D.A. This was a
5 private company with the same objectives as the local
6 company. It was to serve as a vehicle through which
7 financial and management help was made available by
8 the petroleum industry and others to the local
9 company.

10 A project was then decided
11 upon by the local company. This project had to satisfy
12 two criteria:

- 13 1. It had to meet a social need of the community, and
- 14 2. It had to be economically viable from a private
15 enterprise standpoint.

16 S.L.D. decided upon a rental
17 housing project, designed to provide rental
18 accommodation to some 10 to 15% of the population of
19 the town of Slave Lake during a period of rapid
20 expansion. A joint venture agreement was then worked
21 out between S.L.D. and S.L.D.A. with respect to the
22 project. Each put up some money, with S.L.D. raising
23 its portion through a localized public share offering.

24 After surveying community
25 housing needs, the local community -- the local company
26 developed the original project plan. S.L.D.A. provided
27 some managerial expertise and used its influence to
28 enable the local company to obtain mortgage financing.
29 S.L.D. was given an option to buy out the interests of
30 S.L.D.A. when S.L.D. became strong enough to do so.

1 | mistakes which were made in the initial years,, and
2 | which others attempting similar :ventures. need not
3 | repeat. This experience, the frustrations as well as
4 | the achievements, is all documented in the Minute Book
5 | in the files of the Slave Lake Developments Limited, We
6 | would be pleased to make available to this Inquiry; or
7 | other interested parties any, information on this
8 | experience which may be conducive to maximizing the
9 | social and economic benefits of any Mackenzie Valley
10 | Pipeline for the people and communities. of the north
11 | and enabling them to utilize petroleum resource
12 | development as a means of pursuing their own
13 | aspirations and objectives.

14 | This is respectfully
15 | submitted.

16 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
17 | very much, Mr. Manning, and I think that Mr. Ryder of
18 | my staff will probably be in touch with you in due
19 | course to see if we can obtain even greater advantage
20 | from your own experience than you've been able to
21 | outline in this brief. Thank you again,

22 | (BRIEF OF SLAVE LAKE DEVELOPMENTS MARKED EXHIBIT C-327)

23 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

24 | MR. WADDELL: Mr. Commissioner,
25 | our next brief will be from an organization called
26 | S.T.O.P. and Miss Louise Swift I'm sure, can tell us what
27 | those initials mean. Mr. Commissioner, the brief is to
28 | he presented with the American Indian Movement as well.
29 | Maybe Miss Swift can explain that.

30 | THE COMMISSIONER: Will I be

1 refilled, and was told to spread it over the
2 oil-laden ice. Everyone had been given an am-
3 ple supply of matches to light the dispersed
4 fuel, and extensive burning went on for several
5 days thereafter. An extraordinary amount of
6 oil was trapped underneath the ice. We subse-
7 quently chopped holes into the ice allowing the
8 oil to rise to the top of the water. Once the
9 oil was exposed, we then added the aircraft
10 fuel to the water and lit it. Once ignited,
11 the oil continued to burn with very intense
12 heat, emitting thick clouds of black smoke.
13 The fuel and oil burning left a black residue
14 on the surface of the water and ice. Extensive
15 burning destroyed a great number of trees that
16 hung over the edge of the river embankment.
17 Subsequent to the burning of surrounding vege-
18 tation, it became evident that serious erosion
19 problems would eventually occur, The Lands &
20 Forests officials present knew this and ordered
21 that all burned trees be cut and piled on the
22 banks of the river in attempts to stop future
23 erosion. It was obvious that the oil-burning
24 was dangerous to wildlife. A beaver dam was
25 destroyed because of the fire, and one beaver
26 had to be killed because it had been consumed
27 by the flames. Besides the attempts to burn
28 the oil, a
29 2-foot wide section of the ice was cut
30 on the river and bales of hay wrapped with

1 | chicken wire were placed into the river, sup-
2 | posedly to trap the oil underneath. The ice
3 | had several overlapping layers and the oil
4 | flowed freely between them, making it nearly
5 | impossible to trap it. Concurrently, a third
6 | method was attempted. A pump truck tried to
7 | vacuum the oil off (the surface of the ice and
8 | return it to the G.C.O.S. plant. This did not,
9 | however, prove very successful., as a lot of
10 | water but very little oil was actually
11 | vacuumed."

12 | THE WITNESS: The gentleman
13 | who is reading this brief with me is Mr. Bob Altimen
14 | from the American Indian Movement in Edmonton.

15 | Mr. Mike Chase, the second
16 | unsolicited witness, was driving north on Highway 63
17 | towards Fort McMurray on a day the cleanup
18 | operations were in full swing. Clouds of black
19 | smoke billowing at a distance caught his attention.
20 | He followed an access road that led to the House
21 | River spill. Mr. Chase also came to S.T.O.P. and
22 | signed an affidavit in which he made the following
23 | statements:

24 | MR. BOB ALTIMEN:

25 | "There were straw bales, large tank containers
26 | and other assorted equipment on the side of the
27 | road. At a point near the river I, also noticed
28 | some heavy equipment such as a backhoe and a
29 | small caterpillar. A trench had seemingly been
30 | dug to act as a temporary pit for storage of

1 reclaimed oil. Some sections of the House
2 River, as well as the surrounding banks seemed
3 to be covered here and there with big piles of
4 debris, logs(and cut-up trees. Further down-
5 stream 'l could see huge fires burning on top of
6 the ice, the river ice. A number of men could
7 be seen standing around watching. The fires had
8 caused the ice to melt and develop mixed pools
9 of water and oil on top of the deeper layers of
10 ice. Because of the burning, a lot of black
11 soot also mixed into these pools. In some cases
12 the pools actually flowed into the river where
13 the ice had broken. Straw bales had been placed
14 in this area to act as a filter dam in an unsuc-
15 cessful attempt to trap the oil flowing into the
16 river. Further upstream near the pipeline
17 crossing an overwhelming number of trees re-
18 mained standing with their trunks blackened,
19 needles burned off, and their roots exposed and
20 burned by the fire. In some places -- in
21 places, some of these trees had been cut, obvi-
22 ously by a chain saw and put in the fires to
23 continue the burning. I continued to look at
24 this state of affairs upstream. The entire sur-
25 face of the river was in a state of black and
26 yellow pools of oil, water and soot. Returning
27 downstream, I took more picture of the river
28 where trees had burned and fallen into the
29 river. I left a short time after,"
30

1 THE WITNESS: This is the
2 second time S.T.O,P. has been involved in a pipeline
3 break by Great Canadian Oil Sands. In 1970 the
4 G.C.O.S. pipeline broke for the first time, spilling
5 over 19,000 barrels of oil into the Athabasca River in
6 the Tar Sands area. The spill spread 150 miles north
7 along the river into Lake Athabasca, requiring a
8 temporary shutdown of commercial fishing operations and
9 a halt to domestic water supplies along the spill area.
10 Within 48 hours of the spill, at S.T.O.P,s insistence,
11 the Provincial Government declared an enquiry into the
12 matter and found that the pipeline rupture had occurred
13 because of a construction defect. The enquiry lasted
14 about two months and involved five different provincial
15 departments.

16 This is what the enquiry had
17 to say about that particular spill:

18 MR. BOB ALTIMEN:

19 "Considerable cleanup efforts were made by
20 Great Canadian Oil Sands Limited immediately
21 after the oil spill occurred, and were contin-
22 ued until completed. The most effective one
23 was the early diversion of escaping oil to a
24 pond, thus preventing its continued flow to the
25 river, and the use of booms to prevent the
26 spread of oil to the lake area in the delta
27 area. Work to remove oil from the river was
28 not very successful due to the thin film of oil
29 on the river and the rapid flow of the river.
30 The oil was carried down the river quite

1 quickly. In two days it was carried approxi-
2 mately 90 miles down the river, mainly along
3 the western bank of the river. In the next two
4 days, the oil proceeded down the delta area and
5 the oil started to be noticeable in Lake Atha-
6 basca three days later. The oil was noticeable
7 mainly as an iridescent sheen particularly
8 visible from aircraft surveillance checks. At
9 times oil in an emulsified state covered por-
10 tions of the river and accumulated in a few
11 backwater areas in definite layers."

12 THE WITNESS: The 1970 enquiry
13 basically made five recommendations on how to avoid,
14 predict, contain and clean up oil spills. It stressed:

15 MR. BOB ALTIMEN:

16 "It cannot be emphasized too strongly that the
17 best way to handle oil spills is to prevent their
18 occurrence. in this respect it was recommended
19 that pipelines and storage tanks should be de-
20 signed and tested according t the established
21 safety standards. For example, the enquiry found
22 that the 1970 spill was due to a construction de-
23 fect in the pipeline."

24 THE WITNESS: The enquiry
25 note that current standards require additional pipeline
26 safety factors at all river crossings, namely a minimum
27 wall thickness of .5 inches. The study noted that:

28 MR. BOB ALTIMEN: "Consid-
29 eration should be given to the extension of those two
30 areas adjacent to rivers, such as within one mile."

1 THE WITNESS: In the event of
2 a break, the enquiry recommended:

3 MR. BOB ALTIMEN: "Additional
4 instrumentation of pipeline flow to give early
5 detection of a pipeline break. Specific rate of flow
6 detectors at each end of the pipeline suitably co-
7 ordinated and connected to an alarm-working system.'

8 THE WITNESS: To minimize the
9 damage done by pipeline spills, it was recommended
10 that:

11 MR. BOB ALTIMEN: "Consider-
12 ation be given to the feasibility of requiring some
13 form of check valve to be installed in pipelines which
14 are adjacent, or in the case of an accident, could
15 spill into a river or stream. It was further
16 recommended that pipelines be equipped with automatic
17 shutoff valves to stop flow if a break in pipelines
18 occur.

19 THE WITNESS: In conclusion,
20 the enquiry recommended that:

21 MR. BOB ALTIMEN: "Contingency
22 planning for coping with major oil and hazardous
23 chemical spills should be undertaken with a systematic
24 approach. It was recommended that oil industry and
25 pipeline companies be requested to consider the
26 organization of a joint program for the purpose."

27 THE WITNESS: S.T.O.P. does
28 not accept that the House River spill was accidental.
29 We feel that G.C.O.S could have greatly reduced the
30 chances of its occurrence if it had implemented the

1 safety standards and that pipeline proponents be
2 prosecuted when those limits are exceeded.

3 We recommend a \$10,000 fine
4 for each day in which violations occur.

5 MR. BOB ALTIMEN: With
6 respect to construction safety standards, S.T.O.P and
7 A.I.M. recommend that additional safety precautions
8 such as thick pipeline walls, be required before the
9 go-ahead to construct is given.

10 THE WITNESS: S.T.O,P. and
11 A.I.M. recommend that appropriate detection warning
12 systems be installed for use on all pipeline systems.

13 MR. BOB ALTIMEN: S.T.O.P.
14 and A.I.M. recommend that check valves and/or automatic
15 shutoff valves be installed on each side of river water
16 crossings on all pipeline systems.

17 THE WITNESS: S.T.O.P. and
18 A.I.M. recommend that a comprehensive contingency
19 group be established and charged with, and be equipped
20 to handle oil spills. We also recommend that stiff
21 penalties for deviation from this rule be instituted.

22 MR. BOB. ALTIMEN: S.T.O.P.
23 and A.I.M. recommend that pipeline permits not be
24 issued until the proponent can clearly show they are
25 capable of cleaning oil spills on ice. In our view the
26 climate of Alberta and the north and the, predominant
27 winter conditions demand this.

28 THE WITNESS: S.T.O.P. and
29 the- American Indian Movement recommend to this Inquiry
30 that the above recommendations about northern pipelines

1 | be considered subsequent to the declaration of a
2 | moratorium of at least ten years on this kind of
3 | development in the north. Such questions as native
4 | land claims and treaty rights must be resolved.
5 | Jurisdiction over such development must be established
6 | A comprehensive Canadian energy policy which will
7 | include accurate accounts of Canada's energy reserves
8 | must be presented. The sociological and economic
9 | effects must be extensively examined and appropriate
10 | environmental studies must be undertaken.

11 | Thank you.

12 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
13 | very much,
14 | (SUBMISSIONS BY S.T.O.P. and A.I.M. MARKED EXHIBIT C-
15 | 328)

16 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

17 | MR. WADDELL: Our next brief,
18 | Mr. Commissioner, is from Kenneth C, Kuhn, who is with
19 | the Western Canada Synod of the Lutheran Church in
20 | America.

21 |
22 | KENNETH C KUHN sworn:

23 | THE WITNESS: Mr.

24 | Commissioner, in this submission I wish to present the
25 | official resolutions, together with some rationale of a
26 | church body, the Western Canada Synod of the Lutheran
27 | Church in America, The Western Canada Synod is a unit
28 | of one of three Lutheran Church denominations, and the
29 | Synod includes the Provinces of Alberta and British
30 | Columbia, and the Yukon Territories as well.

1 Pipeline are initiated, and that any commercial
2 development in these territories be conducted in the
3 future with due regard to the ecological, social and
4 economic impact on residents of those territories."

5 That's the end of the
6 resolution.

7 The synod holds the position
8 that the rights of the native peoples in the north can
9 be protected only if their land claims are settled
10 prior to major extraction and pipeline developments.
11 Prior settlement of land claims was achieved in Alaska
12 before a pipeline was constructed there. The status of
13 Treaties 8 and 11, the only two treaties that have been
14 negotiated in the Northwest Territories, is already
15 before the Courts and is being challenged and there
16 appears to be a strong case that these treaties were
17 not executed in good faith by the representatives of
18 the Federal Government when they were made in 1899 and
19 1921. The Inuit people have already made substantive
20 and reasonable proposals for an agreement The Dene
21 Declaration espouses some important principle for a
22 settlement which recognizes that the Indian and Metis
23 inhabitants of northern areas be allowed considerable
24 self-determination, be allowed political security,
25 economic independence and cultural survival for their
26 peoples.

27 We are concerned that
28 attention be given in your Inquiry to what constitutes
29 a just settlement of Indian land claims. The terms of
30 an acceptable land settlement cannot simply parallel

1 follows:

2 "In light of the Labor Day statement of the Ca-
3 nadian Catholic Conference, until we as a soci-
4 ety begin to change our own lifestyles based on
5 wealth and comfort, until we begin to change the
6 profit-oriented priorities of our industrial
7 system, we will continue placing exorbitant de-
8 mands on the limited supplies of energy in the
9 north and end up exploiting the people of the
10 north in order to get those resources."

11 On the basis of this rational
12 it was resolved that this synod call for a concerted
13 national effort toward a reduction in the per capita
14 use of all forms of energy in Canada, and towards the
15 development of alternative sources of energy.

16 Our present lifestyle
17 results in the consumption of more and more of less
18 and less energy resources. A continual drive to
19 discover and exploit more and more gas, oil and
20 other energy reserves is only a short-term solution
21 to this crisis of values and lifestyle, which our
22 society is facing. The exploration of the Mackenzie
23 Delta and other northern resources only postpones
24 the major changes in lifestyle which we will have
25 to adopt. We believe it is inconsistent that most
26 of the resources to be transported in the pipeline,
27 at least one of the proposals will be exported and
28 will be depleting resources needed for Canada's
29 needs and driving up the costs of domestic energy
30 supplies.

1 MR. WADDELL: Mr.
2 Commissioner I notice that on my list of names that I
3 gave out to the public and to the press I spelled
4 "Lutheran" wrong. It's L-U-T-H-E-R-O-N.

5 THE COMMISSIONER: I think
6 you've still got it wrong. It's A-N.

7 MR. WADDELL: Sorry, A-N. I
8 hope Martin is not listening. I think I've got it
9 right now, Mr. Commissioner.

10 Mr. Commissioner, I have two
11 briefs that have been handed to me by the school class
12 that was here. Apparently they had been writing briefs
13 on this topic and they had chosen two of their best
14 briefs and so they wanted you to see them, and I would
15 like to file with you the brief of one Michael Kennedy
16 and one David Goodhart.

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
18 boys, and just let me have them when we adjourn this
19 afternoon and I'll read them over dinner.

20 MR. WADDELL: All right. I
21 think we have time for one other brief, and we'll call
22 on Dawn Dickinson.

23
24 DAWN M DICKINSON affirmed:

25 THE WITNESS: Mr.
26 Commissioner, I'm speaking on my own behalf as a
27 Canadian citizen by birth, as well as by choice.

28 At a recent sitting of the
29 Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry at Yellowknife, a
30 statement of evidence called,

1 "Lessons from the James Bay Settlement"
2 was presented. Arising from that statement the witness
3 was asked under what conditions does the majority have
4 the right to impose its wishes on the minority, and
5 reference was made to the necessity of creating jobs
6 for southern Canadians. I should like to comment on
7 that question because I think it refers to the social
8 goal that was expressed by Bentham as "the greatest
9 good to the greatest number". It underlies the
10 proposed pipeline development, but much more than that,
11 it is used to morally justify any decision for
12 proceeding with large industrial developments since, in
13 the nature of things, such developments adversely
14 affect certain groups of people.

15 In the case of the James Bay
16 Settlement (as the Commission is well aware but perhaps
17 all the people here may not be) Mr. Justice Albert
18 Malouf imposed an injunction on construction of the
19 hydro-electric project pending settlement of claims.
20 That ruling was reversed by the Quebec Court of Appeals
21 on the grounds that the wishes of the minority did not
22 suffer comparison with those of the majority. From
23 that moment it was clear that the James Bay Indian and
24 Inuit negotiated their land claims settlement with a
25 gun at their heads. Like the Mafia, we made them an
26 offer they couldn't refuse. But at least the Mafia are
27 honest about their goals, whereas those who stood to
28 gain from the James Bay development could
29 hypocritically exploit the assumption of the
30 greatest good to the greatest number in order to serve

1 | their own ends and preserve their images in the eyes of
2 | the public. That as a parallel bears thinking about
3 | but to return to the question,

4 | Under what conditions does the majority
5 | have the right to impose its wishes on the
6 | minority?"

7 | I should like to ask in return, why is it that the
8 | people of Canada are never presented with any alterna-
9 | tives to consider?

10 | You warned us about being
11 | cynical, Mr. Berger, and reminded us that both
12 | government and oil companies have spent millions of
13 | dollars on sociological and environmental studies
14 | related to construction of a pipeline, and that is
15 | true. But almost all, if not all those studies were
16 | undertaken on the assumption that a pipeline would be
17 | built and their purpose was therefore to advise on
18 | such things as souring and timing phases of
19 | construction, in other words to mitigate adverse
20 | effects of a pipeline. I appreciate that you have
21 | accepted as part of your mandate the question of the
22 | advisability of building a pipeline at this time. I
23 | have every faith in the integrity of the commission.
24 | But it is hard not to be cynical when no so long ago a
25 | government representative made the statement, which
26 | was subsequently retracted, that it might not wait for
27 | your recommendations. It is hard not to be cynical,
28 | when Mr. Buchand acquiesced to the decision that was
29 | made a long time ago to drill in the Beaufort Sa. He
30 | acquiesced against the advice of many biologists who

1 | had undertaken research in the area. It is unlikely
2 | that we will ever know how many, since government does
3 | not wish an informed public. But he certainly
4 | acquiesced without the consent of the Inuit people, or
5 | the ones most directly affected by the decision.

6 | I had better make it clear
7 | that I do not belong to any political party and there-;
8 | fore have no political axe to grind, and that I doubt
9 | that any government would address itself to the basic
10 | questions of what alternatives do we have from which to
11 | choose, of what our choice may mean in terms of
12 | foreclosure of other options to future generations of
13 | Canadians, of whether choosing any development that is
14 | going to divide Canadians rather than strengthen our
15 | bonds and our sense of community, is a social good or a
16 | social evil.

17 | I do not think that it is
18 | possible to rationally argue that alternatives do not
19 | exist. The evidence to the contrary is too strong.
20 | There are alternative ways of creating jobs and of
21 | instituting methods of conserving energy, so that our
22 | needs for energy are reduced. There is also evidence
23 | that those needs could be satisfied to a large extent
24 | by developing various forms of solar energy, including
25 | wind energy, and that those alternatives are feasible
26 | for northern countries including at least southern
27 | Canada. But the evidence seems to come largely from
28 | other countries, not from Canada. During 1974-75
29 | direct federal expenditure for energy research and
30 | development amounted to \$85 million, only one million

1 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

2 MR. WADDELL: Is Debi Ransom
3 here, please, from the Edmonton Cross-Cultural Centre,
4 Debi Ransom?

5 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
6 ladies and gentlemen, I'll call our hearing to order
7 this evening.

8 The Mackenzie Valley Pipeline
9 Inquiry is holding hearings across Canada to elicit the
10 views of all Canadians on the future of the Canadian
11 north, As you know, there are two pipeline companies,
12 Arctic Gas and Foothills Pipe Lines, that want to build
13 a pipeline to bring natural gas from the Arctic. One
14 of those proposals, the Arctic Gas proposal, would
15 entail carrying gas from Prudhoe Bay across the
16 northern Yukon and then joining up with a line from the
17 Mackenzie Delta carrying Canadian gas and then the line
18 would travel along the Mackenzie River south to the
19 main centres of population in Canada and the United
20 States carrying Alaskan as from Alaska for American
21 use, and Canadian gas from the Mackenzie Delta and the
22 Beaufort Sea for Canadian use. That is the Arctic Gas
23 proposal.

24 The Foothills proposal is to
25 simply carry Canadian gas from the Mackenzie Delta and
26 the Beaufort Sea along the Mackenzie River joining up
27 with the Alberta Gas Trunk Line system, the Westcoast
28 Transmission system, and the TransCanada system to
29 deliver the gas to markets in the main population
30 centres of Southern Canada.

1 | will deal with questions of gas supply,
2 | Canadian gas requirements, our export capability,
3 | and so on.

4 | The Government of Canada,
5 | with my report and the report of this Inquiry, and the
6 | report of the National Energy Board before them, will
7 | then have to make that decision, and that is the way it
8 | must be in a democracy. Those elected to govern, those
9 | who have the confidence of Parliament must make these
10 | decisions that relate to questions of fundamental
11 | national policy.

12 | Now, this Inquiry began its
13 | hearings back in March 3, 1975, some 14 or 15 months
14 | ago, and we have been holding hearings for many months
15 | in Yellowknife and there we hear from the experts, and
16 | they take the witness stand, they tell me their views,
17 | their opinions, what will the impact be on caribou, the
18 | impact on fish, the impact on whales, the impact on
19 | muskrats, the impact on the whole of the northern
20 | environment, and they are cross-examined by lawyers who
21 | represent the other parties.

22 | The two pipeline companies
23 | have brought forward their witnesses, their experts,
24 | and the Inquiry has made sure that funds are provided
25 | to the native organizations, the environmental groups,
26 | and the northern municipalities and northern business
27 | so that they can be represented at those formal
28 | hearings in Yellowknife, along with the pipeline
29 | companies. So that they can have legal representation,
30 | so that they can retain experts to

1 help them in the presentation of their side of the
2 case.

3 So the Inquiry has been
4 listening to these experts in Yellowknife for many
5 months. We have heard from engineers, scientists,
6 biologists, anthropologists, economists, the people who
7 have made it the work of their lifetime to study the
8 north and northern conditions.

9 The Government of Canada has spent \$15 million over the
10 past five years in preparing studies and reports on the
11 Canadian north, on its environment, and on social
12 conditions there. The people who have written those
13 reports have been brought before this Inquiry to
14 discuss the problems they know so much about, and
15 they've been challenged by experts from the industry,
16 from the environmental groups, from the native
17 organizations, who wish to challenge them. The
18 industry has spent something like \$50 million in
19 engineering studies and environmental studies and they
20 have brought their witnesses forward and they have been
21 challenged by those who wish to challenge them in the
22 open, in public, where cross-examination can occur, and
23 were we have I think, the best opportunity of getting
24 to the truth of the matter, because people don't agree
25 on what the impact is likely to be in Northern Canada
26 if we go ahead with the pipeline development and the
27 energy corridor.

28 Now, we're not just dealing
29 with environmental questions, we're dealing with
30 questions that affect the future of northern peoples,

1 Commission counsel, to briefly outline our procedure.

2 MR. RYDER: Yes, thank you,
3 Mr. Commissioner. We have scheduled for this evening
4 some 11 or 12 persons who have responded to the
5 advertisement which we placed in an Edmonton newspaper.
6 These people have advised us of their desire to make
7 submissions to you, and they were each given an
8 appointment to do so this evening.

9 Now, if there is in the
10 gathering tonight anybody who did not advise us in
11 advance of their desire to make a submission to the
12 Commission, I would say to them that it could be done
13 in either one of two ways, either they can write a
14 simple letter to the Inquiry, the Mackenzie Valley
15 Pipeline inquiry, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.
16 That way we will see that the submission is given to
17 you, sir, and you can consider it when you return to
18 Yellowknife.

19 The second way is simply
20 to get in touch with Mr. Waddell and he will try to
21 fit you in. He may not be able to fit you in today
22 but he will do what he can to fit you in tomorrow,
23 if that is possible, in view of the people that we
24 already have scheduled to present their brief to you
25 tomorrow.

26 Now, those of you who are
27 scheduled to give their briefs today, you will be
28 asked to be sworn or have your evidence affirmed, and
29 that's simply in keeping with the practice that the
30 Commission has followed in the north, and in the

1 MR. WADDELL: Is Debi
2 Ransom here?

3 Mr. Commissioner, then I
4 call as our next brief, people who have a list will
5 see that it's No. 3 on the list, and it's changed.
6 It's Mr. Ambrose Laboucane, who is the president of
7 the Metis Association of Alberta, and I believe his
8 last name is spelled LA-B-O-U-C-A-I-N-E. Mr.
9 Laboucane?

10 Mr. Commissioner, while Mr.
11 Laboucane is being sworn in, I spelled his name wrong.
12 It's L-A-B-O-U-C-A-N-E. Mr.Laboucane?

13
14 AMBROSE LABOUCANE sworn:

15 THE WITNESS: Your honor,
16 ladies and gentlemen, honourable sir, once again we
17 find ourselves in the midst of a controversy that
18 affects our attempts to bring about an approach of
19 positive development, development that will affect not
20 only the native people we represent, but all Canadians
21 and Americans as well.

22 You are here today to
23 represent an institution of our society that is
24 relegated the responsibility of ensuring that justice
25 is carried out. Further, to ensure that equality and
26 propriety still exists within our democratic state.

27 Throughout your travels and
28 your associations with a vast number of people, you
29 have been presented with statements that clearly
30 indicate a difference of need, and aspirations. We

1 are here today to present to you a statement of
2 purpose. We could very easily have presented a
3 statement of defence and be completely justified in
4 our actions. However, we have taken what we believe
5 is an avenue that will ultimately enhance the needs
6 and aspirations of all people. We have taken this
7 avenue because we believe in your judicial system of
8 Inquiry. We believe that whatever we do will enhance
9 our Canadian society as a whole, but also bearing in
10 mind that if our belief is wrong, and the peoples of
11 Canada are not sensitive to a truly just society, you
12 can rest assured we will protect human justice and
13 democracy and the face of totalitarianism flashes on
14 imperialism.

15 We are certain that you have
16 experienced some of the racists' attitude that
17 prevails. The statements that have been made by well-
18 known political figures indicate that they only
19 represent themselves and a small segment of Canadian
20 society, and have no vested interests in the well-
21 being and the positive development of all people. We
22 are glad that these people have finally decided which
23 shoe they wear and who they represent.

24 Canadian people should not
25 tolerate that form of thinking or that form of racial
26 bias. It is for these very basic rights that we have
27 always protected our land, and our people. It would
28 appear to us that the fascists and imperialists are
29 not only here in Canada, but are involved in our
30 government affairs. We must put a stop to that.

1 | have the expertise and training programs to provide a
2 | viable economic future for Alberta that will last past
3 | the end of the construction phase of a pipeline. The
4 | economic future of the native people of Alberta is too
5 | important to leave solely in the hands and minds of
6 | government and large transnational corporations. Any
7 | corporations working in Northern Alberta must be
8 | prepared to work with the native people, to
9 | familiarize themselves with the economic, political
10 | and social needs and desires of the people, and be
11 | prepared to involve native people in all levels of
12 | industry. Our specific terms of reference for
13 | pipeline construction activity is that priority for
14 | contracting, sub-contracting, and consulting
15 | requirements be given to local people. That incentive
16 | be given for the development of local industries to
17 | meet the immediate needs of pipeline construction and
18 | future economic requirements of Northern Alberta, that
19 | training programs be set up in consultation with
20 | local people to meet occupational objectives, of
21 | pipeline construction and future objectives; that
22 | capital be provided to set up local service
23 | industries; that the economic, educational, social
24 | and political needs and requirements of local
25 | people as defined by them be given priority over the
26 | pipeline construction timetable; that any Advisory
27 | Board be set up with local people, Metis Association
28 | of Alberta, or whatever, to ensure that local
29 | priorities as defined by local people are met; that
30 | manpower requirements be met from locally available

1 | to their satisfaction.

2 | Submitted by myself, Joe
3 | Schommer, on behalf of the Immaculate Heart Parish in
4 | South Edmonton.

5 | (SUBMISSION OF IMMACULATE HEART PARISH - JOE SCHOMMER
6 | MARKED EXHIBIT C-335)

7 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

8 | MR. WADDELL: Our next brief
9 | Judge Berger, is from Mr. H.H. Somerville, who
10 | represents the Alberta Northwest Chamber of Mines, Oils
11 | Resources.

12 | H. H. SOMERVILLE, sworn:

13 | THE WITNESS: Sir, this is
14 | the submission to the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry
15 | The Alberta Northwest Chamber of Mines, Oils & Resource
16 | is an association incorporated in 1936 to assist and
17 | promote resource development originally focussing on
18 | mining in Western Canada and in the Northwest
19 | Territories. More recently our members have been
20 | involved in exploration activities of oil and gas
21 | resources within and offshore from the Yukon and
22 | Northwest Territories, to augment the known reserves in
23 | Western Canada presently declining at an alarming rate
24 | in meeting current markets.

25 | Present membership in the
26 | Chamber includes 735 companies. The Chamber operates an
27 | employment service, in 1975 it was responsible for
28 | engaging some 1,500 men to work in northern mines. It
29 | has been the sponsor of the National Northern Development
30 | Conferences held every three years, the seventh

1 | conference will be held in Edmonton in November, and the
2 | object of the conference is to further stimulate the
3 | orderly development of Canada's northland.

4 | The development of resources in
5 | the north has produced a positive net benefit for Canada,
6 | including the residents of the north. Commencing with
7 | the original gold workings at Yellowknife, our Chamber
8 | has observed a steady progression of new resource
9 | developments. In sum total, they have stimulated the
10 | founding of communities and communication systems, which
11 | in turn brought an awareness of our northern areas to the
12 | attention of other Canadians.

13 | It was this development of the
14 | resources which contributed to the living standard of
15 | northern residents by providing employment opportunities,
16 | housing and educational facilities. Only through
17 | continued natural resource development can social
18 | progress be sustained. The availability of natural gas
19 | in the western provinces over the years has permitted
20 | Canadians to make a better contribution toward the Yukon
21 | and Northwest Territories. Now with the availability of
22 | gas in the north, the gas can best contribute to the
23 | welfare of Canada by being made available for use in
24 | other parts of Canada.

25 | Energy is the most vital
26 | requirement for continual maintenance of our
27 | civilization. Natural gas is considered to be one of the
28 | cleanest and most convenient sources of energy and
29 | as well, is important as a petrochemical feed stock.

30 |

1 routing and construction of a pipeline, for movement of
2 gas to the Canadian market areas if a vigorous gas and
3 oil exploration and development industry is to continue
4 in northern Canada.

5 It is the opinion of our
6 Chamber that Canadians have come to recognize the value
7 of your Commission and the opportunity, it has provided
8 for an evaluation of the social, economic and
9 environmental impacts.

10 Respectively submitted, by
11 the Alberta Northwest Chamber of Mines, Oils &
12 Resources. Thank you, sir.

13 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
14 very much.

15 (SUBMISSION BY ALBERTA
16 NORTHWEST CHAMBER OF MINES, OILS & RESOURCES - H.H.
17 SOMERVILLE MARKED EXHIBIT C-336)

18 (WITNESS ASIDE)

19 MR. WADDELL: Mr. Commissioner,
20 I don't want this to sound like a commercial, but I
21 wanted to thank, especially for the record, Mr. Allan
22 Frome from Vancouver, who kindly let us have a little
23 extra room here tonight. Mr. Frome had been exhibiting
24 Eskimo carvings, and having an auction to that effect
25 tomorrow night, and he kindly let us extend over to one
26 of his rooms and I thank him for that.

27 Now I call as the next brief,
28 Mr. Commissioner, Peggy Robbins, if she's here, Peggy
29 Robbins?

30 Well, we'll call then Mr.

1 | Howard Leeson, who is the president of the Alberta New
2 | Democratic Party, Mr. Leeson?

3 |

4 |

HOWARD LEESON, sworn;

5 |

THE WITNESS: Mr.

6 | Commissioner, we welcome the opportunity to participate
7 | in the hearings for two reasons.

8 |

9 | First of all, we believe that
10 | there will be a major impact on Alberta from any
11 | pipeline that's constructed from the north through
12 | Northern Alberta.

13 |

14 |

15 | Secondly, to demonstrate to
16 | you that there is not a monolithic opinion on the
17 | construction of pipelines in this province.

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The Alberta New Democratic
Party opposes the construction of the Mackenzie Valley
Pipeline until there has been a settlement of native
land claims, until much more research and investigation
has been undertaken regarding the damage to the fragile
ecosystems caused by exploration and development of
gas, oil, and other mineral resources in the Canadian
north, and until the potential economic and social
impact on Alberta in general, and Edmonton in
particular are clearly understood.

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First of all, native land
claims. Western civilization has consistently and
largely without question accepted the argument that
efficient land use means the maximization of profit.
In Alberta and Southern Canada with the imminent food
shortage, we have farmland going out of production

1 | it is resolved to set up an internationally rep-
2 | resentative committee to prepare the groundwork
3 | for such a flora."

4 | Incidentally, Mr. Commissioner, we have Dr. J.G.
5 | Packer, from the Department of Botany of the Univer-
6 | sity of Alberta as one of the representatives on that
7 | committee.

8 | It may come of something of a
9 | surprise to you to learn that there is presently no
10 | modern single book that deals with the vascular plants
11 | of the Arctic. As a matter of fact, this is the rule
12 | for almost every group of organisms, except perhaps for
13 | birds and mammals. These may possibly, possibly be
14 | adequately catalogued.

15 | It should be pointed out that
16 | the reason for this lack of a basic inventory is not
17 | the overwhelming numbers of different kinds of species,
18 | certainly not, for nowhere on the globe is there fewer
19 | species. The supplies, whether one is considering
20 | insects, worms, fish, flowers, mosses, trees, or
21 | seaweed to give you an example in the whole of the
22 | Arctic which covers several million square miles, there
23 | are at least 1,500 kinds of vascular plants. To be a
24 | bit more specific, the islands of the Canadian Arctic
25 | archipelago cover 550, 000 square miles, and they
26 | support 350 species of vascular plants. In contrast,
27 | Formosa with only 14,000 square miles, has 3,265
28 | species,

29 | Many of these northern
30 | species are very restricted occurrence. For example,

1 activity at Fort McMurray has intensified economic
2 pressures at all levels. At, the basic level, the
3 pressures for a no-strike project agreement at the
4 Syncrude site has led to very high wage rates. In the
5 face of shortages of skilled tradesmen, these rates
6 have been transferred to the rest of the province.
7 The combination of a real shortage of tradesmen and
8 land and pressure from new residents attracted by the
9 boom has resulted in a very sharp rise in house
10 prices.

11 In 1975 the average Edmonton
12 house price rose 40%, to make it one of the highest in
13 Canada, a new and rather dubious distinction, When the
14 boom is over, will these prices hold, or will many
15 buyers be left with large high-interest mortgages and a
16 falling market? This is already a concern in Fort
17 McMurray, as it becomes evident that further open pit
18 mining projects in the Tar Sands are highly unlikely.
19 The social and personal costs of this boom and bust
20 cycle will be catastrophic.

21 The Mackenzie Pipeline would
22 clearly have similar but much stronger effects in
23 Edmonton, which will be a major staying area for both
24 men and material. The Alyeska experience in Alaska --
25 the Alaska experience with the Alyeska Pipeline
26 confirms these fears. In July, 1975, the "New York
27 Times" examined the social costs of the Alyeska line
28 in Fairbanks and among the construction workers. The
29 high wage construction at any cost approach has played
30 havoc in Alaska, leading to unprecedented problems of

1 prostitution, alcoholism, child neglect, and family
2 breakdown. The accident and death rates have also
3 been unprecedented. The "New York Times" quotes an
4 estimate that 273 Bechtel employees alone will die on
5 that project, with a grand total of 500 likely. In
6 fact, the writer described the atmosphere and project
7 in these words: "It's like a war except there are
8 no guns, and no particular enemy. Who benefits
9 then?"

10 From a Canadian and Albertan
11 viewpoint the question we must ask is: Does the
12 benefit to be derived justify these costs? The Albert
13 New Democratic Party thinks it does not.

14 Proponents of the pipeline
15 justify its necessity on two major grounds: The need
16 for gas, and the boost to the Alberta and northern
17 economies.

18 The first reason, Canadian
19 need for the natural gas, does not stand up to even
20 superficial examination. Why should we tear our hearts
21 out to obtain an estimated 3.9 trillion cubic feet of
22 natural gas in the Mackenzie Delta when this is only
23 approximately one-third of what Alberta already has
24 allocated on a recallable basis to the California
25 market?

26 The second reason, the needed
27 boost to the economy, is an even more spurious argument.
28 We have already pointed out the costs in social misery
29 that on hard economic grounds the pipeline should be
30 rejected. It will overheat the Alberta economy to the

1 | pit that any economic advantage will be lost to the
2 | demand inflation that would hit all economic sectors.
3 | Worse, the economic activity will be temporary with few
4 | permanent jobs, leaving a residue of social costs and
5 | useless infrastructure that Albertans will continue to
6 | pay for in the future. Only a few will benefit in the
7 | short run, while the majority of Albertans will lose
8 | overall.

9 |

To sum up then, Mr.

10 | Commissioner, the Alberta New Democratic Party has the
11 | following objections to the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline
12 | being constructed at this time:

- 13 | 1. The land claims of the natives of the Northwest
14 | Territories must be settled before any steps are taken
15 | to impose construction on those lands.
16 | 2. The lack of knowledge and research of the
17 | scientific, significance of the Arctic biome would make
18 | any destruction of that area highly irresponsible.
19 | 3. The social and economic impact on Alberta in
20 | general and Edmonton in particular would be., severe,
21 | destructive, and irreparable.

22 |

The Alberta New Democratic

23 | Party therefore submits that under these circumstances
24 | it would be irrational and indeed immoral to proceed
25 | with the development of the Mackenzie Pipeline, and we
26 | strongly urge that a ten-year moratorium be imposed on
27 | this project. By that time we should have carried out
28 | and brought to maturity investigations into the
29 | ecological, social, economic and human effects of such
30 | a venture and we would then be in a better position to

1 weigh the costs against the benefits, Mr. Commissioner.

2 Thank you very much.

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and
4 gentlemen, perhaps I might just make two comments on
5 Mr. Leeson's brief. There is an international program
6 of scientists from around the world established to
7 identify important biological sites, and this program
8 called the International Biological Program is one that
9 the -- that we've heard about at the Inquiry, and Dr.
10 Peterson, whom I see here tonight, has been to the
11 Inquiry's hearings in Yellowknife and has discussed the
12 program with us and has identified sites that occur on
13 the -- within the energy corridor proposed to be
14 established, and that is one of the concerns that the
15 Inquiry has before it and will be paying serious
16 attention to.

17 Another matter that Mr.
18 Leeson raised was the experience with the construction
19 of the Alyeska Oil Pipeline in Alaska from Prudhoe Bay
20 to Valdez. We have heard a number of witnesses from
21 Alaska who have come to the Inquiry in Yellowknife to
22 testify. They have included members of the Cabinet of
23 the Government of Alaska, members of Governor
24 Hammond's own staff, biologists and other scientists
25 from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, a magistrate
26 from Copper Centre along the route of the pipeline,
27 and a number of other witnesses and we expect to hear
28 from more of those witnesses from Alaska when we
29 return to complete our hearings at Yellowknife this
30 summer.

1 | itself in view of the fact that this is an area in
2 | which the company can speak with most authority, rather
3 | than in vague generalities.

4 | Inland Cement Industries
5 | Limited and Ocean Cement Limited are related companies
6 | and subsidiaries of Genstar Limited. Inland-Ocean
7 | Cement carries on business throughout Western Canada.
8 | Because of their related management and their
9 | involvement in the production and marketing of cement,
10 | our two companies have elected to submit this one brief
11 | jointly as Inland-Ocean Cement.

12 | There are three cement plants
13 | operating under the name of Inland Cement Industries
14 | Limited located at Edmonton, Regina and Winnipeg.
15 | Another plant operated by Ocean Cement Company Limited
16 | is located at Bamberton on Vancouver Island. More than
17 | 650 people are directly employed by Inland-Ocean
18 | Cement, and these employees and their families are
19 | directly dependent on the continued viable operation of
20 | the company for their livelihood.

21 | Inland Cement's current
22 | annual consumption of natural gas is approximately 6,1
23 | billion cubic feet in total, at its three Prairie
24 | Province plants. This equates to the amount of gas
25 | consumed by 30,500 homes in the City of Edmonton in one
26 | year. So we're a big customer, and we're concerned.
27 | To explain the magnitude -- pardon me, I'm repeating.
28 | Natural Gas is used to fire the kilns during the
29 | manufacture of cement to temperatures of 2800 degrees
30 | Fahrenheit. It's at these high temperatures that the

1 | inhabitants of the north.

2 | Thank you, Mr. Commissioner.

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

5 | (SUBMISSION BY INLAND OCEAN CEMENT W.S. BANNISTER -
6 | MARKED EXHIBIT C-338)

7 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

8 | MR. WADDELL: Mr. Commissioner,
9 | we've heard a number of briefs and we do have coffee
10 | available, if you do think we should break now.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, just
12 | before we break, let me just comment on Mr. Bannister's
13 | brief. It was a brief quite helpful to me to
14 | appreciate the considerations that various segments of
15 | industry have about supplies of energy. As Mr.
16 | Bannister made plain, and I think all of you
17 | understand, the National Energy Board is by Statute --
18 | that is under the law -- required to determine what
19 | volumes of natural gas there really are in the
20 | Mackenzie Delta, and in the Beaufort Sea. They are
21 | required to determine how much natural gas we in
22 | Southern Canada need to heat our homes and keep our
23 | offices warm, and fuel our factories and industry; and
24 | so when this inquiry submits its report to the
25 | government, the government will have as well a report
26 | from the National Energy Board, and will, as Mr.
27 | Bannister pointed out, weigh the whole question of
28 | Canada's need for natural gas from the frontier and at
29 | the same time weigh the very important questions,
30 | fundamental questions relating to social, environmental

1 | north each night for an hour on the radio in English
2 | and in the native languages, reports to the north on
3 | what you people who live here in Southern Canada have
4 | been saying to the Inquiry, and those broadcasters are
5 | with us tonight, along with the other representatives
6 | of the press and the media at this table on my left,
7 | and those broadcasters from Northern Canada, include
8 | Whit Fraser, who broadcasts in English; Abe Okpik, who
9 | broadcasts in the Eskimo language of the Western
10 | Arctic; Jim Sittichinli, who broadcasts in Loucheux;
11 | Louis Blondin, who broadcasts in Slavey; and Joe Toby,
12 | who broadcasts in Dogrib and Chipewyan. So that what
13 | you say tonight will be reported to people who live in
14 | the Mackenzie Valley, the Mackenzie Delta, on the
15 | perimeter of the Beaufort Sea and in the Northern
16 | Yukon.

17 | So we'll adjourn for coffee
18 | for a few minutes and then hear from those who still
19 | have briefs to present.

20 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED FOR A FEW MINUTES)

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1 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

2 THE COMMISSIONER: Come to
3 order, ladies and gentlemen. Carry on then, Mr. Waddell.

4 MR. WADDELL: Yes, sir. I
5 call as the next brief, Rector Murray Starr of the
6 Church of Saint John the Evangelist, which is here in
7 Edmonton.

8 REV C MURRAY STARR sworn:

9 THE WITNESS: Mr. Commissioner,
10 Charles Murray Starr, parish priest of the Anglican
11 Church of Canada. I happen to be rector of Saint John's
12 but I'm not here representing them, I'm here representing
13 me, resident of this city of Edmonton and Canadian
14 citizen, and I thank you for this opportunity to present
15 to you something of my own personal concern about
16 proposed northern development of this country generally
17 in the Mackenzie Valley Natural Gas Pipeline in
18 particular. don't pretend that this is a very
19 sophisticated or technologically informed document or
20 that I am in that kind of a category. I am just a
21 citizen concerned about some things, and it seems to me
22 that this whole tatter occasions the asking of some
23 serious questions :0 which an honest attempt at answers
24 needs to be round before we proceed with any further
25 development. I appreciated your opening remarks because
26 they sort of indicated that this really and truly is part
27 of your concern and I think that's wonderful.

28 First thing, one of the issues
29 at stake appears to be the land claim of the Inuit and
30 Dene people. I find it difficult to understand why they

1 | questions facing this nation in its entire
2 | history.

3 | (THE SUBMISSION OF C. MURRAY STARR MARKED AS EXHIBIT C-
4 | 339)

5 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

6 | MR. WADDELL: Mr. Commissioner
7 | you'll notice on the list of briefs, I have one marked
8 | "5-A", a Mrs. Peggy Robbins. Apparently Mrs. Robbins
9 | just wanted to file her brief and I've been given an
10 | eight page brief from Mrs. Robbins. I should mention
11 | that she's indicated that she's the president of a small
12 | commercial printing and secretarial firm which was set up
13 | to provide training in small business management and
14 | employment for native people.

15 | She relates some of those
16 | experiences as well as her views on northern
17 | development. So, perhaps I could give this to Miss
18 | Hutchinson and we'll file this as a brief and we'll
19 | make copies for you sir.

20 | (THE SUBMISSION BY PEGGY ROBBINS MARKED AS EXHIBIT
21 | C-340)

22 | MR. WADDELL: Is Mr. Barry
23 | here from R. Angus, Alberta Limited? Mr. Barry,
24 | representative from R. Angus?

25 | Perhaps we can hold that down
26 | for a moment. Mr. Ian D. Robertson. Mr. Robertson?

27 | THE COMMISSIONER: That brief
28 | from Peggy Robbins -- Peggy Robbins?

29 | MR. WADDELL: Yes sir.

30 | THE COMMISSIONER: I'll read

1 | that on the plane to Regina.

2 | IAN D. ROBERTSON, sworn;

3 | THE WITNESS: Justice Berger,
4 | Commission Counsel, ladies and gentlemen, I submit this
5 | brief on behalf of myself in opposition to the
6 | construction of the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline at this
7 | time.

8 | I believe the two participant
9 | companies have failed to provide sufficient evidence in
10 | support of their applications. I believe that the
11 | negative economic, social and environmental impacts of
12 | such project outweigh the positive advantages of such a
13 | pipeline to the nation as a whole. Too many questions
14 | remain unresolved in the areas of environmental
15 | protection and social justice.

16 | The pipeline debate cannot be
17 | simplified to an argument of necessity for economic
18 | survival as Mayor Sykes of Calgary would have us
19 | believe, for even the pipeline companies have
20 | recognized the naivete of that argument. Similarly, it
21 | is equally naive to focus public attention on one
22 | particular issue such as the environment or native land
23 | claims, because these too are only parts of a more
24 | fundamental question as to what quality of life
25 | Canadians are prepared to plan their future for.

26 | The pipeline question itself
27 | is probably irrelevant, so long as Canadians continue
28 | to exploit and consume their natural resources at the
29 | present rate. Quite frankly, unless we change our
30 | fundamental value system with its technological drive

1 | the Canadian Federation of Independent Businessmen in a
2 | speech to the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce in
3 | September, 1974, warned that

4 | "The pipeline will create unparalleled labor
5 | shortages."

6 | Edmonton has a severe housing shortage. The Syncrude
7 | project is already experiencing these labor shortages.

8 | Edmonton has a severe housing
9 | shortage. Can we cope with a thousand or more
10 | permanent employees arriving at one time? Consider the
11 | housing needs of the pipeline workers. Most will
12 | require rental accommodation and we just are not
13 | building any. Keep in mind also that in order to
14 | satisfy the current housing demand, we must continue to
15 | put about 9,000 units on the market each year,
16 | Consider if you will that in order to do so, we must
17 | have skilled labor and materials, commodities that will
18 | be in scarce supply.

19 | Justice Berger, I submit that
20 | Albertans and Edmontonians had better given some
21 | thought to their priorities. Briefly, let us look at
22 | how prepared the Province of Alberta is for the
23 | pipeline boom.

24 | Sir, I believe you visited
25 | Fairbanks. Perhaps you should have a look at Fort
26 | McMurray and its growth pains. If we cannot manage a
27 | southern town such as Fort McMurray, should we really
28 | consider tackling the north? Was the province ready?
29 | Has it shown much foresight, anticipated and planned to
30 | accommodate the problems in advance?

1 Arctic Gas proposes to rely
2 heavily on the resources of existing towns south of
3 Zalmo Lake but are these towns prepared? What guidance
4 has our Provincial Government given? What studies are
5 underway to develop appropriate planning and management
6 policies for the migrating workers?

7 I submit sir, that the
8 Government of Alberta should be called before this
9 Inquiry to explain publicly what studies it has
10 underway and what contingency plans it proposes to
11 follow if the pipeline is to be built. Perhaps at the
12 same time, one should find out why all the major
13 projects must be built at once rather than
14 sequentially. This problem is not just inherent to
15 Alberta but it is symptomatic of the nation as a whole.
16 Why is there no rational, national economic planning?

17 Sarnia, Ontario where my
18 family lives, clearly illustrates the boom and bust
19 syndrome. There is either a lot of work or there is
20 none at all. Right now, the boom is a. Three years
21 ago there was little work. I would suggest that
22 Sarnia, built on an oil boom, is worth visiting to see
23 some of the effects, both good and bad.

24 The Sarnia Indian Reserve is
25 probably one of the richest in Canada, but does it show
26 the prosperity of oil? I do not think so.

27 There is no doubt that if the
28 pipeline is built on top of Alberta's buoyant economy,
29 Edmonton will be part of the inflationary boom,
30 probably reaching the city of one million people ahead

1 created to administer its development and review made
2 its impact. This point was well I by Dr. Carson
3 Templeton in his testimony in June of 1975.

4 "I oppose the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline. My
5 position is based on the fact that no culture in
6 history has yet evolved to the point where it
7 will wait, pause and reflect on its knowledge,
8 assess its science and technology, plan its
9 future and promote humanitarian order.

10 Time is not a commodity to be bought
11 and sold. Rather, it is a limiting factor, a
12 common denominator for all of us. If we use our
13 time wisely, we are more productive. We do not
14 get more time,"

15 The experts, Barbara Ward,
16 all tell us the western world must undergo fundamental
17 change. For example, the notion that bigness is
18 madness was first expressed by British economist Ernst
19 Schumacher. In his book "Small is Beautiful",
20 Schumacher argues that we need to grow, not outwards
21 but inwards towards institutions of a size where you
22 can see how everything relates and toward technology
23 with a human face.

24 Resource use, especially in
25 the energy, field, should be looked at in much the same
26 way.

27 Change involves instability,
28 risk and above all greater collective responsibility.
29 The April 21st, 1976 editorial in the Edmonton Journal,
30 remarking on the Federal Government decision to allow

1 | Dome Petroleum to drill in the fragile Mackenzie Delta
2 | argues that:

3 | "The condition of freedom is risk. The
4 | condition of many good things is risk. The
5 | Government of Canada cannot govern responsibly
6 | without taking risks."

7 | A reader responded by asking:

8 | "Whose freedom and to what end is that freedom
9 | directed? Who are the beneficiaries of the good
10 | things and who takes the risk?"

11 | Money is not an adequate
12 | substitute for technology when technology is what is
13 | required if development is to take place. The
14 | environmentalist does not believe in playing Russian
15 | Roulette. The oil man does. For example, Dr. Andrew
16 | Thompson, chairman of the Canadian Arctic Resources
17 | Committee feels Dome's \$50 million cleanup bond is
18 | pointless because the present level of technology is
19 | incapable of cleaning up a significant Arctic oil
20 | spill. Thus Dr. Thompson, like myself believes the
21 | risk is too great and the government has acted
22 | irresponsibly.

23 | The Mackenzie Valley Pipeline
24 | Inquiry must be the forum to initiate a change of
25 | philosophy and direction in northern development. Can
26 | we not learn from our mistakes and our history? Can we
27 | not pause and reflect on the Klondike Gold Rush, Leduc
28 | #1 and James Bay and put these times in perspective?
29 | The main issue is not really construction of a
30 | pipeline, native rights or resource depletion. Rather,

1 And the simple faith of a child.

2

3 Desperate, strong and resistless
4 And throttled by fear or defeat
5 Then will I yield with my treasure
6 Then will I glut with my meat.

7

 Thank you.

8

(THE SUBMISSION OF I. D. ROBERTSON MARKED AS
9 EXHIBIT C-341)

10

(WITNESS ASIDE)

11

 THE COMMISSIONER: Perhaps
12 ladies and gentlemen I might make a comment on Mr.
13 Robertson's brief. He dealt with a number of matters
14 of concern to the Inquiry in a most comprehensive
15 discussion.

16

 Let me just put it this way,
17 that this is an Inquiry appointed by the Government of
18 Canada to determine so far as we can, the impact of a
19 pipeline and energy corridor in the Territories of
20 Canada -- in the northern territories of Canada and I
21 am here to elicit your views, to find out what you
22 think as citizens of Canada regarding the issues raised
23 by the proposal to construct a pipeline and establish
24 an energy corridor in our northern territories.

25

 The impact of a pipeline and
26 energy corridor within the Province of Alberta is none
27 of the business of an Inquiry established by the
28 Government of Canada, and I am not seeking your views
29 as citizens of Alberta about the impact in Alberta.

30

1 .I am seeking your views as citizens of Canada
2 regarding the impact and the consequences in the
3 Canadian north.

4 Now, I understand that it's
5 all one country and that you can't just chop this thing
6 to bits at the 60th Parallel, but I think you will
7 understand that certain things are for the Government
8 of Alberta to consider and determine, other things for
9 the Government of Canada, and I am making
10 recommendations to the Government of Canada and not to
11 the Government of Alberta.

12 So, who is next Mr. Waddell?

13 MR. WADDELL: Mr.
14 Commissioner the next brief is Reverend Fletcher
15 Stewart, Ten Days for World Development.

16 REVEREND FLETCHER STEWART, sworn

17 THE WITNESS: Mr.

18 Commissioner, we are happy to be able to address
19 ourselves to this important matter and happy that your
20 Inquiry has made it possible for many voices to be
21 heard that often receive little attention in affairs of
22 great importance Thank you for this opportunity.

23 I'd like read a paragraph
24 from the middle of this brief first because I think it
25 auras up much of what we have to say.

26 People come first, in this
27 case, the native peoples of the Northwest Territories.
28 It is not necessary to debate the dubious benefits of
29 pipeline to the south. The self-interests of the south
30 has no right to override the just claims of the north.

1 I have two briefs from Lethbridge, Alberta and the people
2 were unable to come. The first brief is from the
3 Lethbridge Naturalists Society and the second one is from
4 Mrs. Helen Schuler in Lethbridge, Alberta and I propose
5 to file these briefs and I have a copy for you sir to go
6 with the copy of Mrs. Robbins'; brief for you to read and
7 I will acknowledge by mail that we've received these and
8 read them into the record

9 (THE SUBMISSION OF THE LETHBRIDGE NATURALISTS SOCIETY
10 MARKED AS EXHIBIT C-343)

11 (THE SUBMISSION OF MRS. HELEN SCHULER MARKED AS EXHIBIT
12 C-344)

13 I'd call upon Mr. Andrew
14 Macdonald please.

15
16 ANDREW MACDONALD sworn;

17 THE WITNESS: I'd like to
18 express my gratitude to the Commission for this
19 opportunity to speak it in the matter of the proposed
20 pipeline although I am a Canadian living in the south,
21 an issue which concerns me very much.

22 I don't know if the
23 Commission with its northern itinerary has been exposed
24 to a recent wave of television messages brought to us
25 by a large oil company. In one of them, a Canada
26 goose, symbol of the wild and free Canada is seen
27 onscreen. We hear an unctuous voice telling us that it
28 is valid to be afraid in the face of the energy
29 problems of today's world but, the voice continues, we
30 are very fortunate that today companies are spending

1 | me just ask Mr. Ryder if any of the participants want
2 | to make a contribution at this stage.

3 | MR. RYDER: They don't, sir,
4 | they intend to rest of their rights tomorrow.

5 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, all
6 | right, let's hear this one.

7 | MR. WADDELL: All right.
8 | Linda Spencer ?

9 | LINDA SPENCER sworn;

10 | THE WITNESS: Justice Berger,
11 | ladies and gentlemen. I seem to have the distinction
12 | of being the only woman speaking tonight and perhaps
13 | the only person from Red Deer. I'm a teacher at Red
14 | Deer College.

15 | I'm making this submission
16 | from three areas of concern. My experience as a
17 | southern Canadian, my experience as a worker in another
18 | culture, and my experience as a Christian.

19 | As a southern Canadian I want
20 | to state strongly that I do not wish my comfort to be
21 | gained at the expense of the peoples and environment of
22 | the north. If delaying or cancelling a pipeline means
23 | that I must reduce my standard of living, then I will
24 | embrace that consequence. If a delayed or cancelled
25 | pipeline means that I must get along with a lower
26 | temperature in my basement apartment I will accept
27 | that.

28 | If a delayed or cancelled
29 | pipeline means I must make do with fewer products from
30 | industry, then I will welcome that. I do not permit

1 | any oil or gas company any oil or gas company to speak
2 | on behalf of me, the consumer. I will speak for
3 | myself, thank you very much. If companies say that I,
4 | as a southern Canadian need this pipeline to continue
5 | living in the style to which I have become accustomed,
6 | I say, "no, I don't need it". I am not willing to
7 | place the higher value on my lifestyle than on the
8 | lifestyle of northern native people.

9 | I am not willing to be a
10 | party to-exploitation and disregard for human rights.
11 | I am a member of the dominant southern Canadian society
12 | but I disassociate myself and its aims if one of those
13 | aims is to grow at any cost, to extract. and transport
14 | natural gas at any human or earthly cost.

15 | I am not willing to watch the
16 | environment of the Mackenzie Valley mutilated and its
17 | people socially scarred in order that my southern
18 | Canadian and the American consumption of natural gas
19 | can continue unabated.

20 | As a person who has worked
21 | for four years in a country in the Third World, I
22 | wonder whether it is wise to impose our white, western
23 | technology upon others. At least under CUSO, we who
24 | went overseas were sensitized to the culture into which
25 | we were going and we were employed by the host country.
26 | The host country paid our salaries and the host country
27 | deployed us to those jobs where we could be of the most
28 | use. I was a visitor.

29 | I believe that southern
30 | companies going into northern Canada must go there

1 | this nation and I regard a pipeline now as definitely
2 | not in my interest. If the pipeline is asserted to be
3 | necessary because its overall economic benefits will
4 | outweigh the environmental and social damage, I do not
5 | want economic benefits to tainted. I do not want to
6 | use that kind of blood gas.

7 | My concerns therefore are:

8 | 1. That land claims be settled before a pipeline
9 | decision is made.

10 | 2. That northern natives have a controlling interest
11 | in the companies or authority that builds a pipeline so
12 | that the natives exercise decision-making power.

13 | 3. That other sources of energy such as solar energy
14 | and wind power be energetically explored to serve our
15 | nation's needs. Thank you. (WITNESS ASIDE)

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

18 | (SUBMISSION BY L. SPENCER MARKED EXHIBIT C-346)

19 | MR. WADDELL: Mr.

20 | Commissioner, those are all the briefs for today.

21 | There were a couple of people that haven't appeared and
22 | I will contact those people tomorrow morning and make
23 | sure we didn't slip up in notifying them.

24 | THE COMMISSIONER: All right.

25 | Well ladies gentlemen, let me thank you all for coming
26 | this evening and let me thank those of you who
27 | presented briefs.

28 | It seem to me that it is
29 | essential that each of us who has a view about this
30 | matter, each of you that has a view about this matter,

