

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)

**Rae Lakes, N.W.T.
August 13, 1976**

PROCEEDINGS AT COMMUNITY HEARING

Volume 74

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1 Rae Lakes, N.W.T.

2 August 13, 1976

3 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

4 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I'll
5 call our hearing to order. I think you know why I'm
6 here. I am Judge Berger and I am here to find out what
7 you think about the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline.

8 There are two companies,
9 Arctic Gas and Foothills Pipelines that want to build a
10 pipeline to bring gas from the Arctic Ocean to the big
11 cities and industries in southern Canada and the United
12 States, That pipeline, if it were built, would be built
13 along the Mackenzie Valley.

14 Now, the Government of Canada
15 has not decided whether they will let the companies
16 build a pipeline or not. Before they decide, they want
17 to know what you think about it and that's why I'm
18 here, to find out what you, the people who live here in
19 the North, think about the idea.

20 I think I should tell you that
21 the government is going ahead on the basis that if a gas
22 pipeline is built, then an oil pipeline will be built
23 after the gas pipeline. So that what we are considering
24 is an energy corridor along the Mackenzie Valley that
25 would carry gas and oil; a gas pipeline buried beneath
26 the ground and an oil pipeline elevated above the ground.

27 Now, I asked representative
28 of the companies that want to build the gas pipeline to
29 come here with me today so that they could listen to
30 what you had to say and so that you could later on ask

1 | says. We go hunting on the winter road and when we do
2 | go hunting, we see very many caribou on the winter
3 | road. He says, we are not only speaking for ourselves,
4 | we are speaking for our kids and our future kids. He
5 | said, whatever we have to say here today, we should be
6 | speaking for our kids in the future.

7 | He says, like I said, we had
8 | often wanted to meet a representative of the
9 | government and now that you're here, maybe we can
10 | say all that we had on our minds and he says,
11 | seeing as I've said enough, maybe I can say some
12 | more again before the end of the meeting.

13 | The government has been very
14 | good to us, he says. There were times when they had no
15 | money and the government stepped in and gave them
16 | welfare and gave them family allowance and wherever
17 | they wanted it, they gave them aid. When this pipeline
18 | should be built, he says that there will be jobs for a
19 | lot of people. We should be thankful.

20 | But then again, we don't
21 | really want this pipeline, he says. That is about
22 | all I have to say. The people who are sitting next
23 | to me will be coming up to say their speech.

24 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
25 | Chief. (WITNESS ASIDE)

26 | THE INTERPRETER: Now that
27 | you are here, I would like take advantage of this
28 | opportunity and say a few words to you.

29 | THE COMMISSIONER: Could I
30 | have your name?

1 THE INTERPRETER: Philip Zoe.

2 PHILIP ZOE sworn:

3 THE INTERPRETER: He says,
4 he'd like to welcome you here in Rae Lakes and that
5 he's glad you are here listening and he also said
6 that their way of living consists mostly of
7 hunting, fishing and trapping and he says, life
8 isn't very easy. The land here has been very good
9 to us and has provided all they needed like fish
10 and meat.

11 The gas pipeline, he says
12 it's too close to us. We don't want it. We don't
13 want it at all. During the winter it's very cold
14 and he says often life isn't very good out here.
15 Sometimes when they haven't got anything, they have
16 to go out in the bush and get it. He says, that's
17 all I have to say.

18 (WITNESS ASIDE)

19 BRUNO APPLE sworn:

20 THE INTERPRETER: First I'd
21 like to introduce him. That's Bruno Apple and he
22 thanks you for being here and for the people coming
23 to listen to what the people have to say. Life
24 hasn't been very easy in the past and it's unlikely
25 it will be any easier in the future.

26 He says he'd like to say a
27 few words on the pipeline. He says, this land here
28 provides all the meat and fish and everything that
29 they need to live on and he says that we hate to
30 see all these things go when the pipeline gets

1 through and he also said that our real parents have
2 long deceased and this land is like our own father
3 and mother. They provide all the meat and fish and
4 everything that they need.

5 He says, out here it's very
6 cold and during the winter they build a winter road
7 from Rae to Great Bear and sometimes when they go
8 hunting on the winter road, they rarely see any
9 caribou at all on the road. When they go hunting
10 around that area, they hardly see any moose or
11 caribou. He says, even if they catch small, little
12 animals, he says they still live on that.

13 This pipeline that they are
14 talking about building, they shouldn't build it too
15 close to where the animals live. We, who live this
16 way of life, like living this way, he says. We
17 don't want to see this pipeline built. Even when
18 they go hunting in the winter road, they hardly owe
19 across any animals but if this pipeline should get
20 across the Valley, he says, it's unlikely they will
21 see any animals when we go hunting near it.

22 If this pipeline should get
23 through, there's going to be a lot of people here.
24 When this pipeline gets through, it's going to be
25 like the end of the world here. He says, when we
26 have forest fires here, they are not small forest
27 fires. They are large forest fires. They destroy
28 a lot of land. He says these animals here that are
29 on the land, he says they live off of them and even
30 if you give them money, the money won't replace the

1 animals that are gone.

2 This land here provides all
3 fur bearing animals and whenever they go trapping,
4 they get their money off the fur. He says, though
5 the money won't last very long, he says we're still
6 against this pipeline. He says, this land here has
7 been very good to us. The little kids here who are
8 now out with their mothers, like the little babies
9 and little boys who are out playing, then in the
10 future they're going to need this land to live on.

11 He says, we love our kids and
12 if this pipeline should be built, the pipeline is
13 going to sweep the animals away from this land. He
14 says, I have said what was on my mind. I have
15 attended a lot of meetings here in the Northwest, he
16 says, and we have often at the meetings talked about
17 not having any big projects go through on the land.

18 He said, this pipeline, they
19 have made up some--he said that they are against
20 any development on the land. He says, we, who live
21 off this land, don't want the pipeline at all. He
22 also said that the White men don't live off the
23 land like we do. So, it's not important to them
24 whether they have this pipeline or not. He says he
25 wants to thank you for listening to what he just
26 said and he said there's a lot of people here who
27 would also like to speak, so that's about all he's
28 going to say and maybe at the end of the meeting
29 he'll say another few words.

30 (WITNESS ASIDE)

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Fine.

2 Thank you very much.

3

4 HARRY SIMPSON sworn:

5 THE INTERPRETER: Harry
6 Simpson. He says he 'd like to welcome you here to
7 Rae Lakes and that he's happy that you would hear
8 his speech.

9 He says that when fall comes
10 around it gets very cold up here and he says it's
11 very hard when they go off in the bush and he says
12 this pipeline that they are talking about;
13 sometimes during-the winter it goes to about sixty-
14 five to forty below and it won't be good out here
15 for the pipeline.

16 He says all the people here
17 that are with me, they also come around with their
18 families and their kids and they go off in the bush
19 around the end of September and he says, by that
20 time it's very cold and sometimes when it gets
21 really cold you can see the rocks just crack and
22 break and that also goes for some trees he says.

23 He says it gets very cold
24 out here during the winter and sometimes when they
25 go off to their nets, sometimes they catch about
26 five to maybe four fish and if other families don't
27 have anything to eat, they would share this fish
28 that they catch. We love this land that we are
29 living on and because we love it, he says we teach
30 our little kids who have gotten to the age where

1 | they can go hunting and go in the bush with their
2 | fathers and they teach them their way of life.

3 | It's because of our kids
4 | that we don't want this pipeline to go through. He
5 | said on your way up here I'm sure you must have
6 | looked out the window and seen all the little lakes
7 | and waters as you came up here, he says, and when
8 | winter comes it gets very cold up here and if they
9 | should build this pipeline, it's liable to freeze.

10 | When the cold winter comes,
11 | not only his family leaves for the bush but a lot of
12 | other families leave together and when everyone needs
13 | help, why they all help one another. If this
14 | pipeline should go through, he said it's going to be
15 | hard to live off the land. He says that he is happy
16 | to see you here today. He thinks now the government
17 | will get some sort of idea how the people live out in
18 | the bush. That's all he has to say. There's some
19 | other that would like to speak too. (WITNESS ASIDE)

20 | ANDREW GON sworn:

21 | THE INTERPRETER: That's
22 | Andrew Gon and he said this land that we're talking
23 | about, he says, we love this land. Often there is
24 | some White people that would come here and work on
25 | the land and then whenever they object, those
26 | people would sort of ignore them and not listen but
27 | he said now that you're a representative of the
28 | government and he said he's happy that you've got
29 | an open ear and will listen to them.

30 | This land that we are living

1 on, he says, we love this land. That's why we talk
2 about it all the time. We love this land that we
3 are living on. Not only do we live off this land,
4 the animals and the trees also live off this land.
5 I have been living here for more than sixteen years
6 and in all the years I have been here, I have seen
7 a lot of forest fires and I have also, in my time,
8 seen a lot of animals.

9 We live off this land.
10 That's why we talk about this land all the time.
11 When you see this land being destroyed, you are
12 also seeing the government's money being destroyed
13 too. All the places where we go hunting and
14 fishing and trapping is being destroyed. Now,
15 there's not very many pieces of land which you can
16 live off. We were living here. We have a lot of
17 little kids and little babies. Should they grow up
18 or after they grow up they are going to want to go
19 hunting and fishing and trapping and if this
20 pipeline should get through, they are going to have
21 nowhere to go fishing and hunting and trapping.

22 That also goes for the
23 animals. If the pipeline should go through,
24 there'll be no more animals for our kids to hunt.
25 I'd like to thank you all who have come to listen
26 to what we have to say.

27 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
28 very much.

29 THE INTERPRETER: He says we
30 should all look upon ourselves as friends and

1 | whatever is on our minds, we should be able to
2 | speak out without having to hold back.

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: Right.

4 | THE INTERPRETER: I wish all
5 | of us were here to take the opportunity of your
6 | being here and say all that's on their minds. He
7 | said, I'd like to tell you a short story about the
8 | time when they first handed out five dollars for
9 | Treaty money.

10 | He said when the White man
11 | first came up North, as they made their way up
12 | North, they built roads to as far as Great Bear and
13 | he says we were about the last ones to whom they
14 | visited. After a period of about four or five
15 | years they finally went to Rae and got their Treaty
16 | money. Before the White man came here he said they
17 | had no policemen as well. So, when the Bay
18 | managers came up here, they sort of took the role
19 | of the policemen.

20 | They had this meeting. They
21 | all talked about it and Murphy was voted Chief.
22 | When they first talked about signing the Treaty, he
23 | had said that we shouldn't sign this Treaty because
24 | they might -- I'd like to finish what I was saying.
25 | He said when they first had this Treaty, Murphy had
26 | said that they didn't want to accept this Treaty,
27 | this five dollar for Treaty because after they sign,
28 | the government people might say the land is off"
29 | limits to them and but after the father with whom he
30 | was then talking to, Murphy then talked to him and

1 | said to accept it or something like that. So, he
2 | accepted it and signed the Treaty.

3 | At the meeting, he said
4 | everything that they talked about had to come to
5 | his approval first but it didn't. They further
6 | talked and said only when the river runs backwards
7 | and the moon goes black, only then will they submit
8 | this land to the White people. Only after he said
9 | this would they listen to him and then he signed
10 | the Treaty.

11 | At this meeting he said
12 | that before he signed he wanted so much land and
13 | that for his people to use. When they had this
14 | meeting, he also said to these people that from
15 | Providence to as far as Barren Lands, that's how
16 | much land he wanted the people to use. He had
17 | also said that no White people are to come and
18 | just help themselves of the land. He says, we are
19 | not the only ones who went out on this land. He
20 | says there are a lot of people here who come and
21 | go all the time. We love this land, he said,
22 | because we like our way of living and this land
23 | provided everything that they need.

24 | Before White men came here,
25 | they had no system at all and they just lived
26 | whichever way they liked to live. He's talking
27 | about Edzo and when he made Peace Treaty with the
28 | Akaitcho. This is the big thing that Edzo has done
29 | for us. He says we should be thankful for saying
30 | what we had to say and talked to one another as

1 friends. They are happy to say what they have to
2 say to you. You are a representative of the
3 government and whenever they come out here, they
4 are happy that you're here. When you make your
5 reports to your big boss, maybe you don't tell them
6 everything that we've said but he says, we are
7 still thankful for what little that you've said.

8 So, maybe after the meeting
9 when we're finished here, before you leave, maybe
10 you could come into our homes and see how we live
11 and see what sort of food we eat. Thank you.

12 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
13 sir.

14 (WITNESS ASIDE)

15
16 AMIN TAILBONE sworn:

17 THE INTERPRETER: He says we
18 are glad to see you here today. We rarely see many
19 government people out here at a time. When you
20 made your way up here to Rae Lakes on a plane, as
21 you looked out the window you must have seen all
22 the lands and the lakes and when you looked towards
23 Great Bear Lake, as far as your eyes can see,
24 that's how far we have travelled with our dog
25 teams.

26 Sometimes the weather was as
27 low as thirty-five to forty below. Even though
28 it's cold they still have to go off in the bush and
29 go hunting and trapping and not only do they have
30 to carry food for themselves on the sled, they also

1 | have to carry food for the dogs as well.

2 | Our way of living now isn't
3 | as easy as before, he says. Now if they want to go
4 | out for caribou meat they have to go as far as five
5 | hundred or four hundred miles to get some caribou
6 | meat. When we go up hunting, we have to work very
7 | hard. Sometimes the boats are twenty-two feet long
8 | to twenty feet long, he says, and they have to
9 | carry that across the portage and not only that,
10 | they also have to carry the gas across too and they
11 | also have to bring whatever clothing they brought
12 | and whatever food that they have with them.

13 | They have to go very far out
14 | of town if they want some fish or meat or anything.
15 | Due to the forest fires, there's not very many fur
16 | bearing animals anymore, he said. Like when they
17 | go trapping, they would have to go very far from
18 | where the winterline is, winter road is and in the
19 | winter, when they go trapping, there's not very
20 | many animals anymore. They have to go so far.

21 | Like everybody else here, I
22 | don't want to see the pipeline go through. That's
23 | all I have to say.

24 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

25 |
26 | DAVID CHOCOLATE sworn:

27 | THE INTERPRETER: I am happy
28 | to see you here and I'd like to say some few words
29 | that his dad told him before his dad passed away.
30 | It's been twenty-eight years since his dad died and

1 he will be talking about the time when he was
2 living with his dad as a young boy.

3 When his dad left, it wasn't
4 very easy. He says, now that White men are living
5 here, life isn't so easy as--isn't as hard as
6 before. After hearing what these men have said, my
7 dad's predictions have been true. I agree with
8 what the men have said here to you. This land that
9 we're talking about has been good to us and we live
10 on it and we work and play on it.

11 When we talk about the cold
12 weather, it's true what they have said about the
13 cold weather. During winters when it was really
14 cold he often went out and worked with his dad in
15 the cold winter. It is no lie when we say that we
16 do work hard in the winter. When I worked with my
17 dad, I often had to go out hunting and sometimes
18 when I went out for wood, it was really cold. All
19 the times when we went trapping, we spent about ten
20 or sometimes more days without a tent. We had to
21 sleep out under the moon and the stars and it was
22 really cold at night and they had to keep the fire
23 going all night.

24 Sometimes when they start to
25 make camp and they cook meat, it would be so cold
26 that the knife would sometimes get cold and whenever
27 they cut the meat, their knife would stop and get
28 stuck in the meat. Life was very hard before the
29 White man came. After they came, they provided
30 some dry goods and food and that and life wasn't so

1 freezers and fridges in your homes, he says. Us who
2 live out here, we don't have no such thing, he says.
3 He says now we have a freezer here in our town but
4 it's not doing us any good, even if we go out to see
5 our net, we don't catch no fish and they can't put
6 what little fish that they catch in the freezer.

7 We love this land. That's
8 why we talk about it. We work and play and raise
9 our kids here, he said. For the men who have said
10 so far how cold that north is, it's true, he said.
11 Sometimes it gets so cold that some family that had
12 nothing to eat and they have to get an ice chisel
13 and try to break through the ice and that isn't
14 easy work because the ice is very, very thick.

15 We may talk about the land a
16 lot but it's because we love this land and we don't
17 want to see anything happen to it. He says,
18 sometimes during the cold weather, even though it's
19 really cold, they still have to go out and see
20 their net as they have to eat. It's a very hard
21 form of living but we still love the way we live.
22 That's another reason why we don't want to see this
23 pipeline go through.

24 Many people will benefit
25 from this pipeline but this winter when the trucks
26 go. on the winter road, they also have to cross
27 the lake and when they do go across the lake,
28 sometimes they discharge gas and throw away gas on
29 the lake and this kills the fish.

30 We are serious when we say

1 | that we don't want this pipeline to go through. He
2 | says we have always wondered when the government
3 | people would come and listen to them and listen to
4 | them and talk to them and talk with them, but now
5 | that you're here, they'd like to take advantage of
6 | this opportunity to say what they have to say to
7 | you. That's about all I have to say. Thank you.

8 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

9 | THE INTERPRETER: What time
10 | will you be leaving here?

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: We have to
12 | leave by about eight o'clock. So, what time is it
13 | now? Well, maybe we could take a five minute break
14 | and just stretch our legs and then start again.
15 | Would that be all right?

16 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED FOR FIVE MINUTES)

17 | (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

18 | THE COMMISSIONER: I think we
19 | can begin again and I should just say that during
20 | the adjournment I visited the homes of Joseph
21 | Mantla and Bruno Mantla and had an opportunity of
22 | seeing how the people live here in Rae Lakes.
23 | Joseph Mantla gave me his statement which I've read
24 | and which will be marked as an exhibit and form a
25 | part of the permanent record of the Inquiry.

26 | So, thank you Mr. Mantla
27 | for showing me your home. I appreciated that.

28 | ALPHONSE QUITTE sworn:

29 | (MADELINE CHOCOLATE RESUMED AS INTERPRETER)

30 | THE INTERPRETER: He's glad to

1 see you here and he'd like to take this opportunity
2 to talk to you. His name is Alphonse Quitte and he
3 said, you have said a few things about the pipeline
4 and I in turn would like to say a few things about
5 the pipeline too.

6 During the winter they have a
7 winter road going from Rae to Great Bear. This
8 winter when we go on the winter road we don't come
9 across any animals. When we go onto the winter road
10 we have to go far from the winter road to be able to
11 get some animals. The winter road is not such a big
12 thing as the pipeline. If this pipeline should go
13 through, this will also keep away the animals.

14 We are all against having
15 this pipeline go through. If we were for this
16 pipeline we wouldn't be talking so much about the
17 land pipeline. It's because we are against it that
18 we are talking so much about the land pipeline, He
19 says our kids and their kids will also be living
20 off this land. That's why we are talking about
21 this land.

22 Not only do I feel this way.
23 All the young people here, and we all feel, this
24 way also. I wouldn't have said anything but I'm
25 also against it. That's why I'm talking to you
26 like this. He says, there are other people here
27 who also like to talk too. So, that's all I'm
28 going to say.

29 You have never seen us
30 before, we have never seen you before, so we're

1 happy to see you here today. He's happy to see you
2 here, that's why he's saying this much.

3 (WITNESS ASIDE)

4 (SUBMISSION OF JOSEPH MANTLA MARKED AS EXHIBIT C-
5 655)

6 JEAN WETARDE sworn:

7 THE INTERPRETER: Jean

8 Wetarde. He says, like everybody else here, he's
9 happy to see you here in Rae Lakes. What everybody
10 has said here is all true.

11 All the animals that we can
12 find here on the land, we all live off them, the
13 same way as everybody. Everybody lives off these
14 animals. I feel the same way as everybody else
15 feels about this pipeline. This pipeline that they
16 talk about it sounds pretty scary he says, like if
17 it should bust or maybe break or something. If it
18 should bust and the gas could leak, it's going to
19 go in the lake and kill all the fish.

20 This is true. Not only
21 would the fish die, all the animals that live on
22 the land would also die as well. These animals
23 that are in the bush, it's like they are being kept
24 in the freezer for them, for their use whenever
25 they want it. He said they would hate to see these
26 animals go when the pipeline gets through.

27 Thank you for listening to
28 what they have to say. He says we are serious when
29 we say we don't want this pipeline to go through We
30 would be very happy if our words were taken

1 | seriously. When we say this about this land, we
2 | not only say for ourselves but for the animals and
3 | all the things that grow on this land.

4 | Why I talk about this
5 | pipeline is because I don't want to see it go
6 | through Thank you for having listened to me.
7 | That's about all I have to say.

8 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
10 | sir.

11 | JIMMY WOGA sworn:

12 | THE INTERPRETER: Jimmy Woga.
13 | He says you are here to listen to us, so I'd like
14 | to say a few words.

15 | He says, none of our
16 | Indians, we don't live a very easy life. You can
17 | tell by looking at the houses and going through
18 | town. You know how we live. We don't hold any
19 | jobs and the only way with which we can live is by
20 | what we catch from our nets and trapping.

21 | He says today I am forty
22 | nine years old. He says you can't expect me to
23 | change my way of living and live the White man's
24 | way of life. These little kids that we see running
25 | around and playing outside, we would like to see
26 | then one day out fishing and hunting and working in
27 | the bush like we did.

28 | We live off this land,
29 | that's why we don't want this pipeline to go
30 |

1 through. We have been living here for many years
2 and our way of life has been the same every year.
3 We don't want it because things that we live off,
4 we get from the land here. Not only do we love our
5 land, we also love the animals that live here on
6 the land. When we say that we don't want this
7 pipeline, we are serious.

8 If this pipeline should be
9 built it would be like shutting the door to the
10 animals on us. What I have said, I have always
11 wanted to say and that's all I have to say about
12 the pipeline.

13 He's happy to see you here
14 in Rae Lakes and he's happy he said what he wanted
15 to say.

16 (WITNESS ASIDE)

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
18 sir.

19
20 PIERRE MANTLA sworn:

21 THE INTERPRETER: Pierre
22 Mantla. He'd like to say a few words also. He
23 says for us who live out here in the bushes, life
24 isn't very easy. If we don't check the net out of
25 the lake, we won't be able to eat and we can't
26 expect others to check the net for us.

27 If this pipeline goes
28 through--this pipeline shouldn't go through. All
29 the women here and the kids and the adults and the
30 old people, they are all happy. Life isn't very

1 | easy out here, especially in the winter. Sometimes
2 | you get so cold that when they go out to check the
3 | net, it gets so cold that their gloves would sort
4 | of freeze onto their hands. So, they would have to
5 | remove one hand before they go on with checking
6 | their net.

7 | We are all against this
8 | pipeline. That's why we talk this way. All the
9 | ladies. and men and kids here are happy that you
10 | are here to listen to them. What we have all said
11 | is true. That's all I have to say.

12 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

13 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
14 | sir.

15 | BRUNO MANTLA sworn:

16 | THE INTERPRETER: Bruno
17 | Mantla, He says he has always wanted to see you and
18 | he is happy to see you here today. He said this
19 | government that they talk about, we should be
20 | thankful for what they have done with all our
21 | hearts.

22 | We should also be thankful
23 | for you being here and giving an ear. He says,
24 | they have this freezer here and whenever they catch
25 | any fish or if they have any meat, they place it in
26 | the freezer so that whenever they have no meat or
27 | fish, they take it out of the freezer and take what
28 | they have in the freezer.

29 | I'm not young anymore. I'm
30 | over eighty years old. On your way up, as you came

1 | and it seems like everybody has said everything that
2 | he had thought about. That is all he has to say.

3 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

4 |

5 | CHARLIE GON sworn:

6 | THE INTERPRETER: Charlie
7 | Gon. He says he'd like to say a few words to you
8 | about the pipeline. I agree with what the elders
9 | have said against the pipeline. I, myself, don't
10 | want it. I just want you to know that I'm against
11 | it. Seeing that the women want to talk and there's
12 | some kids here that would like to talk, that's all
13 | I have to say.

14 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

15 |

16 | PHILIP APPLE sworn:

17 | THE INTERPRETER: Philip
18 | Apple. What the people have said so far about the
19 | pipeline, I also feel the same way. What they have
20 | said about the fish and the animals and the land is
21 | true. We live off this land, what we get from this
22 | land.

23 | It's also our blood. What
24 | they have said about the waters is also true. We
25 | get our water from down the take. We drink from it
26 | and we feed the new babies with it too. I, myself,
27 | like everybody is against the pipeline. Should the
28 | pipeline bust, the forest will catch on fire and it
29 | will be hard to put out.

30 | Despite what precaution they

1 | might have with the pipeline, there will still be
2 | trouble with the pipeline all the time. I have
3 | four small little boys and they too use this land
4 | also.

5 | There are also some people
6 | that would like to speak, so that's all I have to say.

7 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

8 |

9 | ALBERT WEDEWIN sworn:

10 | THE INTERPRETER: Albert

11 | Wedewin. He's happy to see you here today. He said,
12 | myself, I am single; but the people who have spoken
13 | before, they are all married and they all have kids and
14 | what they have said is true.

15 | I in thankful for what they
16 | have said as it is true. We live off this land and we
17 | don't want to see anything happen to it. Seeing you is
18 | like having shaken hands with you. What the people
19 | have said about the pipeline is all true.

20 | Their skills, other than just
21 | living in the bush, should this pipeline go through,
22 | they would have to find some other skills to make a
23 | living and everybody would be real poor. What the
24 | people have said about the pipeline is true and I,
25 | myself, am against this pipeline.

26 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

27 |

28 |

29 | JIMMY WEDEWIN sworn:

30 | THE INTERPRETER: Jimmy

1 | Wedewin. What the people have said so far about the
2 | pipeline, I also agree. Myself, I don't want the
3 | pipeline. I just wanted you to know that. That's
4 | all.

5 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

6 |
7 | PIERRE MANTLA JR. sworn:
8 | THE INTERPRETER: Pierre
9 | Mantla. This pipeline that they are talking about.
10 | I also believe what they have said and I don't want it.
11 | That's all I have to say.

12 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

13 |
14 | JOHN QUITTE sworn:
15 | THE INTERPRETER: John
16 | Quitte. I have heard so much about you and I didn't
17 | think that I would be seeing you here in Rae Lakes and
18 | I'm happy to see you here. What the people have said
19 | so far about the pipeline, I also agree with them that
20 | I too am against it.

21 | Life isn't very easy out
22 | here. We have to go very many miles out in the bush
23 | before we reach our destination. We go where we know
24 | there's a lot of fish and a lot of animals. Life
25 | isn't very easy up here, he says, especially in the
26 | winter.

27 | Sometimes when it's really
28 | cold and windy, we still have to go out with our dog
29 | team and go off in the bush. Sometimes the snow gets
30 | really deep to about five or six feet deep and we still

1 support a family is by no means an easy task. To hunt
2 for caribou you have to wade through five feet of snow
3 just trying to have some meat for family. In summer
4 it is no exception as the meat has to be hauled back
5 on the backs from the barren lands to the
6 settlement.

7 All this isn't easy. As in
8 the. past people trying to support families sometimes
9 failed or there was no assistance from welfare, medical
10 service, pension, family allowance.

11
12 Transportation. The only
13 source of transportation was by dog team, man-made
14 canoe compared to White man's. It's beyond reality of
15 any Indian belief.

16 I resided in Rae Lakes for
17 the past twenty years and have never spoken to any
18 White man as there was any possible chance of seeing
19 any.

20 Work and poor. The
21 government has numerous times provided people with all
22 kinds of benefits and assistance but never kept their
23 words.

24 Pipelines. People have and
25 will object to the building of a pipeline as it will
26 help no one but the White people, as it will provide
27 them with wealth and us misery with pollution,
28 destruction of land and trap lines.

29 Hardships. Women, just as
30 men have, just as much hardships and it's senseless to

1 | promote it. The pipeline no doubt will pollute the
2 | fish, lakes, landscape. So, I will object to building
3 | a pipeline. If the people build a pipeline in the
4 | barren land, they will never see any caribou again
5 | as they will block the migration route of the
6 | caribou.

7 | This will also no doubt kill
8 | the animals which provide us with food, fur and income.

9 | Forest fires. Numerous times
10 | there have been fires caused by lightening, men which
11 | smoke. If the whole pipeline bursts into fire, how do
12 | you suppose it will benefit the people? This objection
13 | of pipeline is by no means from an individual, but from
14 | the whole population of Indians.

15 | This pipeline will not
16 | provide long-term employment for no one but the White
17 | men themselves.

18 | From Joseph Mantla, Rae
19 | Lakes.

20 | (PETER ARROWMAKER TRANSLATES ABOVE INTO DOGRIB)

21 |
22 | THE INTERPRETER: Judge
23 | Berger, did you want to break to eat?

24 | THE COMMISSIONER: For what?

25 | THE INTERPRETER: Do you
26 | people want to break to eat?

27 | THE COMMISSIONER: To eat?

28 | THE INTERPRETER: Yes.

29 | THE COMMISSIONER: I don't
30 | think so. I'll tell you what. Why don't we just stop

1 | for five minutes and have a little discussion about now
2 | many more want to speak and now. Long it will take.
3 | We'll just stop for five minutes.
4 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED, FOR FIVE MINUTES)

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1
2 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT.)

3 ROMIE WETARDE sworn:

4 THE COMMISSIONER: I think we
5 can start. Go ahead, sir.

6 (MADELINE CHOCOLATE RESUMED AS INTERPRETER.)

7 THE INTERPRETER: He is glad
8 to see you here and he would like to say a few words to
9 you.

10 We love this land -- I will
11 talk about. Why we love this land is because it
12 provides all that we need and it gives us all that we
13 need to give to our kids, and for us to live on.
14 That's why we don't want to see this land destroyed.
15 After we are long past away our kids will live in our
16 way of life after us. It is because of our kids that
17 we don't want this pipeline to go through.

18 The future kids will be very
19 happy if this pipeline doesn't go through. That's the
20 reason why we object to having this pipeline go through
21 on our lands.

22 We have looked forward to
23 seeing you for such a long time. We are happy to see
24 you here today. That's all I have to say.

25 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
26 sir.

27 (WITNESS ASIDE)

28 JOE BLACK sworn:

29 THE INTERPRETER: Joe Black.
30 What the people have said so far about the pipeline is

1 true. As for myself, I don't want to see it go
2 through, as we live off this land and all the animals
3 that we get, well, we live off them.

4 I don't want to see the
5 pipeline go through on this land.

6 We are glad to see you here
7 today to listen to us, to hear what we have to say
8 about the pipeline. I myself don't want to see this
9 pipeline go through. You are here to listen to us and
10 I have said all that I want to say.

11 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
12 sir.

13 (WITNESS ASIDE)
14

15 MADELINE ARROWMAKER sworn:

16 THE INTERPRETER: Madeline
17 Arrowmaker. We have heard so much about you and have
18 always looked forward to seeing you, and we are happy
19 to see you here today.

20 She says, we were brought up
21 very poorly and to this day we are still poor. We love
22 this land and we don't want to see anything happen to
23 it.

24 If dry meat should spoil on
25 us, well, we don't like it when it spoils on us, as we
26 have to throw it away.

27 We don't want this to happen
28 to us, we don't want our land to be spoiled. I don't
29 want to see anything happen to the animals that we live
30 off. And I, myself, don't want to see the pipeline go

1 DORA WEDEWIN sworn:

2

3 THE INTERPRETER: Dora Lewin.
4 I agree with what everybody has said about pipeline.
5 I, myself, I don't want it. That's about all I have to
6 say. Thank you very much.

7 (WITNESS ASIDE)

8

9 MADELINE DRAGON sworn:

10 THE INTERPRETER: Madeline
11 Arrowmaker -- Madeline Dragon, pardon me.

12 What they have said so far
13 about the pipeline, I, myself, I don't want to see this
14 come through.

15 That's all she wants to say.

16 (WITNESS ASIDE)

17

18 JOE MANTLA sworn:

19 THE INTERPRETER: This is
20 Mantla. What the people have said so far about
21 pipeline, well, we have talked about it for so long I,
22 myself, I don't want to see it come through.

23 And he has written down his
24 speech, and he says he would like to have it back, if
25 may.

26 THE COMMISSIONER: Right,
27 okay. Can we do that when the meeting is over?

28

29 THE INTERPRETER: He would
30 like say a few words about the pipeline, and also he

1 | says since you are here, he'd like to take advantage of
2 | it that opportunity and talk to you. And he doesn't
3 | want the pipeline.

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
5 | Mr. Mantla.

6 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

7 |

8 | MARY APPLE sworn:

9 | THE INTERPRETER: This is
10 | Mary Apple. What the people have said so far, I also
11 | agree with them. I, myself, I don't want to see this
12 | pipeline go through. That is all I have to say.

13 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
14 | Thank you, ma'am.

15 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

16 |

17 | MARIE QUITTE sworn:

18 | THE INTERPRETER: Marie
19 | Quitte. What the men have said so far, I also agree
20 | with them. I don't want to see this land spoiled by
21 | having the gas pipeline go through here. That's all I
22 | have to say.

23 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

24 |

25 | BELLA ZOE sworn:

26 | THE INTERPRETER: Bella Zoe.
27 | I also agree with what the people say. I don't want to
28 | see the pipeline go through. You see, as we live off
29 | the caribou and the animals, I don't want to see it at
30 | all. That's all.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you;
2 thank you, ma'am.

3 (WITNESS ASIDE)

4 THERESE ARROWMAKER sworn:

5 THE INTERPRETER: This' is
6 Therese Arrowmaker. What the people have said so far.
7 I, myself, agree that I don't
8 want to see this pipeline through. That's all I want
9 to say.

10 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

11 (WITNESS ASIDE)

12 CHARLIE CHOCOLATE sworn:

13 MADELINE CHOCOLATE: This is
14 Charlie Chocolate.

15 MR. CHOCOLATE: First of all.
16 I would like to tell you about -- my name is Charlie
17 Chocolate.

18 First of all, I would like to
19 tell you about the Dene and their way of life in
20 supporting their families.

21 The people which they call
22 Dene, they work for their livelihood by trapping,
23 fishing, hunting, that's the only source of trade job
24 available for them. This is the only source of
25 occupation which provides them with shelter, food,
26 income, and other essential needs of supporting a
27 family.

28 This sort of occupation is by
29 no means an easy task, as the meat from Barren Lands
30 must be hauled on their backs. Wood, as fuel, they

1 | them. I, myself, don't want to see this pipeline go
2 | through.

3 | He said, if the pipeline
4 | busts, all the gas will flow this way, as we are not
5 | living too far from the proposed pipeline. Should the
6 | pipeline break, and all the gas should spill, it will
7 | go on to the lakes and on to the land.

8 | The fish will have to eat the
9 | plants in the water, and the animals will eat the,
10 | weeds and the grass that is on the land, and they will
11 | get sick. And us, in turn, as we kill these animals an
12 | eat them, we would also get sick. And the people that
13 | put up this pipeline wouldn't make us better.

14 | So, the people who live close
15 | to the pipeline don't want the pipeline at all.
16 | Myself, I don't want to see the pipeline go through.
17 | That's all I have to say.

18 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
19 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

20 | THE COMMISSIONER: Would you
21 | ask him if we can have his written statement and keep
22 | it for the Inquiry. He left just after he spoke, and I
23 | didn't ask hint for that.

24 | AMINE WETARDE sworn:

25 | MR. WETARDE: Many times we
26 | have said no to the pipeline.

27 | MADELINE CHOCOLATE: This is
28 | Antoine Wetarde.

29 | MR. WETARDE: We love our
30 | land. The land is our life. And during the winter we

1 | have to go out and look for food or go hungry. When we
2 | get the food, we have to bring it back to our families.
3 | Many days we are cold during the winter.

4 | I would like to say no to the
5 | pipeline. If the pipeline is built, even if we say no,
6 | many hearts will break. So I, myself, don't want the
7 | pipeline. That's all I want to say. Thank you.

8 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
9 | May we keep your written statement, please.

10 | (MADELINE CHOCOLATE TRANSLATES ABOVE INTO DOGRIB.)

11 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

12 |

13 | CHARLIE WETARDE sworn:

14 | MR. WETARDE: I am glad that
15 | the Judge is here with us today. I just want to say a
16 | few words about the pipeline.

17 | The people don't want it and
18 | I don't want the pipeline running through the Mackenzie
19 | Valley. That's all I wanted to say.

20 | (MADELINE CHOCOLATE TRANSLATES ABOVE INTO DOGRIB.)

21 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

22 | (SUBMISSION OF CHARLIE CHOCOLATE MARKED EXHIBIT C-656.)

23 | (SUBMISSION OF ANTOINE WETARDE MARKED EXHIBIT C-657.)

24 |

25 | MAURICE ZOE sworn:

26 | MR. ZOE: Good evening, Mr.
27 | Berger. My name is Maurice Zoe, I would just like to
28 | talk about the Rae Lakes people and Fort Rae people.

29 | The people from Rae Lakes and
30 | more from Fort Rae, because of the destruction

1 | happening to them in Rae, they want to live closer to
2 | their hunting grounds, and they move to Rae Lakes.

3 | I think all the white people
4 | want is all too modern facilities for themselves and
5 | money. And money is not the object of life for the
6 | Indian. When he say lots of money, he means -- well,
7 | then he say, I have lots of money to an old Indian, in
8 | is mind it means lots of booze.

9 | And when an Indian say White
10 | an stink, I believe it, because they smell of gas and
11 | oil. When you say pipeline to the Indian, it's like
12 | saying to an Indian, flash twice, it's a long way to
13 | the Indian reservation.

14 | That is all I have to say.
15 | Thank you.

16 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
17 | Mr. Zoe. I wonder if you would let us keep your
18 | written statement, please.

19 | (MADELINE CHOCOLATE TRANSLATES ABOVE INTO DOGRIB.)

20 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

21 | (SUBMISSION OF MAURICE ZOE MARKED EXHIBIT C-658.)

22 | LIZA MANTLA sworn:

23 | (MADELINE CHOCOLATE RESUMED AS INTERPRETER.)

24 | THE INTERPRETER: This is
25 | Liza Mantla. This land that we are living on, we all
26 | love it. What the people have said about the pipeline,
27 | also agree, as I don't want to see the pipeline go
28 | through.

29 | All of us here who have kids
30 | all love our own kids. I, myself, don't want to see

1 | George Tailbone the pipeline go through as I want to
2 | see my kids work and live on this land. That is all I
3 | have to say.

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
5 | ma'am.

6 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

7 | MARY ADELE WETARDE sworn:

8 |

9 | THE INTERPRETER: Mary Adele
10 | Wetarde. We are here to talk about the pipeline and I,
11 | myself, I don't want to see it go through. Everybody
12 | doesn't want to see it happen, and I don't want to,
13 | neither do I. That's all I have to say.

14 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
15 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

16 |

17 | MARY WETARDE sworn:

18 | THE INTERPRETER: Mary
19 | Wetarde. All the adults here tonight have said that
20 | they don't want to see the pipeline built. I, myself,
21 | don't want to see it built. That's all.

22 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
23 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

24 |

24 | GEORGE TAILBONE sworn:

25 | THE INTERPRETER: George
26 | Tailbone. All the adults here have said tonight, I
27 | also agree with them, as I don't want to see the
28 | pipeline built. Should the pipeline break, the oil is
29 | going to spill on to the lakes and on to the land, and
30 | 11 the animals will get sick, and we don't want to see

1 | that happen.

2 | All the people have said they
3 | don't want to see the pipeline built, and I agree with
4 | them. That's all I have to say. I don't want to see
5 | the pipeline built.

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

8 |

9 | LUCY BLACK sworn:

10 | THE INTERPRETER: Lucy
11 | Black. What the people here have said tonight, I also
12 | agree, as I don't want to see the pipeline built.
13 | Should the pipeline break, it will spoil our land and,
14 | the lakes. That's all I have to say.

15 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

16 |

17 | HELEN MANTLA sworn:

18 | THE INTERPRETER: Helen
19 | Mantla. What the adults here have said, I also agree
20 | with them as I don't want to see the pipeline built.
21 | That's all I have to say.

22 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
23 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

24 | FRANCIS QUITE sworn:

25 | MR. QUITTE: I have lived
26 | here for the past twelve or fifteen years ago, and I
27 | agree with people whatever they say about the land and
28 | about the pipeline.

29 | We go hunting on it and
30 | fishing on it. We love our land. This is why we talk

1 I have been working in the
2 bush for many years now, and I hate to see the pipeline
3 go through as it will destroy the land, and I won't be
4 able to fish and hunt as I used to. That's all I have
5 to say. Good-bye.

6 (WITNESS ASIDE)

7 JOHN TAILBONE sworn:

8 THE INTERPRETER: John

9 Tailbone. I also agree that should a pipeline be
10 built, it will spoil our land and lakes. And should
11 the pipeline break or bust, the gas will flow on to the
12 lakes, and on to the land, and all the animals will get
13 sick from eating the spilled gas, and so would the
14 fish, and as we eat the fish and meat, we'd also get
15 sick.

16 Should they build the
17 pipeline a lot of men here will be working on the
18 pipeline, and all the money that they make will be
19 going back to the White men, to their bars and to their
20 liquor store, and to groceries. And not only that,
21 with the pipeline being built, the men will start
22 fooling around, and their marriages will break up, and
23 everything.

24 Many peoples here haven't
25 gone to school, and there may be some that have gone,
26 but they didn't go to school for very long, and they
27 have no skills at all. The only way of living is live
28 in the bush here, hunting, fishing, trapping, and I
29 hate to see this pipeline built as it would take away
30 their way of living. We won't be able to eat. We

1 | won't be able to drink. That's why we don't want this
2 | pipeline. I don't want this pipeline, that's why I
3 | said so much.

4 | THE INTERPRETER: That was
5 | John Tailbone.

6 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

7 |

8 | DAVID GON, sworn:

9 | THE INTERPRETER: What the
10 | people have said here tonight, I also agree, as I don't
11 | want to see this pipeline built myself. I don't want
12 | to see the pipeline built. That's all I have to say.

13 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

14 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

15 |

16 | TONY APPLE, sworn:

17 | THE INTERPRETER: Tony
18 | Apple. The adults here don't want to see a pipeline
19 | built, and I also feel the same way. That's all I have
20 | to say.

21 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

22 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

23 |

24 | THE COMMISSIONER: I think
25 | that we've heard from the old people and the younger
26 | people too. If there's anybody else who wants to speak
27 | before we close the meeting, they certainly may.

28 | Let me say I think I have a
29 | -- I think you've given me a good idea of where you
30 | stand on the pipeline, and the issues related to it.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Does
2 anybody else wish to say anything? Father, would you
3 wish to speak before we close the meeting?

4 FATHER AMOUROUS: Just a few
5 words. I think I will say it in Dogrib language

6 THE COMMISSIONER: By all
7 means.

8 FATHER AMOUROUS: -- so they
9 can all understand.

10 FATHER AMOUROUS sworn:
11 (FATHER AMOUROUS GIVES SUBMISSION IN DOGRIB.)

12 FATHER AMOUROUS: I have been
13 here for the last twenty-five years, I mean in the
14 country north of the. Great Slave Lake, with the
15 people that inhabited this territory right up to the
16 Barren Land, Snare Lake and Point Lake, and this way
17 towards Bear Lake.

18 And I approve, give my
19 approval to what I have heard today of the people
20 witnessing here in front of you about the way they
21 live, because I have been with them when they were
22 still wandering around the bush right up to the Barren
23 Land with tents, the family moving here and there, and
24 finally establishing in the village here. Just the
25 same at Lac La Martre, moving around the camps. Just
26 the same around Yellowknife, with the Dogribs of
27 Yellowknife, and right up to the Rae people around
28 Snare Lake.

29 I have been travelling by dog
30 team right up to five years ago, and that was twenty

1 | years, so I shared their life, and agree completely
2 | with what they said about their own type of life, which
3 | is pretty hard in this time and age.

4 | Like, in Rae Lakes, we just
5 | got power. You are very lucky that you didn't have
6 | this Inquiry a year before, because we wouldn't have
7 | had no power.

8 | So, I say all of that
9 | because it's a fact that development means, in this
10 | country, the stop of development by the traditional
11 | ways. For instance, when development took place with
12 | the mining, building of roads, Cat roads, Cat trains,
13 | on the lakes, about at that time the Caribou stopped
14 | migrating right through the pre-Cambrian shield and
15 | stopped going towards the -- across to the
16 | sedimentary grounds, limestone country, like Lac La
17 | Martre, and all the way down to the other end of Lac
18 | La Martre, 1956. No caribou there for the last
19 | twenty years. And that was about the time that the
20 | uranium mines grew up in the country, right on the
21 | caribou migrating roads.

22 | And then about that time,
23 | too, development of aviation, people moving from one
24 | place to another more often by airplane, creation of
25 | air routes, airline - main airliners flying from
26 | Yellowknife to Inuvik and so on, it was about that time
27 | that on an expedition to the Barren Land hunting
28 | caribou, we couldn't find any caribou that had fallen,
29 | but found plentiful of moose that had run away from
30 | this part of the country in between the pre-Cambrian

1 | LS they want, and that is one of the reasons why they
2 | are against the building of the pipeline. And I don't
3 | blame them for that. That's all.

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
5 | Father.

6 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

7 | THE COMMISSIONER: Chief, do
8 | you wish to speak to close the meeting then?

9 |

10 | CHIEF ARROWMAKER resumed:

11 | (MADELINE CHOCOLATE RESUMED AS INTERPRETER.)

12 | THE INTERPRETER: All the
13 | people here who have spoken tonight are very happy that
14 | they have spoken and said what they had on their lands.
15 | And we are happy to have you here tonight, and all of
16 | us that had wanted to say something, have all said what
17 | they had wanted to say, and' what we have aid about
18 | this land is because we love this land, and he people
19 | that have spoken have spoken from the bottom of their
20 | hearts, and they have sworn to the Bible, hat they
21 | would say, what they -- nothing but the truth, and they
22 | are happy that they have spoken their mind today. They
23 | are even more happy that the government should receive
24 | the reports of what we have aid here tonight, and we
25 | would also be very happy if his pipeline wasn't built.

26 | When the White people want to
27 | do something, it isn't very difficult for them to, to
28 | build this pipeline. They have other ways of
29 | transporting oil. If they want to transport oil, they
30 | would maybe build a train and have it transported by

1 | train, or if not by train, have it hauled by plane.

2 | This pipeline, we people are
3 | all against it. What we have said here tonight is not
4 | only for ourselves, but also for our kids as well.
5 | After we leave, our kids will live in our way of live,
6 | and this pipeline, should it be built, will take away
7 | our way of life from them.

8 | Our means of living is very
9 | hard, and it is not easy. If we want to feed our wife,
10 | we will have to go very very far in the bush to be able
11 | to get something for our wife to eat.

12 | And not only that, just
13 | recently, we were talking about going out hunting to
14 | the Barren Lands. Going to the Barren Lands isn't easy
15 | work, it is. very hard work, and they would have to
16 | work very hard.

17 | We are happy to have you here
18 | tonight and listen to what we had to say. You heard
19 | what the kids have said tonight, and the womens, and
20 | the adults, and the mens here tonight. You know that
21 | they are all against the pipeline as it will affect
22 | their lives, their way of life. And they all know the
23 | history of Murphy and Edzo.

24 | Due to the speech -- due to
25 | what Edzo had said, we are very thankful to say that it
26 | was because of him that the people here are living in
27 | peace, and maybe peace will lie in Edzo's time. Life
28 | wasn't very easy as they had no axe, nor no knife, or
29 | no matches with which to make fire, and they had to --
30 | to go on the lake they would have to use the birch bark

1 | the kids, and boys and girls, and we are happy to say
2 | that that was what we wanted to say to you. Thank you.

3 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
5 | Ladies and Gentlemen, I just want to thank all of you
6 | who live here in Rae Lakes, who spoke to the Inquiry
7 | today, because it helps me to understand how you feel
8 | about the pipeline, and why you feel the way you do.

9 | We will be holding hearings
10 | in Yellowknife until the end of September, and after
11 | that I will be writing my report for the Government,
12 | and then it will be laid before Parliament, and you
13 | will hear about it then.

14 | Let me say that all of us
15 | enjoyed being able to come here to Rae Lakes to see
16 | your village, and I was happy that Mr. Joe Mantla and
17 | Mr. Bruno Mantla took me to see their homes this
18 | afternoon, because that helps me to understand the way
19 | you live. And all of us were happy to have seen your
20 | village and to have had the opportunity of listening to
21 | you today.

22 | The Inquiry stands adjourned
23 | until we re-convene in Yellowknife on Monday at 11:00
24 | A.M. Thank you very much

25 | (MADELINE CHOCOLATE TRANSLATES ABOVE INTO DOGRIB.)

26 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED.)

27 |

28 |

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