

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)

**Colville Lake, N.W.T.
August 21, 1976**

PROCEEDINGS AT COMMUNITY HEARING

Volume 75

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Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3A7 Canada
Ph: 604-683-4774 Fax: 604-683-9378
www.allwestbc.com

APPEARANCES

Michael Jackson, Esq.

for Mackenzie Valley Pipeline
Inquiry

Darryl Carter, Esq.,
Al Workman, Esq.,

for Canadian Arctic Gas
Pipeline Limited;

John Burrell, Esq.,

for Foothills Pipelines
Ltd.;

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1 Colville Lake, N.W.T.

2 August 21, 1976

3 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

4 (MARY WILSON RESUMED AS INTERPRETER)

5 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, ladies
6 and gentlemen, I will call our hearing to order today.

7 I am Judge Berger and I am
8 here because the oil and gas industry wants to build a
9 pipeline to bring natural gas from the Arctic to
10 southern markets.

11 I am holding hearings in every
12 village and settlement in the Mackenzie Valley, the
13 Mackenzie Delta and the Beaufort Basin, This is the 34th
14 settlement or village that I have visited. Now I won't
15 decide, it is not up to me to decide whether a pipeline
16 should be built. That's up to the government of Canada
17 but the Government of Canada before they decide what to
18 do, want me to tell them what you think about it and
19 that's why I am here to see what you think about it.

20 Now if this pipeline were
21 built in the Mackenzie Valley it would take three years
22 to build and 6,000 men would be needed to build it and
23 there would be jobs for all people in the north who
24 wanted to work on the pipeline. We have been told that
25 there would be increased oil and gas exploration
26 activity throughout the Mackenzie Valley.

27 Now, I am not just examining
28 what would happen if a gas pipeline were built. I have
29 to examine what would happen if an oil pipeline were
30 built after a gas pipeline. So I want to know what you

1 think about these things and in order for me to
2 understand what the impact would be, if a gas pipeline
3 were built and then an oil pipeline, I have to know how
4 you live here and what your own concerns are, what your
5 own hopes are and your own fears.

6 Now, there are two companies
7 that want to build this pipeline one is Arctic Gas, the
8 other is Foothills. Mr. Blair, who is the president of
9 Foothills is here today and Mr. Carter who is a
10 representative of Arctic Gas is here for that company.
11 I invited them here so they could listen to what you
12 had to say but later on if you want to ask them any
13 questions or if they wish to say something themselves,
14 we'll call upon them. So now I am ready to listen to
15 what you have to say.

16 HYACINTHE CUZON sworn:

17 THE INTERPRETER: He said
18 this is our land, he said, what we call our land, he
19 said, where we live, where we live and where we make
20 our living.

21 He says this about the
22 pipeline, he said the people around here are very
23 concerned about that and he said it is a very serious
24 thing to think about because he said we can't think of
25 all that's going to happen to our country if anything
26 like that would get started. So he said maybe after
27 the land claim settlement, he said, we might think
28 about it but before the land claim settlement, he said,
29 we don't know.

30 If anything, a big project

1 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, he
2 said, even that, he said, you can see the difference in
3 the wildlife, he said it is not the same because it has
4 been disturbed. He says you can see. There's hardly
5 any rabbits anymore. There used to be all kinds of
6 ptarmigans around here. He says he hardly sees any of
7 that either, he says.

8 He says even when he traps he
9 said the fur that he catches, he said, sometime he said,
10 it is not it doesn't look very healthy, he said. So he
11 said maybe it is on account of all the exploration that
12 has been going on)had something to do with it.

13 He said if just the seismic
14 trails can cause trouble like that, he said, just
15 think, he said what will happen if the pipeline goes
16 through, He is talking about the time when the first
17 treaty was signed too. He said the people didn't know
18 what it was all about and they didn't trust the
19 government, I guess, they thought maybe he was trying
20 to con them into something there but like the other
21 fellow he said they made promises to them that they
22 were going to be looked after and all that he said
23 because only after that the treaty was signed.

24 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
25 very much, sir.

26 (WITNESS ASIDE)

27 ALPHONSE CODZI sworn:

28 THE INTERPRETER: He said
29 after I was five years old, he said that was the first
30 time he said, the white man came around but he said our

1 JOE CODZI, sworn:

2 THE INTERPRETER: He says I
3 have my nets on the lake here and he says I take my
4 little hunting canoe and he says I go paddling and visit
5 my nets and he said if I am going to move to my trapping
6 area, he said I will put packs on my dogs with my
7 belongings and he said I will move to my trapping area.

8 That's the way I like it and
9 he said I want to carry on the way I am doing things
10 just the simple way. He said because I like that kind
11 of life, he said. He says I hear about the pipeline,
12 he says I hear people talk about it and he said I don't
13 like it. So, he said I'm against it too because he
14 says I don't like what I hear about what it could do to
15 us. He says I like the simple way of doing things, he
16 says. I have my freedom, he says. I go hunting when I
17 want to go to hunt and fish and trap. So he says I
18 like it that way, That's why, he says, I don't like
19 what they say about the pipeline.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
21 sir. Thank you very much.

22 (WITNESS ASIDE)

23 ELIZABETH BLANCHO sworn:

24 THE INTERPRETER: She says my
25 grandmother brought me up she said and my grandmother
26 dressed me in the rabbit skin. She make clothes for me
27 out of the rabbit fur and she says that is how my
28 grandmother brought me up. She says my grandmother
29 brought me up so she said I was brought up in the bush.
30 She said sure we had a lot of hard times but she said

1 | we had our freedom too and now, even now, she says,
2 | just by the exploration, she says all the seismic
3 | trails and all that, she says it is bad enough. She
4 | says why should we have the pipeline? That will make
5 | things worse than it is now.

6 | By listening to them talk
7 | about the pipeline she says we are against it.

8 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
9 | ma'am. Thank you very much.

10 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

11 | LOUIS OUDZI sworn:

12 | THE INTERPRETER: He says, all
13 | of us here in Colville Lake, he said we have just one
14 | mind, he says all of us. He says we are all against the
15 | pipeline. He said we think too much of the land we are
16 | living on, he said. We were brought up here the way we
17 | are making our living now. He says that's the way we
18 | have been making our living when we were kids.

19 | He said my father died when I
20 | was quite young, he said. I don't remember my father
21 | but he said my mother brought me up alone, He said we
22 | were poor. He said my mother used to Visit around and
23 | she said people would give her something and she said
24 | that's how he said his mother brought him up until he
25 | was able to start hunting and trapping on his own.

26 | He said when I was a kid he
27 | said with only my mother supporting me, he said, sure
28 | we had hard times because in those days, he said, there
29 | was no food, no rations to be given out and clothes
30 | like that. So we were, my mother and I, he said, we

1 | were very poor but he said after the treaty was signed
2 | and then later the R.C.M.P. came and then they used to
3 | give out rations to the old people and my mother used
4 | to get her share. Then, he said, it wasn't too bad for
5 | her. Sure he said the government has been helping us
6 | ever since but he said why should we give up our land
7 | now to the government. He said I can't see it. He
8 | said maybe just because they think that they gave us so
9 | much that maybe we will let them do what they want with
10 | our land and take it away from us but it is hard far us
11 | to say to go ahead and do what you want on it. He said
12 | we can't. He says that's all.

13 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
14 | sir. Thank you.

15 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

16 | THE COMMISSIONER: Maybe Mrs.
17 | Wilson before each person begins you could give us
18 | their names. I know you are giving them to the
19 | secretary but maybe you could say it out loud for the
20 | benefit of the rest of us.

21 | MRS. WILSON:. Okay.

22 | VERONIQUE CUZON, sworn:

23 | THE INTERPRETER: That's
24 | Veronique Cuzon, She says our parents brought us up
25 | around here in Colville Lake and she say it is just a
26 | few of us families here that have always been here and
27 | our fathers, our parents have always been here. She
28 | says we think too much of this part of the country to
29 | have it disturbed by the pipeline if it goes through.
30 | She says that our fathers make their living here and now

1 She said well, she said, I can't think. She said that's
2 the most important thing to me. That's what I said, she
3 said. I think of this land too much. I don't want it to
4 be disturbed. She said that's everything to me so I said
5 everything. (WITNESS ASIDE)

6 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
7 ma'am. We -- I'll hear from some more of the
8 youngsters now.

9 MARIE CODZI sworn:

10 THE INTERPRETER: This is
11 Marie Codzi, She says all of us sitting here that got
12 up to talk and some that didn't yet, she said we all
13 come from around here. We were all born around here in
14 Colville Lake. She says our fathers made their living
15 around here and our grandfathers too. And some of
16 them are even buried around the lakes here and there,
17 she says. They are scattered their graves are
18 scattered around this lake so she said you can see that
19 we have always made our living around here on this land
20 She said why don't they leave things the way they are?
21 Why do they have to come around and want to disturb us?

22 If they want to go ahead with
23 the pipeline, she said, we might be all dead, she said,
24 because we will all be so confused, she said, we won't
25 know what to do because she said we always lived the
26 way we are right now, she said, from the time we were
27 kids until today, she said.

28 She said maybe we won't benefit
29 so much, that much from the pipeline itself. Why should
30 we suffer on account of it being built on our land?

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
2 ma'am.

3 (WITNESS ASIDE)

4 ALFRED ORLIAS sworn:

5 THE INTERPRETER: This is
6 Alfred Orlias.

7 THE WITNESS: I can talk for
8 myself. I don't want no pipeline go through this. I
9 was born in Colville Lake here in this town here and I
10 know I have been travelling around lots of places and
11 you always break your promises. Like we get the new
12 houses with. The old houses you tear down and then
13 replace a new house, new rented houses. We have to pay
14 for it. That you always make a promise but in the
15 future you still us cross again. Now, you say, you
16 make promises but in the future, I don't think so. I
17 don't want the pipeline to go through but right now
18 what I'm saying. Maybe in the future I know it is
19 going to come true. I know because we are natives and
20 we can't stop you guys you white guys. I'm a native
21 myself and I know no matter what we say, in the future,
22 I know you are going to put the pipeline through,
23 through the Mackenzie Valley and that's true.

24 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
25 sir. Thank you very much.

26 (WITNESS ASIDE)

27

28 DORA TOBAC, sworn.

29 THE INTERPRETER: This is
30 Dora Tobac.

1 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger,
2 from hearing or listening to the Inquiry, I find the
3 majority of the natives or all of the native people
4 against the pipeline. Unless there was some people for
5 it, well, then I didn't hear it. Native people are
6 concerned about the land, the vast beautiful land, they
7 hate to see being destroyed. The land they make such
8 good use of will be destroyed or damaged on account of
9 the white southern people and the greed of the oil
10 companies who can't see anything but money or dollar
11 signs.

12 It is the people of the south
13 that sit at their desk 8 hours a day dictating to their
14 secretaries because they couldn't even lift a finger to
15 write, eating fancy meals and free travelling all on
16 the poor tax people's money and wasting energy that our
17 -- it is people like them that are throwing the peoples
18 of the north to the lions as they say. What will they
19 do after the land has been taken from what will they do
20 after they taken all from the north? Will they help
21 clean up the mess?

22 A remark made by what's his
23 name in Calgary -- the mayor, what's his name? Rod Sicks
24 or Sykes say the native people do a lot of talking and
25 not work. Well, if he is so smart, I would like him come
26 to the north especially to Colville Lake, raise dogs for
27 a dogteam, pitch up a tent and go for wood everyday and
28 chop a hole through the ice in 60 below weather and set a
29 net and visit it everyday to feed his dogs and himself,
30 plus set traps and visit it at least once a week for

1 I think it would really spoil
2 their way of living and I think they would be
3 unsatisfied with just trapping.

4 Will the oil companies and
5 the Federal Government help them then after the
6 pipeline is over with? Will they keep them in jobs for
7 the rest of their lives and pay them money and not just
8 \$4.00 an hour? No, I doubt that. I doubt if they
9 would even try to keep them with jobs after the
10 pipeline is over with, Mr. Berger. I think they will
11 be complaining about the native people of the north out
12 of jobs or refusing to work because the pay is not as
13 much as what they used to get for the pipeline.

14 I think there will be a lot
15 of complaints about them then, but Mr. Berger, we all
16 know that the Federal Government as I said before, if
17 they want a pipeline through and if the oil companies
18 wan a pipeline because they have a lot of money, if
19 they want a pipeline, well, I guess they will have a
20 pipeline. But I feel sorry to see the native people
21 and our children in the future -- lives being changed
22 on account of the greed of the oil companies and the
23 Federal Government.

24 Mr. Berger, I don't have
25 anything else to say but this is what I wanted to tell
26 you and I'm glad to meet you, and everybody else, thank
27 you.

28 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
29 very much.

30 (WITNESS ASIDE)

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Miss
2 Tobac, would you let us have the written statement that
3 you have prepared and we will keep it for our records
4 and make a copy and send it back to you if you would
5 let us have it. That would be helpful to us..
6 (STATEMENT OF DORA TOBAC, MARKED AS EXHIBIT C-659)
7 THE COMMISSIONER: We'll just
8 stop for two minutes.
9 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED)
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1 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

2 THE COMMISSIONER: Okay, well
3 ladies and gentlemen, let's come inside again. Okay,
4 we'll begin again and Mrs. Wilson will translate what
5 Miss Tobac said.

6

7 DOLPHUS SHEA, Resumed:

8 THE WITNESS: My name is
9 Dolphus Shea and I've made my statement over in Fort
10 Franklin and during that statement I said I was going
11 to come back here and say a few more words. What I
12 said about education was just what happened during the
13 50 years, the 1950's to 40's and how you see these
14 people are the way they want to live. There's no way
15 that anything can change them. These pipeline things
16 have been going on for quite a time and I see that Mr.
17 Blair's in the crowd.

18 What the people want was a
19 land settlement before any major development such as
20 pipeline and things like that that will destroy our
21 land and which would be a very poor hunting ground
22 afterwards.

23 The people around here don't
24 live by money, they live by the land alone. The land
25 is the one that feeds them, it's not money or gas or
26 oil or anything like that. If they want to burn
27 something they burn wood all winter, 60 below, As you
28 seen yesterday, that the people still use dogs to go
29 and get their wood.

30 Our forefathers have come

1 | people, Good Hope people, they used to get mixed up all
2 | in this area here. That much I want to express to the
3 | hearing.

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
5 | Mr. Blondin.

6 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

7 | THE COMMISSIONER: The maps
8 | should be marked as an exhibit.

9 | THE INTERPRETER: Do you want
10 | me to translate that.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: Mr.
12 | Blondin was showing me where the people in the past and
13 | still today are hunting and trapping and fishing. The
14 | Franklin people, the Good Hope people, and the Colville
15 | Lake people.

16 | (INTERPRETER INTERPRETS ABOVE)

17 | BELLA T'SELEIE, Resumed

18 | THE INTERPRETER: Bella
19 | T'Seleie.

20 | THE WITNESS: I was born in
21 | Fort Good Hope in 1953. When I was three years old my
22 | mother caught T.B. and was taken away. I was taken care
23 | of by the people of Good Hope. The people there are like
24 | that. If a kid doesn't have a mother, it is everybody's
25 | responsibility to make sure that this kid doesn't starve,
26 | you know and die in front of everybody. The kid is not
27 | taken off to some home, you know, to strangers either I
28 | was kept by many families until my foster parents, Louis
29 | and Marie Oudzi, they learned about my situation. They
30 | weren't young, and they had three children alive, and

1 fishing, you know, to feed his family, there's welfare
2 to replace that. There's so many ways you know, to
3 kill a culture, and I'm pretty sure that the
4 government has used them all. They're using them all
5 the time. The people are getting more aware of, this
6 and yet it's still going on. It's going on in all
7 kind of different ways. It was happening when I was
8 six years old in Inuvik. The nuns -- that school was
9 set up you know, to condition the children, so that we
10 wouldn't turn out to be the kind of people our parents
11 hoped that we would be; so we wouldn't take pride in
12 what we are, not to be proud. I was told time and
13 time again that my people were dirty, all kinds of
14 different names. Like it was something to be ashamed
15 of.

16 But at that time, I was six
17 years old and the only thing that I thought about was
18 how much I loved my parent and how much I loved the
19 life we lived. I couldn't understand what I was going
20 through. I learned that you don't have to be clean to
21 be happy.

22 I look at Colville Lake today
23 and I'm happy that there's not much change in the
24 people; there's not much change in the settlement;
25 there's not much change in the land except for the few
26 cat roads which has really done some damage. There is
27 no rental houses here, no rental houses to take the
28 responsibilities of the people away and there's no
29 boost charges everyday and there's no I could go on.
30 They still have their own lives; they still have their

1 I don't know about the others, but he says, I want to
2 be buried here and he said I hope Colville Lake stays
3 the same all the time, so we make our living off the
4 land, he said We always been making our, living off the
5 land. He said we like doing it, so he said we got no
6 use for that pipeline that you're talking about.

7 Even now today he said we're
8 still living the way our old people used to live, he
9 says. Right now he says my brother has got his camp
10 somewhere on the shore of the lake here and he said,
11 he's getting a lot of fish and he's putting up dry fish
12 for the winters He said that's the way that we've
13 always been making our living, and he said, we like it
14 that way, because I guess it's quiet, you know, the
15 quiet life for him.

16 He says he's thinking to move
17 to a fish camp too after the hearing is over, he says.

18 (WITNESS ASIDE)

19
20 CHARLIE CUZON Sworn

21 THE WITNESS: Berger judge,
22 this is the first time I've met you and my name is
23 Charlie Cuzon. I live here in Colville Lake, that's
24 where I grew, and us in the Northwest Territories, We
25 grow up, we could grow up really hardy you know, hard
26 life. We have to do something for our life, you know,
27 generation to generation, for our kids and their kids,
28 generations like that.

29 Sometimes they tell about
30 pipeline. Every time I hear on the radio they talk

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JOE MARTIN, Sworn

THE INTERPRETER: He said he was still quite young when he came back from boarding school and - because lust his mother, when she goes to the bush, she took him. She took him down here to Colville Lake, that's the first time he came to Colville Lake when he was just a small little child and then he said the police wanted him to go back to education I guess or something, told a woman to let him send him back but he said his mother refused. She didn't want to give him up to send him back to the boarding school again. She said about three times, I think, the RCMP came and talked to her, she should send the child back to get his education and she said no. He said now, he said, when I think back, he said, the way I make my living, I'm able to make my living now trapping and hunting and I know how to make my living off the land he said. I'm glad that my mother didn't send me back to school, and kept me and taught me how to be what I am now he says.

We hear a lot about the pipeline on the radios and whatever you read about it and he says I've never heard anything good about what the pipeline can do, and he said that's why, he said, we're all against it. Whatever you hear about the pipeline before it's been started, and he says it's always something bad that you hear about it, so he said, we don't want any part of it.

There's parts around here, he says, some areas where it used to be real good for

1 trapping marten and stuff like that, he said since
2 explorations, all the seismic trails and all that, he
3 said it's not so easy to go trapping and catch fur
4 anymore he said. You have to really work for it,
5 because he said it's really changed. He says not so
6 many furs like it used to be before.

7 That's where he was trapping
8 last winter, there's a lot of seismic cut lines around
9 there. He said it used to be real good trapping area
10 around there.

11 THE COMMISSIONER: What's
12 the name of that lake, Mr. Martin that you pointed to?

13 THE WITNESS: Horseshoe Lake.

14 THE INTERPRETER: Horseshoe Lake?

15 THE WITNESS: Yes.

16 THE INTERPRETER: He says just
17 even cut lines like that can disturb the land and the fur
18 is not the same and the wildlife is not the same. He
19 said just something like a pipeline will do to us. He
20 said that's why, he said, we say we don't want it.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
22 Mr. Martin.

23 (WITNESS ASIDE)

24 JOHN T'SELEIE, Resumed:

25 THE WITNESS: I'd like to
26 ask some questions to Bob Blair.

27 THE COMMISSIONER: Sure.

28 THE WITNESS: Joe Martin was
29 just talking about an area where there's - the last few
30 years there's been a lot of exploration going on, and

1 | the reason for this exploration is they found some gas
2 | I guess just north of Tedji Lake. This lake here, and
3 | that's why I guess there's so many seismic lines around
4 | there, and I want to ask Mr. Blair what they're going
5 | to do with that gas that they've found there. How are
6 | they going to take it out and whether or not they're
7 | going to keep working at that place where they found
8 | this gas because if they keep working there it means
9 | that there's going to be a lot of exploration work
10 | going on there and it's going to affect the people of
11 | Colville.

12 | THE COMMISSIONER: Okay, do
13 | you want to just point that lake out again for my
14 | benefit as well as --

15 | THE WITNESS: It's called
16 | Tedji Lake on the map but the people here call it Redji.

17 | THE COMMISSIONER: That's
18 | southeast of Horseshoe Lake?

19 | THE WITNESS: Um-hmm.

20 | THE COMMISSIONER: Okay, Mr.
21 | Blair, I'm just wondering whether you can sit -- maybe
22 | you can sit there where Mr. Ferry is and we can ask him
23 | to move back to his oil drum. Maybe you can just pass
24 | the microphone over to Mr. Blair and if you have any
25 | further questions you can pass it back and forth. Just
26 | take it in your hand, Mr. Blair.

27 | ROBERT BLAIR Resumed

28 | MR. BLAIR: John T'Seleie's
29 | first question, we know about the gas discovery at
30 | Tedji Lake, the amounts of gas that have been

1 | discovered there so far are not enough to make it
2 | worthwhile to build a pipeline, from that gas field to
3 | the main pipeline and so no application has been made
4 | for that pipeline, and it is not included in the routes
5 | and applications that have been filed. But, you're
6 | correct, the area is considered to be promising for gas
7 | and I believe that if a main pipeline is proceeded with
8 | in a few years, that it is likely -- I think it's very
9 | likely that the exploration companies would keep active
10 | in the area, operating within whatever rules and
11 | regulations are applied to them, and would try to
12 | develop more gas and if they succeed, that then there
13 | would be a pipeline connection from the area and while
14 | it has not been studied yet, I think it's pretty likely
15 | that it would run southwest out of the area to connect
16 | down to a mainline near the Mackenzie River if there is
17 | such a mainline project.

18 | THE WITNESS: That's all I
19 | wanted to know.

20 | THE COMMISSIONER: Fine.
21 | Thank you Mr. T'Seleie, thank you Mr. Blair.

22 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

23 | THE COMMISSIONER: Translate
24 | that before we -- did you get that Mrs. Wilson?

25 | THE INTERPRETER: Yes.

26 | THE COMMISSIONER: You
27 | better translate it then.

28 | (INTERPRETER TRANSLATES ABOVE)

29 | THE COMMISSIONER: Mr.
30 | Blair, I gather you'd like to say something, so please

1 do. This is Mr. Blair who's president of one of the
2 pipeline companies called Foothills.

3

4 MR. BLAIR: Mr. Berger, I
5 wanted to reply to another good point that was made,
6 and commit for Foothills about compensation for
7 traplines. If there is a pipeline and if Foothills
8 builds it, after some years, we would accept the
9 judgment of the Chief or the Band Council to fix which
10 trappers should receive compensation and the
11 appropriate amounts and in reply to the other point,
12 would pay within 30 days, under an arrangement probably
13 best worked out with the Hunters and Trappers
14 Association who might set the guidelines, and we have
15 Foothills has already had meetings with the Hunters and
16 Trappers Association for that purpose, but the real
17 point I think that we should make is that we would
18 accept that the Band Council or the Chief would have
19 the knowledge of the trapper, the familiarity with the
20 area that would make it practical for a quick
21 settlement to be achieved and would agree that the
22 settlement should not await more formal legal proof of
23 damages or inspections that might be difficult and take
24 a long time and even be forgotten, So I wish to give
25 that -- that's just one detail, but it's one

26

26 THE COMMISSIONER: Mr.
27 Blair, could I just ask you about that. Do you say
28 that Foothills would submit to the judgment of the
29 local Chief and Band Council to determine which
30 trappers have in fact suffered damage and are entitled

1 | to compensation, that's the case is it?

2 | MR. BLAIR: Yes.

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: How, if
4 | your proposal has been fleshed out so far, how would
5 | the amount be determined?

6 | MR. BLAIR: The amount would
7 | be determined by guidelines or rules for assessing
8 | amounts developed by agreement with the Hunters and
9 | Trappers Association.

10 | THE COMMISSIONER: And by Foothills.

11 | MR. BLAIR: By agreement
12 | between Foothills and the Hunters and Trappers
13 | Association, but we would accept basically the judgment
14 | of the Hunters and Trappers Association as to how those
15 | amounts should be derived.

16 | THE COMMISSIONER: And once the
17 | amounts were determined, you'd pay within 30 days?

18 | MR. BLAIR: Yes. I know
19 | it's one detail, but Mr. John Burrell, who's the Vice
20 | President of Foothills is in the audience also and I
21 | thought it was a time we should give that commitment.

22 | THE COMMISSIONER: Fine.
23 | Maybe you'd pause there and let Mrs. Wilson translate
24 | that, Are you with us so far?

25 | THE INTERPRETER: Yes,
26 | (INTERPRETER TRANSLATES ABOVE)

27 | THE COMMISSIONER: Does this
28 | gentleman have a question?

29 | THE INTERPRETER: No, he's
30 | just making a comment.

1 He said maybe that's another
2 trick, he says.

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Well let's
4 carry on. Mr. Blair, do you have anything to add?

5 MR. BLAIR: Yes, it
6 certainly is not a trick.

7 Mr. Berger, may I make one
8 more short word. I feel badly to hear it said so often
9 that -- by several witnesses -- that everything they
10 hear about the pipeline is bad. It is not we know it
11 does not have to be that way, because we know that we
12 operate many thousands of miles of pipelines in Alberta
13 and B.C. about which people do not hear bad and I
14 think partly what is said is bad because it is unknown,
15 the arrangements have not been completed, the rules
16 have not been made, but I believe that it is possible
17 to operate a pipeline in the Northwest Territories
18 about which people will not hear bad, just as that is
19 done in Alberta and British Columbia.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
21 Mr. Blair.

22 Ladies and gentlemen, we
23 always give both pipeline companies a chance to speak,
24 so we have Mr. Carter sitting up near the roof of the
25 cabin from Arctic Gas.

26 THE INTERPRETER: We've
27 still got one--

28 THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, I
29 know, we'll get to you sir. Mr. Carter is here from
30 Arctic Gas and I just wanted to see if you wanted to

1 THE COMMISSIONER: The
2 seismic camps?

3 THE INTERPRETER: Yes. He
4 said, there's another thing, he said, we didn't have
5 the education a lot of the children, the kids have
6 today. He said we're going to get a job, he said it's
7 not going to be a very high paying one because he said
8 we didn't have the education, so he said, we depend on
9 the land, he said for our living because we trap and we
10 make money from trapping. Re says that's better than
11 trying to get a job because without education he said
12 you can't get a good job, good paying job, and he said
13 they come around and disturb the land like that and
14 make it hard for us to trap and make our living, he
15 said. I don't like that.

16 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank
17 you, sir, thank you very much.

18 (WITNESS ASIDE)

19 MARIE CUZON, sworn:

20 THE INTERPRETER: She says I
21 have about ten children, she said, but she said every
22 year she said we go out to the bush and we spend our
23 winter out there trapping and hunting, I guess. that's
24 the way she said we make our living here. She said she
25 likes it but she said I suppose after they put the
26 pipeline through, she said, I wonder if it's going to
27 be the same. She says, I wonder if my children will be
28 able to go out in the bush and do their trapping and
29 hunting like we do now she says. Maybe there will be
30 nothing left for them, everything will be scattered she

