

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)

**Fort Good Hope, N.W.T.
August 6, 1975.**

PROCEEDINGS AT COMMUNITY HEARING

Volume 19

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Ph: 604-683-4774 Fax: 604-683-9378
www.allwestbc.com

APPEARANCES

Prof. Michael Jackson, Mr. Ian Scott, Mr. Ian Roland,	for Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry;
Mr. Darryl Carter	for Canadian Arctic Gas Pipeline Limited;
Mr. Glen W. Bell	for Northwest Territories, Indian Brotherhood and Metis Association of the Northwest Territories;
MR. R. Blair, Mr. John Ellwood	for Foothills Pipelines Ltd.

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1 Fort Good Hope, N.W.T.

2 August 6, 1975.

3 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT.)

4 THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and
5 Gentlemen, we will bring our hearing to order this
6 afternoon, and I should apologize for being late. The
7 Chief and other people from Good Hope were kind enough
8 to take me and members of my staff and some of the
9 people from Arctic Gas and Foothills south along the
10 river to the Ramparts and we visited some of the fish
11 camps along the way, and I should say that that gives
12 me a better understanding of what all of you have been
13 telling me about here in Good Hope.

14 I want to thank Chief
15 T'Seleie and the others who took us up to the Ramparts
16 for their courtesy.

17 Are we ready to hear others
18 who may wish to speak this afternoon?

19 GABRIEL KOCHON sworn:
20 MARY WILSON, Interpreter.

21 THE INTERPRETER: He has got
22 his written statement but he can't read and he wants me
23 to read it and translate it for him.

24 THE COMMISSIONER: Certainly.
25 Could we have the witness' name?

26 THE INTERPRETER: Gabriel
27 Kochon.

28 THE COMMISSIONER: Fine. Well,
29 Gabriel Kochon has been sworn and though Mrs. Wilson is
30 reading his statement, it is understood that it is his

1 | statement. So, carry on, Mrs. Wilson.

2 | THE INTERPRETER: He said
3 | that I do not want the pipeline to go through because
4 | we live off the land. The animals may die off such as
5 | moose, caribou and martin, an a lot of other animals.

6 | Maybe I can read the whole
7 | thing in English and then translate it.

8 | THE COMMISSIONER: Sure.

9 | THE INTERPRETER: "And I live
10 | in Good Hope for 26 years but spent mast of my life out
11 | on the land where I do trapping, hunting and fishing. I
12 | do not understand English or read or write. I never had
13 | education, so I just. live off the land to be able to
14 | support my family. A lot of times when I went hunting.
15 | I saw a lot of dead rabbits on Cat roads up the
16 | Ramparts, which was caused maybe by the oil on the
17 | road. This will be worse if the pipeline goes through,
18 | and I also saw two dead moose near sans Sault which may
19 | be caused. by oil and gas too.

20 | Long time ago you never see
21 | dead animals any places, but since more white people
22 | came, you see dead animals all over the place.

23 | When the pipeline goes through,
24 | all the animals will be destroyed. I wouldn't be able to
25 | survive, since I live off the land. I wouldn't be able to
26 | get a job, since I never had education. I just live off
27 | the land since I was born and grow up with it.

28 | I was brought up in Coville
29 | Lake where there was no store, there was just straight
30 | Dene people. The people would come to Good Hope to buy a

1 | ridiculous clothes, asking about some great waters he was
2 | searching for. He recorded his views on the people, but
3 | we'll never know exactly how my people saw him. I know
4 | they'd never understand why their river is named after
5 | such an insignificant ungrateful fellow. I know they
6 | would resent the river being named after him. What was
7 | Alexander Mackenzie to them?

8 | The Traders came they
9 | brought new things with them, new clothes, food, guns,
10 | whiskey My people liked their bright clothes, their
11 | flour, sugar and tea their guns and their whiskey.
12 | So they traded.

13 | The Catholic Church
14 | came....They brought their religion with them. They
15 | spoke of truth, love and charity.... Their sincerity
16 | led my people to think that their religion was good
17 | for them. So they believed in it.

18 | The Government came they
19 | brought their teachers, nurses, Indian Agents, Area
20 | Administrators, Social Workers and others with them They
21 | spoke of better housing, health care plans, Social
22 | Assistance, better schools, a better standard of living.
23 | Their determination led my people to believe that they
24 | knew what was best for all. So they believed in them.

25 | Arctic Gas came then
26 | Foothills they brought along the idea of a pipeline
27 | - a new future for the Dene people they spoke of
28 | new jobs and lots of moneythat it was in the best
29 | interest of everyone that the pipeline be built right
30 | away. My people did not know what was going on

1 we are being "unrealistic". We have been the owners of
2 this land long before the white man came and formed
3 Canada, but because we never wrote our views and values
4 of this land down on paper before, the Government seems
5 to think we never thought that way before.

6 'We came out with our Dene
7 Declaration we wrote on paper our rights as a Dene
8 Nation, which have never changed for thousands of years
9 Because we never wrote it down on paper before, the
10 Government says we are being influenced by radical
11 outsiders. We have always governed our lives before the
12 Government came along. Long before Canada was formed,
13 we governed our lives. We have always seen ourselves as
14 Dene with our own unique way of life. We cannot
15 afford to change our views.

16 'It is insulting to read
17 narrow-minded people speak of us as being influenced by
18 outsiders, as if our views have just been dreamed up a
19 short while back. We cannot afford to run our lives in
20 the small confines of the Government mind.

21 'The reason our views may seem
22 strange and unrealistic is that no one has ever bothered
23 to take us seriously - to look closely at us as Dene
24 people. It is just the last few years that we have been
25 listened to a little more seriously, so it may seem
26 unrealistic for awhile to the Government - but we know
27 that we have been what we are for a long, long time. The
28 Governments inability to understand us and its
29 misinterpretation of our views should not mislead the
30 people of Canada on what is reality here with the

1 Dene people.

2 'Our reality is that this is
3 our land, that we are a nation of people and that we
4 want to live our own ways.

5 'Our reality is that the pipeline
6 is just a poorly masked attempt to overwhelm our land and
7 our people with a way of life that will destroy us.

8 'Our reality is that all of
9 the "help" your nation has sent us has only made us
10 poor, humiliated and confused.

11 'Our reality is that we are
12 in great danger of being destroyed.

13 'Our reality is that there is
14 a very simple choice - Dene survival with no pipeline,
15 or a pipeline with no Dene survival.

16 'Our reality is that at the
17 present time there is no other choice.

18 'Our reality is also that
19 your nation has a lot of trouble understanding that we
20 think and say.

21 'The Government
22 misinterprets us. They try to show us as being happy
23 when our own way of life is being destroyed. The Press
24 misinterprets us, We say as clearly as possible that
25 we don't want a pipeline and they say "the people
26 realize there will be a we are just an ? experiment to
27 see what conditions would force us into violence, to
28 see what conditions would force a peaceful, contented
29 people to become militant. For surely, if you look
30 at what has happened to us and what could happen to

1 | child to govern my life and control what is valuable to
2 | me. Thank you.

3 | THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr.
4 | Kakfwi.

5 | Mr. Kakfwi, could we keep
6 | your statement so that it may be marked as an exhibit?
7 | Thank you very much.

8 | (STATEMENT OF STEVE KAKFWI MARKED EXHIBIT C-118)

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: This night
10 | be a good time to ask Arctic Gas and Foothills to
11 | answer Mr. Kakfwi's question about gravel and sand and
12 | the places where they expected to get them.

13 | Well, we will hear this lady
14 | and then we will go on to that.

15 | SUZANNE GULLY sworn:

16 | MARY WILSON, Interpreter:

17 | MRS. GULLY: Suzanne Gully.

18 | THE COMMISSIONER: Would you
19 | repeat that, please?

20 | MRS. GULLY: Mrs. Suzanne
21 | Gully.

22 | THE COMMISSIONER: All right,
23 | thank you. Go ahead, ma'am.

24 | THE INTERPRETER: She says
25 | in her time, and that was before they ever saw any
26 | white man, she said, we only knew one another. Just the
27 | natives around here. We didn't know anybody besides us
28 | natives. And then the times -- sometimes, she said, the
29 | people will come to the Mackenzie River from other
30 | places, from their camping places maybe out on the lake

1 stores for them, where they can buy what they need.

2 And, she said, when the white
3 man first came and brought some things with them, she
4 said the natives were happy to get what they could for
5 to make life easier for them a bit, I guess maybe by
6 getting the guns and axes and stuff like that. She said
7 her grandfather used to carry materials like that with
8 him when he was out in the bush, and that's what he
9 used to hand out to the other natives, for those white
10 guys, she said.

11 And, she said, her father
12 died of starvation because that's how hard it used to
13 be a long time ago. I guess when times were hard they
14 don't have all what we have nowadays, and she said her
15 dad died of starvation.

16 But, she said, since, she
17 said, when I think back of how my father died out of
18 starvation, she said, now, too, since they talk about
19 this pipeline, she said I think what will happen again
20 if on account of the pipeline, all the animals and
21 everything is destroyed and we can't make our living
22 off the land like we're used to do now. She says I
23 don't think too much of myself but, she said, I think
24 of my children and their children in the future.

25 She said, why, she says, the
26 first time when they came, the white men came, they were
27 not that interested, and us, too, she says, we don't go
28 and try to claim their land. Just on account of the gas
29 and the oil now, she said, everybody's interested in our
30 land, And, she said, they are not too worried about what

1 Justice Berger's Inquiry.

2 THE COMMISSIONER: Would you
3 translate this as we go along, Mrs. Wilson?

4 MR. BLAIR: I don't have
5 this written, I made notes as I came up. I have just
6 introduced myself as President of Alberta Gas Trunk
7 Company and President of Foothills Pipeline Company.
8 Bob Blair.

9 I came to the Inquiry to
10 listen and to hear, but sometimes to only listen is not
11 fair. So I have asked to be heard on a few things while
12 Mr. Berger has the part of this hearing in Good Hope.

13 Foothills Pipelines does not
14 choose to install any pipeline through any local place,
15 if the landowners are all strongly opposed, or are
16 arguing their claims. That has not been how we work

17 Our Alberta company operates
18 natural gas pipelines under lands which are owned by
19 about 5,000 different property owners. Most of these,
20 owners are rancher or farmer families, or persons.
21 Others are Indian Reserves and communes and parks and
22 forest reserves. We get along pretty well with all of
23 these owners.

24 Our British Columbia partner
25 works the same way in that Province, and if, in the
26 future, Foothills does receive certification to build
27 in the Northwest Territories, such as 800 miles of
28 mainline, plus 500 miles of delivery lines to
29 communities, we would want to work that way here too.

30 It seems to me that means

1 | my heroes either, including General Custer. I intend to
2 | finish my own working life with better success than he
3 | finished his, as he well deserved, and I trust from the
4 | good spokespersonship and organization I have seen here,
5 | that you and the leaders of your people will finish
6 | yours with much greater success than did many leaders
7 | at that time too.

8 | I do wish you to know that
9 | having heard the things that you said to me yesterday,
10 | and which were repeated on the radio, that I have not
11 | felt to take them personally, because we have not been
12 | acquainted before, but to take them mainly as
13 | expressing your very great concern and anxiety, and in
14 | some cases suspicion, of the possibility of the
15 | pipeline, and to tell you that I understand much much
16 | better from this visit and from being allowed to attend
17 | this' Inquiry, I understand your concerns much more
18 | than I did in the past, and I regard them as serious
19 | and important as they deserve.

20 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
21 | very much, Mr. Blair.

22 | I think we might now hear from
23 | Mr. Ellwood and Mr. Rowe about the gravel and sand
24 | sources, if that is convenient. Well, how about both of-
25 | , you coming forward to these maps that you put up at my
26 | request last night, and you could explain them, and then
27 | the people could look at them when we stop for supper.

28 | MR. ELLWOOD: This map on the
29 | bottom here -

30 | THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me.

1 MR. ELLWOOD: I am sorry.

2 THE COMMISSIONER: It is hard
3 for people to see. Maybe -- I am going to walk over
4 there so I can watch you, but maybe, Chief, you and one
5 of the members of the Council would like to step up and
6 we will just watch while -

7 MR. ELLWOOD: This map on the
8 bottom here is one of the construction spread sheets
9 prepared by Foothills Pipelines, and on this map the
10 potential borrow sources are indicated with the little
11 symbol of a backhoe machine. There are two right here

12 THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me,
13 by "borrow sources" you mean where you get the gravel?

14 MR. ELLWOOD: Yes, granular
15 material, yes; gravel, sand.

16 THE COMMISSIONER: Anything
17 else?

18 MR. ELLWOOD: No.

19 THE COMMISSIONER: Just
20 gravel and sand.

21 MR. ELLWOOD: Gravel and sand
22 from those borrow sources. There are two here in the
23 Fort, Good Hope area, one of which is labelled "FGH-2",
24 that is the gravel pit which is currently being used out
25 here. The other, "FGH-3", is a potential source in the
26 same general area but it is not now being worked. There
27 are three more sources to the north of Fort Good Hope.

28 This table over here indicates
29 the quantities of gravel that we would require.
30 This table on the bottom here indicates the quantities

1 of gravel that are in these borrow pits, the numbers
2 here corresponding to the numbers on the pit.

3 MR. ROWE: The map on top of
4 the two here is the Arctic Gas map showing the pipeline
5 in the heavy dark line. The lighter line paralleling it
6 is the Mackenzie Highway, the proposed highway.

7 On this map the borrow sites,
8 which refer to the same type of material that Mr.
9 Ellwood spoke to earlier are in the form of a diamond
10 shape mark. There are two types of these marks, one
11 which is solid black, the other which is just the
12 diamond outline with a white insert. The dark, or black
13 diamond shapes, indicate the borrow material sites
14 which are preferred. The white ones refer to borrow
15 sites or gravel sites which would be an alternate
16 supply if the preferred were not available.

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Let me
18 just ask you both a couple of questions while you are
19 there because I understand that Arctic Gas proposes, if
20 the pipeline is approved, to build a wharf at Good
21 Hope. Is that right?

22 MR. ROWE: Yes, it is pro
23 posed to have one, a wharf and a stockpile site at Good
24 Hope.

25 THE COMMISSIONER: All right;
26 now are you able to say what acreage the stockpile site
27 would occupy?

28 MR. ROWE: I could get that
29 information for you fairly shortly. I don't have the
30 specific details.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Where is
2 the nearest compressor station to Good Hope?

3 MR. ROWE: There is one
4 downstream of Good Hope, which would be in the order of
5 20 miles, I think, I am sorry, that would be upstream
6 on the Mackenzie River, downstream on the pipeline.
7 It's just north of Chick Lake, in between Norman Wells
8 and Fort Good Hope. The other compressor station is a
9 slightly shorter distance down the river from Fort Good
10 Hope in the order of, oh, 12 to 14 miles I suppose.

11 THE COMMISSIONER: And where
12 is the nearest construction camp to Fort Good Hope?

13 MR. ROWE: It is proposed now
14 to have a construction camp around the Hare Indian
15 River. This was the original proposal, although they
16 are looking at alternate locations to put this camp:

17 THE COMMISSIONER: At the
18 present time if you had that construction camp at the
19 Hare Indian River, how many men would be there?

20 MR. ROWE: I believe in the
21 application it states that a typical construction
22 spread in this area would have about 800 men. This is a
23 mainline construction camp. There would also be a camp
24 associated with the stockpile site and the wharf site
25 which would be used primarily during the summer for ?
26 off-loading material from the barges, and it would
27 consist of 150 to 200 men perhaps.

28 THE COMMISSIONER: All right.
29 Mr. Ellwood, do you want to cover the same items and tell
30 me if your proposal is the same or diverges?

1 MR. ELLWOOD: To get back to
2 the -- to what -- the first question again?

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, all
4 right, let's start with the dock. Is it your proposal
5 to build a dock at Fort Good Hope?

6 MR. ELLWOOD: Yes. We would
7 have a wharf or dock and a stockpile site, as described
8 by Mr. Rowe.

9 THE COMMISSIONER: And what
10 about the nearest construction spread, as far as the
11 Foothills is concerned.

12 MR. ELLWOOD: The nearest
13 compressor station to Fort Good Hope is, oh,
14 approximately 7 miles south of here. That would also be
15 the nearest construction camp, would be located at that
16 compressor site.

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Where
18 would the nearest construction camp be to the north of
19 Good Hope? Would it be up into the delta or -

20 MR. ELLWOOD: It would be 42
21 miles north. In addition, we would also have a small
22 temporary camp at the wharf and stockpile site which
23 would be used while that site was being constructed,
24 and later for off-loading materials. That would be less
25 than 150 men.

26 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. And
27 what about the size of the construction spread 7 miles
28 south of Good Hope, approximately how many men would
29 you have there?

30 MR. ELLWOOD: 500 men in that

1 | camp. And that wharf and stockpile site would occupy 45
2 | acres.

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: Is there
4 | anything either of you would like to add to what you have
5 | said before we ask Mrs. Wilson to do the best she can.

6 | MR. ROWE: There is one other
7 | thing which may be of interest, I believe -- Mr. Ellwood
8 | might correct me -- but the Foothills proposal does not
9 | propose to build any airstrips in conjunction with the
10 | compressor stations. The Arctic Gas proposal is to
11 | include airstrips at each compressor station site.

12 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, can
13 | you tell us what that means again, where would you be
14 | building an airstrip then?

15 | MR. ELLWOOD: There would be
16 | one at each of the compressor stations, one north and
17 | one south of Fort Good Hope.

18 | THE COMMISSIONER: And you
19 | don't propose to build airstrips at your compressor
20 | stations?

21 | MR. ROWE: No, we are not
22 | proposing any airstrips at all, but there would be a
23 | helicopter pad at the compressor station.

24 | THE COMMISSIONER: One final
25 | thing; where is the nearest source of borrow materials
26 | from Good Hope; on your map, Mr. Rowe, running in both
27 | directions, how far away are they?

28 | MR. ROWE: We were proposing
29 | the same borrow sites in the village or within the
30 | area of the town. The one south of Good Hope would be

1 | in the order of 7 miles, along the right-of-way. The
2 | one north, perhaps 10 miles.

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: Is that
4 | your position, too?

5 | MR. ELLWOOD: No, to the
6 | north we would have one that's the same borrow
7 | location, approximately 10 miles; to the south, the
8 | nearest to Fort Good Hope, discounting the two that are
9 | right near to the town here, would be again about 10
10 | miles south.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: All right.
12 | Did you catch the substance of that, Mrs. Wilson? Could
13 | you try to translate the main things you heard.

14 | We will have the maps that
15 | Arctic Gas prepared showing its borrow locations and
16 | other facilities marked as an exhibit. And the
17 | Foothills map, which is beneath it, will also be marked
18 | as an exhibit.

19 | (CAGSL MAP re BORROW LOCATIONS MARKED EXHIBIT C-119.)
20 | (FOOTHILLS MAP re BORROW LOCATIONS MARKED EXHIBIT C-120)

21 | THE COMMISSIONER: The map supplied by Arctic Gas here
22 | on my left, which shows the two pipelines, the Arctic
23 | Gas Pipeline and the Foothills Pipeline, that was
24 | prepared by Arctic Gas and submitted by Arctic Gas, it
25 | will be marked as an exhibit, but I will allow you, Mr.
26 | Carter, to take the map into your custody, if you wish,
27 | so that should you think it appropriate, you can
28 | arrange for the interior route to be included.

29 | (MAP SHOWING ROUTES MARKED EXHIBIT C-121.)

30 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well,

1 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT.)

2 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, we
3 will call our hearing to order this evening, Ladies and
4 Gentlemen. Mr. Bell, I understand you wish to present
5 some evidence.

6 MR. BELL: Mr. Commissioner,
7 John Louison has asked me to assist him in making a
8 presentation to the Inquiry, and if he has got all his
9 papers together

10 THE COMMISSIONER: Right, Mr.
11 Louison has already been sworn.

12 JOHN LOUISON resumes:

13 GLEN BELL, Questioner:

14 CHIEF T'SELEIE, Interpreter:

15 MR. LOUISON: I think, if the
16 people can't get me, it's because I am losing my voice,
17 so they can give me a shout.

18 MR. BELL: Mr. Louison, you
19 are the Chairman of the Fort Good Hope Settlement
20 Council?

21 A That's true,

22 Q And in that capacity you
23 receive applications for land use permits, is that correct?

24 A That's correct.

25 T Q Can you tell the Inquiry
26 who sends you these permits and for what purpose?

27 A That's for the test
28 sites.

29 Q The land use permits are
30 for things like testing, is that correct?

1 A That's correct, yes.

2 Q And have you received
3 any applications in the past few months?

4 A There is two of them,

5 Q Could you tell us about
6 them, please?

7 A That one for Northern
8 Engineering Services Company Limited, and the other one
9 is for the Foothills Pipeline.

10 Q I see you have some
11 letters there. Could, you read the letters for the
12 Inquiry, please?

13 A The first one will be
14 for the Northern Engineering and it's -- the letterhead
15 is Government of Northwest Territories, Yellowknife,
16 N.W.T., the 26th of May, 1975. And it is addressed to
17 me as Mr. John Louison, Chairman of the Settlement
18 Council, Fort Good Hope, N.W.T., and it reads:

19 "Dear Mr. Louison:

20 We have received an application from Northern En-
21 gineering Services Company Limited, Engineers for
22 the Canadian Arctic Gas Study Limited, to conduct
23 a site investigation in Fort Good Hope block land
24 area. The company proposes to do soil sampling
25 and a location survey on three sites; two are po-
26 tential wharf sites and one is a potential stock-
27 pile site. They are indicated on the attached map
28 as Sites 21, 22 and 23. The com-plete program is
29 described in the attached land use operation de-
30 scription. I have underlined a few points that

1 night be of particular interest to Council.

2 The program is proposed to start July
3 1st, 1975, with completion by the end of September
4 1975, therefore, could we please have your com-
5 ments and recommendations as soon as possible.

6 If any further information is required,
7 please contact the undersigned at 873-2488.

8 Yours truly,

9 Doug Willy for A.E. Ganske,

10 Chief, Town Planning and Land

11 Department of Local Government."

12 Q The letter mentions some
13 material that was enclosed. Do you have that there?

14 A That's true, yes.

15 Q Could you just describe
16 it briefly for us?

17 A That will be Northern
18 Engineering Services and the Northwest Territories
19 Proposed 1975 Site Investigation Program.

20 Q Is that the operation
21 description referred to in the letter?

22 A Yes, that's true, and
23 this well it starts with the land use operation
24 description.

25 Q Was there any other
26 material?

27 A One is the permanent
28 wharf, typical drill hole layout.

29 Q This is a drawing I take
30 it?

1 A That's true. And the
2 other is the stockpile site, typical drill hole layout,
3 and that's the one here.

4 Q So there are two drawings,
5 one is for a wharf and one is for a stockpile site?

6 A That's true. And there
7 is a map here showing where the test site is going to
8 take place in the Fort Good Hope area, and its proposed
9 1975 site investigation program, proposed pipeline
10 route map mile post 240.0 to mile post 380.0.

11 Q And does the map show
12 the block land transfer area?

13 A Yes, it does. The block
14 land transfer is right here --

15 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
16 excuse me, Mr. Nell, I will come over and take a look
17 at this.

18 MR. BELL: Perhaps I could just
19 explain to people what a "block land transfer" is. It's an
20 area of land which has been transferred from the Federal
21 jurisdiction to the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of the
22 Northwest Territories for various purposes p including the
23 approval or rejection of land use permits.

24 Perhaps we could just stop
25 here and have some translation.

26 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I
27 think, Mr. Bell, that it would be better to go through
28 all of these documents and then you can summarize what
29 has been said, or perhaps I will myself. These
30 documents, I think, translating them would not advance

1 | the position. I think we should summarize it all later
2 | and then the people might understand it better, MR.

3 | BELL: Yes, very well.

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: You carry
5 | on, Mr. Louison and Mr. Bell.

6 | MR. BELL: Q Do you have
7 | another letter?

8 | A Yes.

9 | Q This one is from the
10 | Foothills Pipeline, and it's Government of Northwest
11 | Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T., 2nd of June, 1975.

12 | "Dear Mr. John Louison, Chairman, Fort Good Hope
13 | Settlement Council, Fort Good Hope, N.W.T.

14 | "Dear Mr. Louison: Re Land Use Applications,
15 | dated May 27, 1975.

16 | Klohn Leonoff Consultants Ltd.

17 | We have received an application from the above-
18 | noted company to conduct an airborne drilling
19 | program along the Foothills pipeline. One of the
20 | drilling sites is at the Hare Indian River
21 | within the Fort Good Hope block land transfer
22 | area. The company wants to drill two or three
23 | holes on the south bank of the Hare Indian River
24 | (green area on attachment map). The work will
25 | entail clearing a helicopter pad 200 feet by 200
26 | feet at the hole site and holes about 60 feet
27 | will be drilled. They propose to do the work be-
28 | tween July 15 and August 31st, 1975. Because
29 | this lies within the Good Hope area, could you
30 | please have Council send me their comments and

1 | recommendations on this application.

2 | We would appreciate your reply as soon
3 | as possible and if you need more information,
4 | please contact the undersigned at 873-2488.

5 | Yours truly,
6 | Doug Willy
7 | for A, E, Ganske, Chief,
8 | Town Planning and Lands
9 | Department of Local Government.

10 | Q And there was a map
11 | enclosed with that?

12 | A That's right.

13 | Q And it shows the green
14 | area that was referred to in the letter.

15 | Well, perhaps I could
16 | summarize to this point and ---

17 | THE COMMISSIONER: Yes,
18 | please summarize for us.

19 | MR. BELL: -- for the
20 | translator Well, what we have here are two letters to
21 | the Settlement Council asking for Council's comments on
22 | two land use permits, one for agents of -- one for
23 | people who are working for Arctic Gas, and one for
24 | people who are working for Foothills Pipeline, and they
25 | propose to do drilling in various places near Fort Good
26 | Hope. And the Territorial Government is asking for the
27 | comments of the Fort Good Hope Settlement Council on
28 | these applications.

29 | THE COMMISSIONER: Do you want
30 | to translate that? What Mr. Bell said was that Arctic Gas

1 | had asked for permission to drill a site near Good Hope
2 | and so did Foothills, and the Council was asked to
3 | comment. Would you just translate that, please?

4 | MR. BELL: Q: Mr. Louison,
5 | did the Council send any comments to the Territorial
6 | Government on these applications?

7 | A Yes, we did send them a
8 | telegram, and that's from the Council, and it's
9 | addressed to the Government of N.W.T., Yellowknife,
10 | July the 8th, 1975 to the Department of Local
11 | Government, Town Planning and Lands. Attention: Mr.
12 | Doug Willy. Re Application from Northern Engineering
13 | Services Company Limited to conduct site investigation
14 | Fort Good Hope block lands area and application from
15 | Klohn Leonoff Consultants Ltd. to conduct airborne
16 | drilling program along the Foothills pipeline and Fort
17 | Good Hope block land area. The Settlement Council of
18 | Fort Good Hope completely rejects both these
19 | applications as our stand is no development until after
20 | land claims.

21 | And it is from John Louison,
22 | Chairman, Settlement Council Fort Good Hope.

23 | CHIEF T'SELEIE: Do you want
24 | me to interpret this?

25 | MR. BELL: Yes, if you
26 | wouldn't mind, yes.

27 | Q Tell us what happened
28 | after you sent the telegram to the Government?

29 | A Afterwards we received a
30 | telegram from Commissioner Stuart Hodgson and it reads

1 --

2 THE COMMISSIONER: What is
3 the date of it, Mr. Louison?

4 A We received that a week
5 ago.

6 "John Louison, Chairman of Fort Good Hope Set-
7 tlement Council.

8 I have now had the opportunity to give
9 careful consideration to the Settlement Council's
10 rejection of the proposal by Northern Engineering
11 Limited and Klohn Leonoff Consultants for testing of
12 site for possible future pipeline development. Al-
13 though this Government is sympathetic to Council's
14 position which I understand to be based on the over-
15 all pipeline situation and the Native Lands Claim
16 question, we cannot agree to halt this research of
17 this nature for those reasons alone. I have there,
18 decided to treat the current application for soil
19 testing near your settlement in the following man-
20 ner.

21 No. 1 - Northern Engineering Services.

22 (a) Application to test site 22 and 23 is approved.

23 (b) Application to test site 21 and 21 (a) is
24 not approved as there is a conflict with
25 existing leases and future residential
26 expansion area of Fort Good Hope.

27 (c) Testing on new site to replace site 21 and
28 21(a) located approximately 1800 feet;
29 downstream is approved.

30 If pipeline construction goes ahead,

1 only one site from the above would be developed.

2 2. --

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse
4 me, Mr. Louison, would you repeat that. "If pipeline
5 construction" -- what was that?

6 A If pipeline construction
7 goes ahead, only one site from the above would be
8 approved or be developed.

9 "2. Klohn Leonoff Consultants. Approval is given
10 to test drill the base of the Hare Indian
11 River. I realize approval for these sites may
12 not be completely satisfactory to the Settlement
13 Council and regret this very much. However, the
14 utmost care has been taken. to safeguard the
15 community's interests and this Government will
16 continue to carefully consider community's in-
17 terest in future situations of this nature.

18 S. M. Hodgson
19 Commissioner, Government of
20 Northwest Territories
21 Yellowknife, N.W.T.

22 MR. BELL: Q Mr. Louison,
23 earlier in the Inquiry, when we were --

24 THE COMMISSIONER: Maybe that
25 should be translated.

26 MR. BELL: Oh, I am sorry,
27 yes.

28 MR. BELL: Q Mr. Louison,
29 earlier in the course of the Inquiry at Yellowknife, we
30 heard some evidence about an application by Northern

1 | Engineering Services to conduct a test survey in the
2 | vicinity of Fort Good Hope. Is that a separate
3 | application from these two?

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, you
5 | raised that question at the hearing in Yellowknife. If
6 | you wish, as Counsel for the Indian Brotherhood, whether
7 | we are dealing with two new applications, having:
8 | nothing to do with the old one, go ahead and say so.

9 | MR. BELL: Yes, I think that's
10 | the point that these are two separate applications.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: All, right.
12 | Well, that's settled then. That's fine; unless someone
13 | wants to argue with you. I can't imagine anyone would.

14 | MR. BELL: Well, those are all
15 | the questions that I have. And I think these documents
16 | should be marked as exhibits.

17 | THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. Mr.
18 | Louison, we would like to keep those letters, but I know
19 | that your Settlement Council may need them for its
20 | records, so Miss Hutchinson, the Secretary of the
21 | Inquiry, will photostat them when we get back to
22 | Yellowknife and then send everything back to you.

23 | And, before you mark them you
24 | hand them all to me, Miss Hutchinson.

25 | One question, Mr. Louison,
26 | this telegram that you received from Commissioner
27 | Hodgson, you said you received it a week ago, did you?

28 | A That's true.

29 | Q That would be about July
30 | the 28th or 29th, would it be. The telegram doesn't have

1 a date on it.

2 A That was on the 30th.

3 Q July 30th. Okay, thank you.

4 Well, all of these can be marked. Mark them put them in
5 order and mark each document to the exhibit number.

6 (LETTERS RE LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATION MARKED EXHIBIT C-
7 122)

8 (LETTERS RE LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATION, FOOTHILLS,
9 PIPELINE LTD., MARKED EXHIBIT C-123.)

10 (TELEGRAMS RE EXHIBIT 0122 & 0123 MARKED EXHIBIT C-124.)

11 THE COMMISSIONER: Do you to
12 add anything, Mr. Louison, about the matter?

13 A No. (WITNESS ASIDE)

14 CHIEF T'SELEIE, resumed.

15 Mr. Berger, there are a
16 couple of things I would like to point out regarding the
17 application for wharfing, stockpiling and river testing
18 by the pipeline companies.

19 First, the way the pipeline
20 companies got permission for this project shows that we
21 have been treated for the last hundred years. Our voice
22 is totally ignored. Look at this example. The Settlement
23 Council was set up by the Commissioner as the elected
24 body of this Settlement, yet the Commissioner just
25 ignores the decision of the Council and, treats them
26 like children. The Commissioner thinks he knows the
27 interests of my people better than we ourselves. It is
28 not true. We never chose the Commissioner to speak for
29 us. We never chose the Commissioner to decide for us.
30 We cannot accept him going ahead and ignoring us as

1 | must be a settlement map around and maybe, Mr. Carter, -
2 | we are dealing with the stockpile site now, not the
3 | drilling program at Hare Indian River. Maybe we could
4 | get a good look at the precise location of these
5 | stockpile sites in the settlement. The Chief says that
6 | they are right within the settlement and I would, like
7 | to see a map that shows us exactly where they are.

8 | Do you think, Mr. Rowe, that
9 | you could help us out in that regard?

10 | MR. CARTER: Yes, sir, we will
11 | try to do that.

12 | THE COMMISSIONER: What does
13 | that mean, tonight or --

14 | MR. CARTER: Yes, sir.

15 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, maybe
16 | we could care back to that subject, Chief, a little
17 | later after they have produced a map. After the coffee
18 | break tonight we will return to that, Mr. Carter, if
19 | that is all right.

20 | MR. CARTER: That will be
21 | fine, sir.

22 | THE COMMISSIONER: We have
23 | left that subject for the time being, I think, and
24 | anyone who wishes to say something about the proposed
25 | pipeline and its impact or what your concerns may be
26 | about its impact here in Good Hope, I am anxious to hear
27 | from you.

28 | FATHER LABATT sworn:

29 | NOEL KAKFWI, Interpreter:

30 | FATHER LABATT: Mr. Berger,

1 All in all it was a good life,
2 in spite of hardships and at times starvation when the
3 caribous and fish were not at the "Rendez-vous". The
4 people lived close to nature and their life pattern
5 followed the pattern of nature. Winter and spring were
6 times for working when transportation into the heart of
7 the land was easier. Summer, on the other hand, was a
8 bit of a holiday, with drums echoing for days and days.
9 That life pattern remained unchallenged until recently,
10 when white people started to come down this way in
11 greater numbers.

12 At first it was the DEW line
13 people, followed by the construction of Inuvik --

14 THE COMMISSIONER:, Excuse me,
15 what line? The DEW line?

16 FATHER LABATT: The DEW line.

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, sorry,
18 the DEW line.

19 FATHER LABATT: Yes.

20 -- followed by the
21 construction of Inuvik.. Then it was the seismic crews,
22 and finally the "rough necks".

23 This new development brought
24 along many opportunities to the native people of the
25 North. They were offered to become wage earners. Many
26 did give it a try and took advantage of the new oppor-
27 tunities. However, a great many of them soon got
28 disillusioned. They were not accustomed to this new life
29 and soon they were back on Indian time, which was f
30 only time that made sense to them.

1 different cultures, two different ways of life get into
2 contact. The end result is that the stronger one acts
3 the upper hand and the weaker one the short end of the
4 stick. The stronger one willingly or unwilling will have
5 the tendency to impose itself on the other. The Dene of
6 the North refuse to see this happening. They have come
7 to realize that if development is given a free hand,
8 they will lose their identity, they will lose themselves
9 in the process. If down South, white people are confused
10 by the turmoil and increasing tempo of change in their
11 society, think about the Denes. The old ways have partly
12 lost their appeal, and the new ways of the North, mines,
13 oil fields are attractive at first, but somehow
14 circumstances have put the natives on the edge of
15 society.

16 In my 22 years in the North, I
17 have noticed many changes. In Fort Franklin, where I
18 spent my first few years, everyone was running his own
19 life, in his own way, doing his own thing. Later on, in
20 many places, I have seen many of them being drawn away
21 slowly from a life on the land, lured by the prospect of
22 an easier life; in reality, unemployment, liquor, and
23 degradation on the fringes of booming towns and trading,
24 posts, virtually becoming wards of the Government.

25 In view of those facts, many
26 have come to realize that they must take their destiny
27 into their own hands. The white man must also come to
28 realize that their needs are not necessarily the needs
29 of the Denes, They must also learn to be patient and
30 tolerant. They must remind themselves that the

1 views on others, but together to create. However,
2 Dialogue becomes impossible when Faith in oneself
3 and Faith in the other person is lacking. Based on
4 Faith and Love, Dialogue becomes mutual trust be-
5 tween people. Dialogue is the incessant pursuit of
6 the betterment of the people. Dialogue involves
7 also critical thinking, not waiting for things to
8 fall into place, but trying to do something to im-
9 prove the situation.

10 For Animals, there is no yesterday, nor
11 tomorrow, but for people there is. There was a
12 yesterday, - there is a today - there will be a
13 tomorrow, which people dialoguing together, must
14 try hard to shape up and create. "

15 What about the proposed
16 pipeline? As a transient, accepted by the people, I am
17 here today, and perhaps elsewhere tomorrow. I have no
18 right to tell the people of Fort Good Hope what course o
19 action they should take in regard to the pipeline.
20 However, from the time the hearings started in Yellowknife
21 right through to this present hearing in Fort Good Hope, I
22 think the Dene people have spoken clearly enough that they
23 did not want it at the moment. If the pipeline was to be
24 built now, it would be in complete disregards of the
25 opinions expressed by the majority of them. Such a huge
26 undertaking would be detrimental to them and destructive
27 in human values as well as traditional, social,
28 cultural, and familial, to the point that perhaps they
29 would never recover from it. Therefore, I, as an
30 individual, have no choice but to support them in their

1 and, Father Labatt, perhaps you and Mr. Kakfwi could
2 work out an agreement about the translation.

3 We will adjourn for a few
4 minutes for a cup of coffee now.

5 (WITNESS ASIDE)

6 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED)

7 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT.)

8 THE COMMISSIONER: We will
9 call this hearing to order.

10 Father Labatt, would you let
11 us have your statement so it can be marked as an
12 exhibit. Thank you.

13 (STATEMENT OF FATHER LABATT, DATED AUGUST 4th, 1975 AT
14 FORT GOOD HOPE, MARKED EXHIBIT C-125.)

15 BELLA T'SELEIE, sworn:

16 CHIEF T'SELEIE, Interpreter:

17 BELLA T'SELEIE: I was born
18 here in Fort Good Hope and raised most of my life in
19 Colville Lake.

20 My dad is a trapper. I have
21 two brothers and two sisters. We all went to school for
22 a few years. None of us were interested in going for too
23 long. I hated school. I didn't like sitting in class all
24 day. It wasn't long before I shut my mind off to
25 everything I was taught. In doing this I didn't learn
26 anything else for the rest of the year. The teachers
27 didn't know what happened to me. They talked to me and
28 told me that I had better learn if I wanted to be
29 something someday. I didn't know what they meant. It
30 wasn't what I wanted.

1 I look back on that time now and
2 I think that was the smartest thing I have ever done. I
3 know now that if I had gone through with all that school-
4 ing, let them put things in my head, I wouldn't have sur-
5 vived it. I admire a lot of boys and girls who had went
6 through with it and are still trying to gain everything
7 that they have lost back. I couldn't even so for a few
8 years so that's why I shut off my mind from all that that
9 were teaching me. At the end of that year they wrote to
10 my parents saying that I was a child that could no longer
11 learn. I never went back to school and I was happy.

12 I stayed home and lived with
13 my parents and brothers in the bush. In the winter we
14 trapped. In the spring we hunted beaver and rats. In the
15 summer we lived in fish camps. I did this until I got
16 married. Now I have two children.

17 I teach part-time here in the
18 school, Dene language, legends; anything that I think
19 is good for the children to know I bring to them.

20 I also have a good chance to
21 look at what the children are learning. Some things you
22 don't need at all in there but they are still in there.
23 I want the school system to be changed to suit our way,
24 of life before my girls go to school.

25 One day, when we are given time
26 to think about anything other than the pipeline, I know:
27 that all our schools will be run so that our children
28 won't lose none of the Dene ways in going.

29 Mr. Berger, I would like to say
30 a few things on what I think of the pipeline. I don't

1 think that the people who want this pipeline o he built
2 really care at all about the twenty years of oil and gas
3 that they will be getting in building a pipeline.

4 I think, from the very
5 beginning the whole purpose of the pipeline was to
6 destroy everything living animal and fish on our land.
7 The Dene people depend on these animals and the white
8 people know this. They know that we don't need money.
9 Any time we don' have money, we could leave to the bush
10 and live there. The white people want to do a lot of
11 things on our land, but they know that they couldn't do
12 it if we had the land to turn to.

13 So, they propose the pipeline.
14 If we ever blow it up, they would be happy. Then they
15 could say that we destroyed the land ourselves. Either
16 way, we would lose.

17 If we don't have any moose and
18 other wild game to hunt, we will need money like the
19 white people. We will have to have development. We will
20 want it because we will have nothing else to turn to.
21 And that is what the white people had always wanted:.
22 will live like them, so what will we have to fight for?

23 When the white people proposed
24 this pipeline, maybe that's all they wanted us to
25 concentrate on. Maybe they have other plans that they
26 don't want us to see. They are probably using the
27 pipeline to begin with.

28 The white man want us to
29 depend on them. They want us to depend on them so much
30 maybe it is one of their many plans to destroy

1 | push us around like kids, but not now. We are learning.
2 | Now, for instance, we got fooled lots of time, like
3 | rental houses. We were told, you will rent only \$2.00 to
4 | \$10.00 a month. And now, how much the people have to pay
5 | now? Even the poor people rent goes up, every year. And
6 | us, if we lied to the white people, they will tell us we
7 | are a liar.

8 | I went to school when I was
9 | twelve years old and stayed only two years. When I came
10 | back from school, I hardly talk in English and I myself,
11 | and I just hate school, as bush life is too good.

12 | I been in this town for about
13 | 24 years, and every weekend I go in the bush, and feel
14 | like quitting my job, but I think of my children, and I
15 | want to stay on the job until I get retired, if I don't
16 | get fired.

17 | Mr. Berger, please, no
18 | pipeline before land claim is settled. He are all born
19 | here and we will die here.

20 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
21 | very much, sir. May we keep your statement so it c. be
22 | marked as an exhibit. Thank you, Mr. Edgi,
23 | (SUBMISSION OF CASSIEN EDGI MARKED EXHIBIT C-127.)

24 | LUCY JACKSON sworn:

25 | Hello people, Mr. Berger.

26 | This year, being a woman's year, we don't have many
27 | women speaking. We
28 | have mostly men speaking, so I think maybe we should
29 | start with a woman.

30 | My name is Lucy Jackson,

1 daughter of Mr. Theodore Tobac and Georgina Tobac I am a
2 non status because of marriage to a Metis. I have nine
3 -- I mean eight children, And I was born in Loon Lake,
4 which is maybe 30 miles from here.

5 I am afraid all my notes -- I
6 don't have all my speech written out, it is just notes,
7 THE COMMISSIONER: Well carry
8 on.

9 MRS. JACKSON: So, Mr. Berger,
10 you asked us what the impact will be to the Indian people
11 when the pipeline comes or when the pipeline will start.
12 The impact is here on the native peoples on the peoples.
13 We see development already on the land, on the people.

14 I think today the native
15 peoples are hit the hardest in every way. In the community
16 of Fort Good, Hope there is only five peoples employed,
17 five native peoples employed. All the rest are trappers
18 or part-time company workers, maybe for a month or two.

19 You go all over the North
20 west Territories and you see seismic lines. In the
21 winter you see companies coming on the lands. You ask
22 them what lakes, what streams, what part of the country
23 is the trapping or fishing area? Just like one old man
24 yesterday, he said, every stream, every lake, every open
25 land is trapping area or a fishing area.

26 You come to Good Hope to ask
27 us what the impact will be? Well, the impact is here.
28 You go to the peoples' houses. The condition of the
29 houses they live in, rental homes, private homes, you
30 walk in there. The first year they put rental homes in

1 | less three dollars, but maybe it will be one or two
2 | families who will pay \$3.00. The rest -- you see them
3 | having broken windows. People living in rental homes
4 | without running water. The white peoples that live with
5 | us cal us "dirty", we are dirty people.

6 | I have been a member of the
7 | Settlement Council for four years. Three years, maybe
8 | four years ago, the Health Department told us our water
9 | condition was not fit to drink. In April of this year we
10 | were told, you are drinking sewage water.

11 | Anyway, do people think we are
12 | so rich ourselves? Do people think we are so rich
13 | ourselves? They think we are making millions out of our
14 | resources, our natural resources -- we get nothing out
15 | it. We give it. We always give. We even give ourselves
16 | too. Whatever-dike I said before, whatever you gave us
17 | we always pay. We pay the hard way always with our
18 | lives, with everything. Everybody knows Indians are
19 | drunkards. We are being punished for being drunkards.

20 | You should listen to some of
21 | your Commissioners and your superiors coming down here
22 | to talk to the peoples, to the Settlement Councils, to
23 | the Band Councils, to the peoples. They invite us all.
24 | You know what they have to say to us? We are not here to
25 | babysit you peoples, other than that you are sinners,
26 | you're drunks. This is what we have to get every day.
27 | Not only that, every day we deal with different peoples
28 | coming in, flying in, just to give us so much
29 | information. How we are keeping sane I don't know. To
30 | top it of have to live, we have to make our living at

1 | home, arc we have to attend meetings, have go to
2 | different places every day, but still we try to make a
3 | home for our families. Peoples are trying.

4 | I have got a lot of
5 | information here but -- we have to cope with the cost of
6 | living, travelling, every day, with what --

7 | This is all, I think, I have
8 | to say. I have got a lot more, but --

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, if
10 | you have more --

11 | MRS. JACKSON: And then I look
12 | into the future. I would like to see my children, other
13 | children, educated, to be qualified teachers, nurses,
14 | doctors, pilots, seismic workers, judges, expert Hare
15 | Skin speakers, who can translate for the who do not
16 | understand or speak English. And if to have our land
17 | claims settled, we need so many c Indian peoples to be
18 | trained or educated, in all kinds of trades. I would
19 | like to see the young people controlling their own
20 | natural resources.

21 | This is all I have to say.

22 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
23 | very much, Mrs. Jackson. Do you wish to translate
24 | yourself, Mrs. Jackson?

25 | MRS. JACKSON: I could
26 | translate myself.

27 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

28 | MARGARET HEMING sworn:

29 | LUCY JACKSON, Interpreter:

30 | MARGARET HEMING: My name is

1 Margaret Fleming. I am employed as a nurse with the
2 Department of National Health and Welfare, Canada, The
3 following words I have to say are my own. At the outset
4 I would like to fully endorse all the things that Father
5 Labatt has had to say; Mr. Edgi had to say; and Mrs.
6 Jackson.

7 In addition to all of that, c
8 all have something in common in this room, - we are
9 Canadians and this Northwest Territories - this jewel of
10 the world is part of Canada.

11 Another thing which we have in
12 common is fear. I sensed this this afternoon as I
13 listened to what the people of Fort Good Hope had to say
14 about why we should not have the pipeline through our
15 Northwest Territories. Fear gets in the way of thinking;
16 it gets in the way of learning; it makes us submissive
17 and fear destroys our independence.

18 There is a sign on the wall of
19 this auditorium which relates to an Indian having to
20 bleach his hair in order to attain status. What is this
21 status thing anyway? To my way of thinking, the person
22 who thought out the idea for this sign was a truly fear
23 person - full of it. To you who wish to be known as the
24 "Dene" to be known as something set apart, must I dye my
25 hair black and change the colour of my skin in order to
26 join you?

27 I am afraid too and what am I
28 afraid of?

29 First, I am not afraid of what
30 Mr. Blair has said; I am afraid, of what Mr. Blair has

1 Thank you very much, Nurse
2 Heming. I wonder if you would leave your statement with
3 Miss Hutchinson and it will be marked as a statement.
4 Thank you.

5 (SUBMISSION OF MARGARET HEMING MARKED EXHIBIT C-128.)

6 (WITNESS ASIDE)

7 CELINE RITIAS, sworn:

8 LUCY JACKSON, interpreter: My
9 name is Celine Ritias. Mr. Berger, here is what I have
10 to say, and how I feel about the pipeline.

11 They are not thinking of our
12 future. What will we have in the future? What in going
13 to happen to us? Maybe there won't be nothing left for
14 us in the future. Maybe by that time there won't be
15 anything left, and when there is no more animals left,
16 what are we going to do? Just think, what are we going
17 to do? After that they don't have to turn to us and say,
18 "Those Dene peoples can't even go out in the bush
19 anymore". It's not going to be our fault. Whose fault
20 it's going to be? It's going to be their fault.

21 We don't want the pipeline to
22 come through. We said "no", and why don't they leave us
23 alone? Leave us alone and leave us the way we are. And
24 if the pipeline comes through, a lot of animals will die
25 off. The pipeline will destroy the lands and everything
26 else.

27 If there was an oil spill
28 and if any kind of animals may go on that oil, that
29 animal will die. Some other animal may eat that animal.
30 It will die too.

1 | pipeline. The white men --

2 | THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me,
3 | I really want to be able to hear what everyone is
4 | saying, so maybe we could all try to be a little bit
5 | quieter while these statements are being made. Carry on.
6 | Start over, if you don't mind.

7 | ESTHER LENNIE: Mr. Berger, my
8 | name is Esther Lennie and this is what I think about
9 | pipeline.

10 | The white men are not going to
11 | think about us and our future. The white men are
12 | thinking about themselves and now hey are going to
13 | destroy the land, and we need the land more than they
14 | need it. The land is ours and we belong here. We are
15 | all proud to be called Dene people.

16 | We don't want any pipeline
17 | around here, there's lots of other places to put the
18 | pipeline. This is not only for me, it's for all the Dene
19 | people that lives in the Mackenzie Valley.

20 | How much land will they
21 | destroy if they put up camps every 50 miles?
22 | That's why we want the pipeline. If they put up
23 | the pipeline, then the white men are going to come
24 | and change our way of life, and they are going to
25 | take over our villages, and they are going to take
26 | over the -- they are going to take over the land.
27 | Then the people are going to stop living in
28 | the bush and live in town and never bother going
29 | back bush again. We don't want our land to be
30 | destroyed,. We love and care for our land, that's

1 | why we still live in the bush.

2 | The people will be scared to
3 | go anywhere for hunting because of the pipeline. And
4 | there is going to be gas everywhere if the pipeline is
5 | built. We are not going to say, yes, you could put up
6 | the line through because we need our land as much as the
7 | white men needs it.

8 | They may not go trapping
9 | anymore because the animals will be scared to go
10 | anywhere. We are always going to say no because we don't
11 | want it around the Mackenzie Valley. I hope you stop
12 | bothering us about the pipeline, after this. If they
13 | have through, they are going to treat us like slaves,
14 | this land really belongs to us Dene people.

15 | It is going to be like in the
16 | South where the people are told what to do and where we
17 | live and we don't want that for our children. We want
18 | them to be raised in the bush where most of the Dene
19 | peoples were raised, then they'll know more about the
20 | bush. Like, nowadays, most childrens had too much of
21 | school and not very much about the bush. That's why v
22 | don't want the pipeline because our children's children
23 | are going to be raised in the white way, and they are
24 | going to be dumb in the bush.

25 | That's all I have to say.

26 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
27 | and you could you leave your statement with us, please.

28 | (STATEMENT OF ESTHER LENNIE MARKED EXHIBIT 0130,)

29 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

30 | JONAS GRANDJAMBE, sworn:

1 LUCY JACKSON, interpreter: My
2 name is Jonas Grandjambe of Fort Good Hope.

3 Mr. Berger, I am not going to
4 say too much. I am going to say a little about the
5 pipeline and a little about the highway, telling you it
6 will do to us and our land.

7 If the pipeline comes through
8 our land here in the Northwest Territories, our land
9 will be damaged. Our land won't be the same as it is
10 now, living out of this land won't be the same, it will
11 be all changed. Even the peoples, us Dene, wont be the
12 same, because there is going to be a lot of white men.
13 We'll all change because there is going to be liquor and
14 drugs, which will come along with the white man and the
15 pipeline.

16 We don't want the pipeline to
17 go through our land, to damage our land, and to spoil
18 our way of living, us Dene. That is why we don't want
19 the pipeline. Whether it's coming through or not, we
20 don't want the pipeline.

21 About the highway, if the
22 pipeline comes through, surely the highway will come
23 through with the pipeline, then what will happen to us
24 Dene?

25 Our land is not going to be
26 the same as it is now. Even us Dene won't be together
27 anymore, we'll be scattered. Some of us might be way
28 out South on the highway, hitchhiking, getting kicked
29 around on your land in the South. If the highway comes
30 through, there will be more white men, a mad rush of

1 after midnight, 3:00 o'clock in the morning, through the
2 snow, and the snow was higher than our knees.

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Higher
4 than?

5 THE INTERPRETER: The knees.

6 This is how much we, the
7 peoples, is suffering today; how far we have to go for
8 our trapping. So, why are you asking us to put the
9 pipeline through our land? The Government says they
10 will give us houses, good homes, everything. That was
11 just to fool us, just so they could say, we gave you
12 houses, we gave you this, just so they could put the
13 pipeline through.

14 I live in a house down here, in
15 a log cabin, but I still furnish it with myself, from what
16 my late husband left, I furnished with it. And today I am
17 still, have to repair my house with my own money.

18 We have repeated ourselves in
19 the past saying we did not want the pipeline, and yet
20 you keep after us to put the pipeline through our land.

21 Through the last world war,
22 they, told us there was lots of children starving
23 outside. The last war peoples from outside were telling
24 us that a lot of childrens were starving outside, we need
25 help from you Indian peoples. Give us money; we will
26 return it to you after the war is over, and today we have
27 not received a cent back. And in those days, when we gave
28 so much to the peoples that were supposed to be starving
29 in the South, you cheated us. Today we still haven't
30 received a cent back.

1 Today you talk about the pipe-
2 line, and now you ask us to speak, and we are speaking.
3 When you go back out to your homes, you will be laughing
4 at us, talking about us, of what we said.

5 Last year, after they came back,
6 they barely made it back to town from their camp with the
7 dog team, she came back to town, she had to go back out to
8 Rorey Lake, where she usually goes every year. Then she got
9 into this Rorey Lake, there is nothing but vehicle around
10 that lake, day and night, noise. The marten were running
11 all over the land, into her camp. From the noise, the
12 martens were just on our doorstep. In two days I caught ten
13 martens; right at my doorstep. The animals are scared of
14 anything. Even sitting inside our tent I could hear the
15 marten being caught in a trap outside.

16 I was raised by my ancestors
17 and I still would like to see my childrens and their
18 grandchildren living the way my ancestors lived. I will
19 be dead in a few years, and so this is what I think. I
20 taught all my children how to live in the bush. They
21 know how to make snowshoes, how to make their living in
22 the bush. They are talking about their childrens going to
23 school today. It's true. When a parent raised a child,
24 this child respected his mother. Today, the childrens
25 that are going to school outside the community, when they
26 come back they have no respect for their mother or their
27 dad; they have no respect for nothing.

28 When the pipeline comes through,
29 and these childrens that went to school outside of here,
30 they will go for the pipeline, they will go to them.

1 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED.)
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