

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)

**Latham Island, N.W.T.
October 22, 1975**

PROCEEDINGS AT COMMUNITY HEARING

Volume 35

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Gas Pipeline Lim-
ited;

Mr. Allan Hollingworth, Esq.
John Littledale, Esq. For Foothills Pipe
Line Ltd.

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1 Latham Island, N.W.T.

2 October 22, 1975

3 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

4 THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and
5 gentlemen, I'll call our meeting to order this evening.

6 Last week we held hearings in
7 the Elks Hall in downtown Yellowknife, and we had a lot
8 of people who made submissions then about the pipeline
9 and about the way they felt with regard to the
10 pipeline. So we wanted to have a meeting here in
11 Latham Island to listen to the views of you who've come
12 this evening.

13 The purpose of the community
14 hearings is to make sure that the Mackenzie Valley
15 Pipeline Inquiry considers the opinions of the people
16 who live here in the north and make the north their
17 home, to make sure the only, opinions we don't -- to
18 make sure that the only opinions we have are not simply
19 the opinions of the experts who give evidence at the
20 Explorer Hotel at the formal hearings which are
21 continuing each day at the Explorer this week and will
22 be continuing right through till Christmas.

23 This pipeline project, we are
24 told, is the greatest project in Canada's history in
25 terms of the amount of money that is going to be spent
26 on it if it goes ahead. We are told that it will
27 result in enormous change here in the north, and that
28 is why the Government of Canada has said that before
29 they decide whether they allow the pipeline to go
30 ahead, before they make a decision about it, they want

1 everything that is said. The people on my right are
2 representatives of the C.B.C.'s Northern Broadcasting
3 Service and other northern papers.

4 So we're trying to be as
5 informal as we can, but there's a certain amount of
6 formality necessary just because we have to get down
7 everything you say, and that's important because what
8 you say is just as important as what the experts tell
9 me at the formal hearings at the Explorer.

10 So the floor is open then for
11 anyone who wishes to speak, I'll be happy to hear from
12 you. If this pause continues, I'll be forced to ask
13 the representatives of the pipeline companies to say
14 something which is always helpful and I'm sure you'll
15 find it very interesting, but I've heard it before.
16 That's why I try to, at this stage I try to see if I
17 can figure out something else.

18 Maybe the representatives of
19 Arctic Gas and Foothills, one of each perhaps, might be
20 sufficient for the moment, would come forward and just
21 tell us a little bit about their proposals. I see Mr.
22 Carter and Mr. Hollingworth there. Do you want to come
23 forward, or have you got some others to throw into the
24 breach tonight?

25 MR. HOLLINGWORTH: I have
26 someone to throw into the breach. I have let Mr.
27 Littledale sit at the side.

28 THE COMMISSIONER: Just take
29 a seat over here, if you like, Mr. Littledale, right
30 there. You might just sit at the side so that the -

1 | well, the gentleman on my left is Mr. Carter, who is a
2 | lawyer who represents Arctic Gas, and the gentleman on
3 | my right is Mr. Littledale who represents Foothills
4 | Pipe Lines, and I don't know whether Mr. Littledale has
5 | been sworn or not. Oh, you have. What's your position
6 | with the company?

7 | MR. LITTLEDALE: I'm vice-
8 | president of operations. I will have to make an
9 | admission, this is a very recent appointment. I am not
10 | as familiar with the project as many of the more
11 | familiar faces you've seen around. Prior to joining
12 | Foothills I've been with Westcoast Transmission almost
13 | 13 years in various capacities, mostly in the operating
14 | in the construction end of it, and I am familiar with
15 | the Foothills project in many aspects, but not in the
16 | sort of the fin details

17 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, if you
18 | run into trouble we'll ask Mr. Carter to help you out.

19 | MR. LITTLEDALE: All right.

20 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, Mr.
21 | Carter, do you want to tell the people here something
22 | about your project?

23 | MR. CARTER: Well, sir, I
24 | believe you outlined the two projects quite well
25 | earlier on. Just to add to it, as you've said, the
26 | Arctic Gas project, Arctic Gas being the company that I
27 | represent, Arctic Gas project proposes to bring natural
28 | gas both from Alaska and from Ft Mackenzie Delta up the
29 | Mackenzie Valley to Southern Canada and United States.
30 | Arctic Gas has stated that its policy -- and this has

1 | that training program.

2 | I don't know if I can add
3 | anything else at this time. I'm prepared to answer any
4 | questions. I could say that you probably heard on the
5 | news tonight that there's been a proposal put forward
6 | that would see the pipeline go through Great Slave Lake
7 | as well as Great Bear Lake, and I can say that Arctic
8 | Gas does not propose to do that.

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, Mr.
10 | Littledale, do you want to say something about the
11 | Foothills project?

12 | MR. LITTLEDALE: Yes. Where
13 | the difference lies, of course, is in the -- as you
14 | stated yourself, Mr. Commissioner -- in not picking the
15 | U.S. gas up from Prudhoe Bay but just picking up the
16 | Canadian gas and transporting it to Canadian markets.

17 | Now, CAGSL or Canadian Arctic
18 | Gas are proposing a 48-inch pipeline, whereas Foothills
19 | is proposing a 2-inch pipeline. Now 42-inch. pipelines
20 | are not that common but on the other hand they're not
21 | that new either, and there has been a number of miles,
22 | several hundred miles of 42-inch pipeline built and the
23 | Foothills Pipe Lines proposes to use 42-inch pipe.

24 | As to the difference in sort of
25 | organizational structure, after construction the major
26 | differences there between the Canadian Arctic Gas and
27 | Foothills is that Foothills proposes to have its main
28 | operation centre in Yellowknife whereas I understand
29 | Canadian Arctic Gas proposes to have theirs in Calgary.

30 | In the construction phase, I

1 THE COMMISSIONER: I think
2 there's another difference too. The Foothills people
3 say that they will build branch lines to bring gas to
4 home-owners and other users of gas in Yellowknife, Hay
5 River, Fort Rae and Pine Point. Arctic Gas doe not
6 propose to do that.

7 Well, now you've heard from
8 these gentlemen, if you wish you can ask them any
9 questions you want to, or state your views on the
10 pipeline project and what you think it will mean to the
11 north, and you don't have to confine yourself to the
12 nuts and bolts of the project. It has wider
13 ramifications, we all know that, and we're considering
14 them at the Inquiry.

15 MR. LITTLEDALE: May I
16 elaborate, Mr. Commissioner, in Westcoast Transmission,
17 seeing that there is a lull in the discussion, may I --

18 THE COMMISSIONER: Go ahead.

19 MR. LITTLEDALE: -- elaborate
20 on that? We do operate a section of line into the
21 Northwest Territories, into an area that they call
22 Pointed Mountain, which is near Fisherman's Lake. It
23 runs about 30-some-odd miles, crosses a small section
24 of the south-east corner of the Yukon, and heads up on
25 the eastern slopes of the Franklin Mountains, and
26 terminates at Pointed Mountain, which is just west of
27 Fisherman's Lake. This line was built in the winter of
28 '72'73, primarily in '73, because it was largely winter
29 construction, and we have -- the partner, Westcoast
30 Transmission, has gained some experience in building,

1 | operating and maintaining pipelines in that area.
2 | We also have built pipelines that extend very close
3 | to the 60th Parallel in the Alberta boundary. As
4 | a matter of fact, this winter we will be extending that
5 | system, it's really our gathering system that brings --
6 | picks up gas in that north-east corner of British
7 | Columbia right in the very north-east corner, and
8 | brings it into our processing plant at Fort Nelson,
9 | which is about located approximately, I believe, 100
10 | miles due south of the 60th Parallel.

11 | So Westcoast as such does
12 | have some operating experience and construction
13 | experience in pipelining and operating and maintaining
14 | pipelines at least that far north.

15 | THE COMMISSIONER: I might
16 | just tell you a few things about this project that
17 | might be of interest to you. Some of the technical
18 | matters, some of the technical problems are extremely
19 | difficult to explain, and I won't attempt to.

20 | But some of the things that have
21 | come out at the formal hearings that I might just discuss
22 | with you for a moment are these: This pipeline, if it
23 | were built, would be the first pipeline in the world
24 | built through permafrost. We've heard evidence about
25 | pipeline construction in the Soviet Union, and I have
26 | recently sent two of the engineers of the Inquiry staff
27 | to the Soviet Union to discuss pipeline construction with
28 | representatives of the government there, and to observe
29 | pipeline construction and pipelines in place. These
30 | companies who wish to build this pipeline in the Canadian

1 North intend to chill the gas so that it will run through
2 the pipeline at temperatures below freezing, and the
3 purpose of that is to make sure that it doesn't
4 melt the permafrost. We had the Commissioner of Highways
5 from Alaska over to give evidence yesterday and the day
6 before at the Inquiry, and he said that the Alaska
7 Pipeline was being built through permafrost, but
8 aboveground because the' people who wanted to build the
9 pipeline there could not satisfy either the State of
10 Alaska or the Government of the United States that they
11 could insulate the pipeline to stop the oil, which is
12 intended to run through the pipeline, they had not been
13 able to devise any way of ensuring that the oil did not
14 melt the permafrost. Of course, if the permafrost melted
15 you would have thaw, you would have settlement, and we
16 have been told you would have buckling of the pipe,
17 ruptures, and you would have a catastrophe on your hands,
18 that is in the sense that you would have a hell of a job
19 getting gas through the pipeline; and if you had spent
20 something like \$7 billion on it, you would have the
21 feeling that the money hadn't been well-spent.

22 At any rate, in the Soviet Union
23 they have not so far sought to build pipelines, in the
24 permafrost. In Alaska they're building above the
25 permafrost by elevating the pipeline, on elevated
26 supports that run above the permafrost. Arctic Gas and
27 Foothills say that they can build this pipeline through
28 permafrost by chilling the gas. You can't chill oil,
29 that's why they aren't able to try that technique in
30 Alaska; but they say they, can chill the gas, run it

1 | through the pipeline chilled, and then it won't melt the
2 | permafrost because it will be below freezing just
3 | like the permafrost. I'm sure some of the engineers
4 | are snickering at that explanation, but that's
5 | essentially one of the technical -- one of the very
6 | important technical problems that these companies are
7 | discussing with the Inquiry.

8 | The people, the construction
9 | crews would be here for three years. The Arctic Gas
10 | proposal would employ 6,000 men north of the 60th
11 | Parallel; the Foothills proposal would employ 5,600 men
12 | north of the 60th Parallel.

13 | When the pipeline is
14 | completed, if it is built, and is there buried in the
15 | ground, there would be something like 200 or 250 people
16 | employed full-time in the Northwest Territories and the
17 | Yukon to maintain and operate the pipeline.

18 | Well, yes sir?

19 |

20 | ARTHUR IRWIN unsworn:

21 | THE WITNESS: Mr.

22 | Commissioner, I'm a former resident of the Northwest
23 | Territories. Irwin is my name.

24 | THE COMMISSIONER: Could you
25 | give me your first name, sir?

26 | A Arthur Irwin, and I was
27 | formerly supervisor petroleum engineer for the Federal
28 | Government in the Northwest Territories in the early
29 | '50's. My question is in regard to the Foothills Pipe
30 | Lines, I'm rather interested to know about the

1 | provision for marketing in the settlements. To what
2 | extent gas would be able to compete with oil or other
3 | forms of energy, and whether in effect there will be
4 | any, you might say, discount prices for gas for the
5 | people in the north living in the settlements that will
6 | be served by Foothills Pipe Lines?

7 | MR. LITTLEDALE: Mr.
8 | Commissioner. I think there was a policy statement made
9 | on this and recorded, and as I explained to you
10 | earlier, I'm sort of new and I have read much of the
11 | material in trying to catch up, but I do recall you
12 | probably recollect as to what the policy statement was
13 | better than I, and rather than foul it up I'd impose on
14 | you, if you'd be kind enough, to say what it was.

15 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, if
16 | you will agree that my discussion of the engineering
17 | problems was correct, I think I can oblige.

18 | MR. LITTLEDALE: I think they
19 | were very good.

20 | THE COMMISSIONER Well,
21 | apparently -- well, let me put it this way, if you're
22 | running this trunk pipeline south from the Arctic to
23 | Southern Canada and the United States, it really isn't
24 | economic. The pipeline companies won't make any money
25 | by putting a hole in the pipeline at Fort Wrigley and
26 | running a little pipe into Fort Wrigley so that people
27 | there can all use gas, assuming they're willing to buy
28 | appliances that use gas, or convert whatever appliances
29 | they have to gas. Everybody in the Mackenzie Valley
30 | more or less uses fuel oil or propane. Now or wood,

1 | subsidized -- that the supplying, delivery of gas is
2 | subsidized to northern residents. So I'm not working for
3 | Foothills, but I thought I should come to their rescue
4 | on this occasion.

5 | MR. LITTLEDALE: Thank you,
6 | Mr. Commissioner. I think I'd also like to mention on
7 | that point that there are a number of other communities
8 | that Foothills plans to serve --

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: Oh yes.

10 | MR. LITTLEDALE: -- with not
11 | the long laterals and Mr. Hollingworth here has,
12 | written down Wrigley, Fort Simpson, Inuvik, Fort Good
13 | Hope and Norman Wells and Fort Norman.

14 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

15 |
16 | DR. ROSS WHEELER sworn:

17 | THE WITNESS: My name is Ross
18 | Wheeler. Mr. Berger, I appreciate this opportunity to
19 | speak at this Inquiry. My concerns as a private
20 | individual have been expressed before you by others,
21 | notably Bill Watson, who spoke before you last week.

22 | Tonight I wish to speak to
23 | you as a physician and express my views within that
24 | framework. These are not necessarily the views of all
25 | the doctors of the Northwest Territories. However, I
26 | would hope they share these concerns with me.

27 | I realize that the questions
28 | I may raise tonight may be partially answered when you
29 | hold your formal hearings in the New Year on the social
30 | impact of the pipeline. However, I feel I must speak

1 | previous speaker had to say about alcoholism, about the
2 | problems which are encountered almost daily that begin
3 | usually in one of the bars in Yellowknife and end in
4 | one of the cells of the R.C.M.P. Detachment.

5 | The breakdown of families,
6 | family-in-law problems are multiple, and criminal
7 | problems usually are of a very petty nature but
8 | extremely repetitive, are also prevalent.

9 | One of the most disturbing
10 | factors that I have encountered is the tendency to
11 | repetition of crime by many of the people with whom I
12 | come in contact, and this to me is evidence of the
13 | complete lack of understanding on the part of many of
14 | the native peoples of the significance of this rule of
15 | law which is imposed, rule of law imposed by foreign
16 | people from the south, with many of their concepts
17 | being southern in nature. The practitioners of the law
18 | have all had their. training in the south, have very
19 | little understanding of conditions in the north,
20 | especially amongst the native peoples.

21 | The native peoples have no
22 | understanding in return of this system which is being
23 | imposed on them, and they have very little respect for
24 | it. That is perhaps a brief summation in my experience
25 | of what I have encountered in Yellowknife.

26 | An aspect which I would like
27 | to bring before the Commission, which is again another
28 | purely personal aspect, stems once again from the
29 | result of my background, which is not originally
30 | Canadian. I come from Southern Africa, and have as a

1 result of my experience there developed some views on
2 what is called neo-colonialism. I see what is
3 happening in the Northwest Territories at the moment,
4 as an example of this particular type of development.
5 I am not suggesting that this is neo-colonialism with
6 motive. I suspect that it is neocolonialism under its
7 own impetus. The peaceful conquest of a vast area of
8 territory carried on by people who are adhering to a
9 system which has been styled economic, which depends
10 for its strength on a natural resource, a depleting
11 natural resource, one which cannot be restored, and
12 takes that natural resource and removes it from the
13 area in which it originated and places the advantages
14 of that resource at the feet or at the hands of people
15 who are a long distance away. I refer specifically to
16 the people in the south with relation, special relation
17 to the Arctic Gas proposal rather than the Foothills
18 proposal.

19 One of the aspects of what
20 I would call neo-colonial economic development is
21 quite often that platitudes are made to the fact that
22 this will bring help to the people, and "economic
23 help" is usually the term used, to the people in the
24 area which is being exploited. Quite often the kind
25 of technology that makes the exploitation possible is
26 highly sophisticated 20th century technology; the
27 ability which the people, the native northerners will
28 have to participate in that highly sophisticated
29 technological process are limited. The profitability
30 of pipelines are premised on the fact that they are

1 | little bit, and we wouldn't have a chance to say
2 | anything about it, and it is kind of ironic that I say,
3 | "Lucky it's so big," but that's the problem. That's
4 | all I have to say.

5 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
6 | Mr. Wood. Thank you very much.

7 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

8 | THE COMMISSIONER: I should
9 | say that Mr. Wood raised this question, "Well, if we
10 | can keep the people who come from through to work on
11 | the pipeline out of our communities, then that will
12 | reduce the impact significantly."

13 | I think that in each
14 | community that I visited that has been what people have
15 | wanted. It raises some questions that aren't all that
16 | easy to answer. This is a free country and if you want
17 | to drive your car from Yellowknife to Fort Rae, the
18 | government can't stop you and say, "No, the City
19 | Council or the Settlement Council of Fort Rae, or the
20 | Band Council just passed a resolution saying nobody can
21 | come into this settlement."

22 | As citizens of the country we
23 | have certain rights to move around, and it's something
24 | that you have to think about before you limit those
25 | rights. In Alaska they've been wrestling with this
26 | problem and we've heard something about it. I went to
27 | Alaska myself in June to look into this and other
28 | questions, and it's something we expect to hear more
29 | about from the Alaskans.

30 | I might ask the people from

1 | engineering and construction problems. We're now
2 | moving into environmental problems, and sometimes the
3 | experts know a lot about those things, but on these
4 | ordinary everyday social and economic issues you people
5 | have a lot to contribute.

6 | MR. LITTLEDALE: Mr. Commissioner,
7 | if I just may add that it's Foothills' policy, also
8 | stated policy, to restrict the people on the construc-
9 | tion to the camps.

10 | THE COMMISSIONER: It's
11 | everybody's policy. I was just pointing out we have a
12 | Bill of Rights in this country and we don't say to
13 | people, "You can't go here and you can't go there."
14 | That's what living in a free country is all about. You
15 | go where you want to go.

16 | However, we'll do the best we
17 | can with that. Anyone else wish to say anything or ask
18 | a question or offer a thought? Yes, Mr. Irwin?

19 | ARTHUR IRWIN resumed:

20 | THE WITNESS: I was rather
21 | interested to know something about the early phases of
22 | the Arctic Gas study, and I had a former colleague of
23 | mine working on a job with me, he was an Indian person
24 | from the Six Nations Indian Reserve, Ontario, and he
25 | worked on the Arctic Gas study in regard to the
26 | employment and training of natives of the north in
27 | pipelining, and he took me into the office of the
28 | Pipeline Study into Calgary, and we heard some very
29 | interesting information on how the natives were being
30 | trained in pipeline operations outside in the south,

1 | An electronic technician, for example, I think went
2 | and worked -- is working now for a radio company or
3 | something, something like that. So the program is
4 | still under way and there is at the present time
5 | approximately 100 trainees, and these are all
6 | northerners, and as I stated, they've been
7 | guaranteed full-time employment with the various
8 | companies that make up the program, whether or not
9 | the pipeline goes ahead.

10 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

11 |

12 | ROBERT O'CONNOR sworn:

13 | THE WITNESS: My name is Bob
14 | O'Connor. I'm a small business man in partnership with
15 | my brother here in Yellowknife.

16 | I wish to begin by saying I
17 | support the views, with certain reservations, of the
18 | first two speakers. I'm also in favor of a just land
19 | claim settlement as opposed to one in favor of either
20 | the native people or in favor for that matter of other
21 | groups, presently ensconced here in the north, which
22 | may be a little different from some of the views on
23 | land claims issues expressed so far before this
24 | Commission.

25 | Among the stated goals, I'd
26 | like to also mention that I'm expressing my own views,
27 | I don't represent anyone in particular, so on and so
28 | forth, I take the opportunity to express a few of my
29 | views with respect to the proposed -- and it would seem
30 | from all accounts -- inevitable pipeline.

1 | with these large business interests from the south, I'd
2 | like to leave you with a copy of the report of the Task
3 | Force which was formed to study the problems
4 | encountered by a northern business man in obtaining
5 | Federal contracts, never mind contracts in the private
6 | sector.

7 | I think that the Federal
8 | Government has failed miserably and inexcusably in setting
9 | an example to private industry as to how to treat the people
10 | in Canada's Northern Territories. So I view the pipeline,
11 | I think it's inevitable. I think we should pull together
12 | and try to get the most out of it we possibly can, and I
13 | think it could be used as a tool for the native people in
14 | particular to attain the goals to which they aspire --
15 | some form of recognition, and I think that in fact they do
16 | have something to contribute to the development of the
17 | north.

18 | That's all I have to say.
19 | Thank you for allowing me to express my opinions.

20 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
21 | Mr. O'Connor.

22 | A I'd appreciate it if
23 | either of these pipeline companies' representatives
24 | could give us some indication of what percent of the
25 | large amounts which have been spent to date have been
26 | actually spent in the Territories? I'm very interested
27 | in knowing that.

28 | THE COMMISSIONER: O.K.,
29 | we'll ask them to say something about that, sir. That
30 | Task Force on Northern Business will be marked as an

1 exhibit.

2 (TASK FORCE REPORT ON NORTHERN BUSINESS MARKED EXHIBIT
3 C-231)

4 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, do
5 you wish to go first, Foothills?

6 MR. LITTLEDALE: Yes, all right,
7 Mr. Commissioner. Well, as to the dollar value, I couldn't
8 sort of begin to tell you exactly what has been put into
9 the economy up here, as of today, but this is some of the
10 areas where, you know, sums of money have been spent in
11 socio-economic consultants here, business supplies, plane
12 charters out of here, rents of homes and offices, people
13 coming and staying in hotels, there's been hospitals,
14 travel agencies used, and a few permanent employees hired
15 here. Of course, looking into the future I think we've
16 stated, as has CAGSL, that you know, headquarters will be
17 operating in some of the areas along the Mackenzie Valley
18 Pipeline, and ourselves, we'll have our operating
19 headquarters in Yellowknife.

20 But I can't put a dollar
21 value on what has been spent to date up here. I just
22 say that these are some of the areas where money has
23 been already spent, and considerable amounts of it.
24 Certain businesses at this point in time naturally,
25 we're sort of in the enquiry stage, we wouldn't be
26 looking for say people in the mechanical field or
27 something like this because the pipeline doesn't exist,
28 and so, you know, it's hard to sort of push any
29 business into those areas which will only receive
30 business after the pipeline gets the go ahead.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Do you
2 want to add anything, Mr. Carter?

3 MR. CARTER: Well, sir, I don't
4 have those figures either, but I certainly expect, as Mr.
5 O'Connor does, that it's a pretty small percentage, the
6 reason being principally that the pipeline is only at the
7 planning stage now and that just as Mr. O'Connor has
8 trouble getting engineers that are northerners, the people
9 involved in the planning have been the experts we've seen
10 at the formal hearings, and they have, I think,
11 practically without exception, come from the south. So in
12 the planning stage most of the money, I'm sure, has been
13 spent in the south, but I just don't have those figures.
14 Wherever possible some of the examples Mr. Littledale
15 gave would apply to Arctic Gas as well; but wherever
16 possible we've employed the northern businesses. One
17 that I am aware of, as Mr. Littledale referred to,
18 the air charter companies in the work that they've done
19 along the route, in the delta and in the Northern Yukon;
20 but I don't have those figures but I'm sure that the
21 proportions spent in the north in the planning stage is
22 quite small.

23 A I wonder if I might
24 ask --

25 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, go
26 ahead.

27 A I wonder if I might ask if
28 this proportion that's been spent in the north to date is
29 any indication of what is in store for us in the future?
30 You know, I can't hire -- I can't encourage young people

1 | to take technical training in the south. Many are
2 | encouraged to do exactly this, and they come back to
3 | absolutely nothing, and the point that I'm driving at is
4 | that I think some consideration should be given to
5 | constructing this pipeline, which they're going to build,
6 | there's no ifs ands or buts about it, in my view. In
7 | certain economists' view, money is a tool that is used to
8 | do something. I suggest that we should use this money,
9 | fine, to build a pipeline, but use it
10 | as a tool to develop a viable economic framework
11 | in the north, to invest some of that money in industries
12 | which will be constructing homes or something, which
13 | hopefully will shift south. I don't think any thought is
14 | being given to this at all, and I think it's just as
15 | important if some of the social problems in the north are
16 | going to be alleviated, they certainly can't be solved by
17 | continuing to be very active in the north but change
18 | money hands down south and ignore the real resource,
19 | which are, I think, the people in the north, not
20 | necessarily oil. I think it's an important resource.

21 | I think the real resource are
22 | the people , the inhabitants of , 'this region. I think
23 | we should be thinking in terms of their development and
24 | using the pipeline as a tool in developing the people.

25 | I don't think these
26 | representatives -- I'm not saying the representatives,
27 | but the companies have really, really thought of it in
28 | that light, and I think it's a sad thing that they
29 | haven't done this. Perhaps they should base their
30 | reasons for building that pipeline on that structure.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, Mr.
2 O'Connor, the point you've raised is a good one. To be
3 fair to these pipeline companies, their purpose in life
4 is to build a pipeline --

5 A To make money --

6 Q -- to carry gas to the
7 south.

8 A -- which is fine, I
9 support that, profit is a reward for risk, it's another
10 economic rule in our system which I support, you know.
11 But at the same time I think in the north that that
12 approach has to be modified somewhat.

13 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I
14 think I should say that the Inquiry has made 'La grant
15 of money to the Northwest Territories Chamber of
16 Commerce, and what we said to the Chamber of Commerce
17 was, "You go out and come back and tell us what the
18 capabilities, are of northern business and the
19 potential capabilities, and you come back and tell us
20 how northern business could participate in the economic
21 benefit of pipeline construction and pipeline
22 maintenance and operation."

23 We have provided those funds
24 to the Chamber of Commerce here in the north to enable
25 them to do that because we have said to the business
26 men here in the north, "You don't manufacture steel
27 pipe, you're not going to be supplying the steel pipe
28 to the pipeline, you're not manufacturing heavy
29 equipment. What is it that you can provide by way of
30 goods and services to the pipeline company and the

1 | else that wants to speak may do so.

2 |

3 |

4 |

MISS GAIL MARCOTTE sworn:

5 |

THE WITNESS: My name is Gail

6 |

Marcotte, and I didn't intend to speak tonight. I find

7 |

it much more comfortable to sit back in my chair and

8 |

wait for other people to say what I would like to say.

9 |

Several people have done that tonight: Dr. Wheeler,

10 |

Mr. Hasen, and the gentleman who just spoke.

11 |

I am against the pipeline. I

12 |

look at the native people of the north and I see them

13 |

engaged in a struggle which is very much like many

14 |

struggles of people in the south, the struggle for

15 |

self-determination, control over their own lives, and I

16 |

have seen failure in the south time and time and time

17 |

again.

18 |

I've sort of come to the

19 |

conclusion that this failure happened for two reasons:

20 |

(1) was because there wasn't enough time, and

21 |

(2) was because people among themselves weren't

22 |

communicating.

23 |

They get involved in

24 |

political rhetoric, there were people who know it all

25 |

at the top and somewhere along the line they forget

26 |

about the bus people at the bottom that they're busy

27 |

trying to save and get this self-determination for. I

28 |

have watched the native people of the north and I have

29 |

seen them communicate. They talk to one another, they

30 |

use simple words. They share knowledge and I think

1 | that they have a chance to build a good life for
2 | themselves. I think that they deserve the chance to
3 | control the economics of that life, and I think that
4 | they deserve the chance to control the social situation
5 | in which they live.

6 | I think if the pipeline goes
7 | through now, I think they will fail. I think that the
8 | social and political and economic pressures will give
9 | them no alternative but to fail, and I'm a cynic, I
10 | think the pipeline is going through and I think that
11 | the gentlemen seated here at the table with me will be
12 | the ones who will be involved in putting this pipeline
13 | through, and I'm concerned about women, and I've heard
14 | talk about, "well, you know, we're going to train these
15 | northern people, we're going to get them involved and
16 | they'll be taken care of."

17 | I'm concerned about what will
18 | happen to women should the pipeline go through, will
19 | there be jobs for women? Will there be training for
20 | women? I don't mean, you know, will they be standing at
21 | the Yellowknife Inn making a buck or two at night, and
22 | I don't mean will they be working only as waitresses
23 | and doing the difficult labor jobs for minimum wage. I
24 | would like to know if there are going to be economic
25 | opportunities for women? Thank you.

26 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, you
27 | might stay there a moment and we'll just hear what
28 | these gentlemen have to say.

29 | MR. CARTER: It's certainly
30 | the policy of the company, in fact the law, that there

1 | find that out for you and let you know. I've got a
2 | list of that some place.

3 | A O.K. Thank you.

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
5 | Miss Marcotte.

6 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

7 | THE COMMISSIONER: I should
8 | apologize. The first witness this evening was Dr.
9 | Wheeler, and I called him Dr. Watson, which is
10 | unforgivable. He said somewhere in there he said
11 | "Watson" but I think he was talking about you. At any
12 | rate I apologize to Dr. Wheeler. He must have thought
13 | I had just come from a Sherlock Holmes movie.

14 | (LAUGHTER)

15 | Well, does anyone else wish
16 | to say anything?

17 | Let me tell you that if you
18 | decide in the weeks and months ahead that you want to
19 | add anything to what you've said tonight, or if you
20 | want to say something when you didn't speak tonight,
21 | just send me a letter at the Explorer Hotel, setting
22 | out your views, and it will be treated as a written
23 | submission and we receive many of them from all over
24 | the country, so that tonight isn't sort of the last
25 | chance; but we'll certainly take into account anything
26 | else you want to say, if you want to send it in writing
27 | and just sending a letter is fine, it doesn't have to
28 | be typed or sent in quadruplicate or anything like
29 | that. Just let me know what you think.

30 | Yes, miss?

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MISS KERRY NAYLOR sworn:

THE WITNESS: I wasn't going to speak tonight either, but there was something I just wanted to say, and I thought I'd better say it while I had the chance.

My name is Kerry Naylor, and I'm a nurse at the hospital here in Yellowknife. I work on the Children's Ward at the hospital.

I think the most upsetting thing for me about the whole Inquiry is that I'm gravely disappointed in the Government of Canada for allowing the amount of money to go into a project like this rather than directing to towards research possibly to uncover other forms of energy that perhaps aren't as ecologically damaging to us as gas and oil are. I also don't know very much about the input of health and welfare, but I think that the amount of money that's been allotted to these environmental groups for researching the different aspects of the pipeline, and everyone seems to talk as if the pipeline is going to go, would probably be -- well, in my opinion -- 100 times more well used in the areas of just basic nutrition and health of the native people in the north. I'm talking about the Eskimo people and the Indian people and children mainly that. I see at the hospital, and I think that I'll give you a few examples.

Of all the children I see, the dental health of most native children, Indian and Eskimo, is completely destroyed by the time they're

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
2 anyone else who would like to say anything?

3
4 BILL WATSON resumed:

5 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, my
6 name is Bill Watson, and I'd just like to add as it
7 were a couple of foot-notes to some of the comments I
8 made last week.

9 A lot of people seem to be
10 saying, and including myself, get the feeling that what
11 these hearings are about and the related discussions
12 that go on and this sort of thing, between the Arctic
13 Gas and Foothills proposal, at least indicate that
14 inevitably a pipeline is going to be built down
15 this Mackenzie Valley following -- by either one of the
16 e companies or whatever, and following a route similar
17 to the one that's drawn on those maps. In fact these
18 days these maps, it seems rare any more you see a map
19 of the Mackenzie Valley that doesn't have that bloody
20 line that goes all the way down the middle of the map,
21 and it tends, I think, to reinforce in peoples' minds
22 that this thing has already begun and it's already
23 happening, and that there's no question of "if" the
24 pipeline is going to be built; it's "when" the pipeline
25 is going to be built.

26 Given this state, I think it
27 would do well for this hearing to consider a third
28 pipeline proposal, one that would differ quite a bit
29 from these two proposals, that in fact would have no
30 harmful political or ecological or social impact on the

1 | people or the land, and that is no pipeline.

2 | I think that has to be really
3 | seriously given an opportunity to be discussed and
4 | considered. A lot of people have talked about that
5 | they don't want a pipeline, but they usually end up by
6 | saying that they feel inevitably that this is going to
7 | be built. Usually when the government comes along and
8 | puts on a display that they seem to be putting on and
9 | companies come along and put on the promotions that
10 | they put on, people sort of see the writing on the wall
11 | that something is going to be done here, and there is
12 | not much that any of us can do about it except try to,
13 | I suppose, minimize the outcome.

14 | But I think that really has
15 | to be given some, serious consideration.

16 | The second comment that I'd
17 | like to make is that I think that there should be some
18 | means for -- I don't know what you would call it, a
19 | moratorium or whatever -- a five-year delay in any type
20 | development, and I think that has to be given very,
21 | very serious thought at this point, even regarding this
22 | hearing. I don't know if this would come in the
23 | context of the mandate of this Commission, or I don't
24 | know if either Foothills or Arctic Gas has ever given
25 | that serious consideration, but I think it's about time
26 | that these kinds of things were given more serious
27 | consideration than I think they have been up until this
28 | point of time.

29 | I know, for instance, the
30 | Indian Brotherhood and Metis Association have said that

1 | they need some time to negotiate their land claims, and
2 | even after that point they need time to find out what
3 | the meaning of this land claims will be, and a lot of
4 | people like I say, have expressed certain doubts about
5 | this huge amount of development happening. So I would
6 | seem to me very reasonable to consider something like
7 | this at this point, and it would give a lot of people,
8 | I think a little breathing space rather than being
9 | caught up in a dilemma where we feel there's nothing
10 | that we can really do, that all of this is merely an
11 | exercise in, I suppose, democratic discussion, the end
12 | of which is they're still going to build this pipeline,
13 | like it or not. Thank you.

14 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
15 | Dr. Watson.

16 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

17 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
18 | anyone else wish to say anything?

19 | Well, I think then I'll
20 | express my thanks to all of you who came tonight and to
21 | all of you who spoke. There is a kind of conventional
22 | wisdom that says that this kind of decision should only
23 | be made by the people in the government and in the
24 | industry. They, it is said, know all the facts. They
25 | have the knowledge, they have the background, they
26 | ought to make the decision . Ordinary people have
27 | nothing worthwhile to contribute to this kind of
28 | decision.

29 | The meeting tonight, like all
30 | of the meetings we have had in every community we

1 | all of you have made, tonight.

2 | Some of you have said that
3 | you're cynics. I don't think you really are. I don't
4 | think you would have come tonight if you were as
5 | cynical as you claim that you are. Some of you have
6 | said, "Well, this thing is inevitable. What we're
7 | saying tonight doesn't mean a thing."

8 | Well, you did decide to come.
9 | You did decide to say something, and those of you who
10 | decided not to say anything wanted to hear what others
11 | were saying, and there's a certain force in that
12 | exercise itself.

13 | Let me put it this way. We
14 | have never before in our country had an Inquiry before
15 | large scale frontier development was undertaken. There
16 | was no Inquiry before the James Bay project was
17 | undertaken to simply cite the most recent instance
18 | where large scale frontier development was undertaken,
19 | an instance well-known to all of us.

20 | So we are undertaking an
21 | Inquiry that is unique in the Canadian experience and
22 | really unique in the experience of any industrialized
23 | country in the west. So in this vast Territory where
24 | we have people of four races speaking seven languages,
25 | this hearing is one of the few hearings we've had where
26 | the proceedings have taken place in only one language,
27 | and we are trying to make this Inquiry meaningful to
28 | the people up here of all races, trying to enable all
29 | of them to participate.

30 | It is an Inquiry that has

1 | into the New Year.

2 | The National Energy Board is
3 | beginning its hearings in Ottawa on Monday. I will be
4 | saying to the government, "If you build this, this is
5 | what is going to happen.

6 | This is what I recommend you
7 | ought to do to make sure these things don't happen, if
8 | they are bad, or to make sure that they do happen if
9 | they are good."

10 | The National Energy Board, on
11 | the other hand, will say to the government when it has
12 | completed its hearings, "This is how much gas there is
13 | in the Mackenzie Delta, this is how much gas is needed
14 | in Southern Canada. This is how much we can export, so
15 | you ought to go ahead and build this thing," or the
16 | chairman of the National Energy Board has said
17 | this, he has said that they may recommend that there be
18 | a pipeline built, they may recommend that no pipeline
19 | be built At any rate, the Government of Canada at the
20 | end of this whole process will have my report saying,
21 | "This is what is going to happen in the north if you
22 | build this." They will have a report from the National
23 | Energy Board that says, "Having regard to the supply of
24 | gas in the Arctic, the gas requirements of Southern
25 | Canada, our export commitments, this is what we ought
26 | to do."

27 | Then the government will have
28 | to decide, and they were elected to decide and decide
29 | they must in a democracy. You and I are here to make
30 | sure that they listen to the north before they decide.

