

MR. CAMERON - OPENING ADDRESS

1 see how politicians conducted themselves 12 years ago  
2 when we had a methane explosion and death at DEVCO, and  
3 no one can argue that that project didn't have great  
4 political support and still has great political support.  
5 I think the contrast will strike you.

6 It's about also a few civil servants in Ottawa who  
7 conducted themselves like politicians. They delayed the  
8 project for over a year and after the explosion hoped  
9 that people would believe that that's exactly why they  
10 were doing it. That delay resulted in the change of  
11 company plans and led to the development of the Southwest  
12 section where the explosion occurred.

13 This is a much more difficult area to mine, but the  
14 company decided to produce coal to fulfil the contract  
15 with the Nova Scotia Power Corporation and at the same  
16 time continued to develop their tunnels north.

17 Civil servants' arguments on why the mine should be  
18 developed were to be kind distortions of the truth.  
19 Safety was never a concern to them in that report. I  
20 will produce their words which prove what I'm saying is  
21 true.

22 And I don't believe the media can say that I haven't  
23 been involved in this whole issue. Now their bias is no  
24 one's secret, but their influence is totally  
25 underestimated.