## MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

- 1 O. Let me come to the interim loan and see if I can get
- 2 from you anything to help in understanding why the
- 3 Province was required to flow those funds. Can you
- 4 recall how it came into being?
- 5 A. Well, the pressure was on. It was delayed. The
- 6 project was delayed and the pressure was on. There was a
- 7 coal contract. And there was assurance that the Federal
- 8 Government would come through sometime, and the concept
- 9 was, "Well, if they're going to come through, you gave us
- 10 \$12 million. Advance some of that, and we can actually
- 11 start the project and try to keep to schedule."
- 12 Q. All right. So the company --
- 13 A. That's my understanding.
- 14 Q. Well, you were, at that point, the Minister
- 15 responsible for it?
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. And you've told me that the company came and said,
- "Look, we need cash because..."
- 19 A. "We would like to start the project."
- Q. "We would like to start the project; we need cash"?
- 21 A. Uh-huh.
- 22 O. And the province basically gave it to them?
- 23 A. Well, we didn't gave [sic] it to them. There was a
- 24 lot of -- a lot of conditions attached to it. You will
- 25 see --