

Mr. JOHNSON (*Chambly-Rouville*): There is a list sent to you directly or to some regional official?

Mr. RICHARDSON: No, it is sent to me.

Mr. JOHNSON (*Chambly-Rouville*): It is sent to you directly by the chief engineer or architect?

Mr. RICHARDSON: Yes. Practically all large construction is carried out by the engineering headquarters staff, and not regional.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, Item No. 4 is next—costs of microwave and conditions of rental contracts. Are there any questions?

Mr FRASER: Could I have a copy of the contract you have with the Bell Telephone, at least for that link with the west? Have you filed it?

Mr. RICHARDSON: No, I have not filed it.

The CHAIRMAN: I imagine, Mr. Fisher, you would have to get permission from the Bell Telephone.

Mr. FISHER: Is that true?

Mr. RICHARDSON: I do not know what the legal status is on this. These contracts are signed by a private company and the C.B.C.

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps we could get the costs.

Mr. McGRATH: You would have to get in touch with the Bell Telephone.

Mr. RICHARDSON: I do not know.

Mr. FISHER: Could I explain why I want it, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: Proceed.

Mr. FISHER: On several occasions in our particular area there have been announcements or stories floated in the press that Bell Telephone is investigating the use of microwave facilities to fit in with the C.B.C.'s interest in establishing satellite stations. As a matter of fact, there was one public announcement by a certain politician and I wanted to look at the terms in the contract to see how this type of thing was covered and what the relationship was.

Mr. RICHARDSON: The contract would not give you that information. The contract just sets out the terms and conditions for service to these points which are listed in the contract, and then there is provision made for dicker-ing between the C.B.C. and the other party to our contract, for any extensions.

Mr. FISHER: Is it possible the Bell Telephone Company could release or be a party to a release of information that is not available to public representatives through the C.B.C.?

Mr. RICHARDSON: Well, I would expect so.

Mr. FISHER: Well, is not this rather a unilateral situation?

Mr. RICHARDSON: Well, I do not know whether or not the telephone company has ever publicly released any of the details of the prices which they have quoted to us. I have never seen any such public release.

Mr. FISHER: This is a minor point, but as far as I am concerned, it is an inequitable area. If the Bell Telephone Company's regional manager is going to release information of possible developments and at the same time we meet a stone wall from the C.B.C., then I think we have an objectionable situation.

Mr. RICHARDSON: I do not want to put up any stone walls.

Mr. FISHER: You have presented to this committee, have you not, that you are going to have some 20 LPRT's and 9 possible television extensions. I am quite willing to go along with that, but if other people such as the