

Mr. HIGGINS: I am still talking about High Arrow which starts at pages 14 and 15, but I have been asked to amplify points which have not been brought out in the testimony previously.

The CHAIRMAN: I did not quite understand that. It is now ten minutes to ten and I thought the purpose of this opening statement was to summarize fairly succinctly what has been in the hands of the committee, and which members of the committee have studied with some care.

Mr. GROOS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to hear the rest of this, because obviously the witness has not had an opportunity to amplify his statement in the light of the remarks made by witnesses in the last two or three days.

Mr. MACDONALD: After all, he is following the original suggestion of Mr. Leboe.

Mr. HERRIDGE: Yes. I think we are all very interested in hearing this very lucid presentation.

Mr. BYRNE: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to draw your attention to the fact that in ten minutes one hour will have transpired. My understanding of our decision was that there would be a presentation, that the committee would peruse it during the period between the time it was received and the presentation was made, and then the witness would summarize what is in the brief. Now, apparently we have reached page 14 from page 9 which is only five pages. There are 98 pages in this brief, all of which we have read. It seems to me we would get along much more rapidly if the witness were simply to read the brief. It is his brief he is presenting and not comments on former presentations.

The CHAIRMAN: I certainly do not want to cut down on questions, but it seems to me to be an impropriety on the part of any witness simply to review what he has been hearing in the last two or three days. Surely we cannot expect long comments on the extensive evidence we have had. I am not referring to you particularly, Mr. Higgins, but in principle. If you are to revert to some other subject which has been raised by some other witness, except by way of questions, surely we are likely to get nowhere.

Mr. CAMERON (*Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands*): I think anyone who has read the brief will realize that Mr. Higgins is covering much more than merely a summary of page 14.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall we leave it to the witness?

Mr. HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My summary of this brief is a random process. Some pages may take a long time and many will take no time at all.

The point which I was just attempting to make—and I was trying to quote Mr. Wadson as an authority—is that if you have inadequate re-regulating capacity, a substitute is an interconnection agreement.

Now I am on page 16, but we take a great leap forwardly shortly. In the international Columbia river engineering board report, Murphy creek is referred to as Low Arrow. If High Arrow is developed, then Low Arrow becomes strictly a power project. If High Arrow is not developed, then Murphy creek can have up to 3.1 million acre feet of storage capacity. It could be argued, therefore, that if High Arrow is developed, then Low Arrow becomes an expensive power project because it cannot be credited with any storage benefits and, conversely, if Murphy creek is built, the High Arrow becomes a relatively expensive storage project because the 3.1 million acre feet of the capacity currently credited to High Arrow already will have been credited.

Now, I will skip over the economics of these things and return to this later, except, perhaps, to draw the attention of the members to the little summary on page 21 of the findings of the international Columbia river engineering board which appears at pages 102 and 103 of the report.