

1 regulators and public officials associated with the mine,  
2 the men and women who worked at the mine and the people  
3 who ran the mine. In the course of our review, we're  
4 going to ask you to make findings on the evidence and we  
5 will propose reforms to regulations and practices to help  
6 reduce the likelihood of tragedies like Westray happening  
7 in the future.

8 It would be difficult to overstate the importance  
9 that we attach, the United Steelworkers of America, that  
10 we attach to the report you are about to begin writing.  
11 It's no exaggeration to say that there are tens of  
12 thousands of members of this union in Canada and the  
13 United States who are looking to you who are in the  
14 mining industry today and are looking to you for a clear  
15 decisive statement that will give them some assurance  
16 that at some time in the future they will not find  
17 themselves in the position that the employees of Westray  
18 found themselves.

19 And from our perspective, Mr. Commissioner, your  
20 recommendations should reflect four broad principles:

21 First, we must say "No" to deregulation of health  
22 and safety. This is a public issue that concerns the  
23 whole community and our laws must reflect that fact.

24 Second, the people who represent the public interest  
25 must be trained and professional. They must be the equal