

1 between one and a quarter and two and a half percent ten
2 feet away from the barriers. And you remember Mr. McLean
3 saying he went right up to the edge, he brought his
4 methanometer around the edge of the barrier and he got
5 nothing. Claude White testified that Mr. McLean told him
6 he had recorded some gas that day, but Mr. White didn't
7 ask how much.

8 And we know that after the explosion, the Department
9 recommended charges under the Occupational Health and
10 Safety Act against Westray based on Mr. McLean recording
11 a reading of four percent methane on April the 29th. And
12 those recommendations were reviewed by Mr. McLean and Mr.
13 White before they were passed on. The reading could not
14 have been made on March the 30th, as was suggested in
15 some questions before you because on March the 30th there
16 was no barrier in front of which an inspector could have
17 taken a reading.

18 It's likely that the gas from the Southwest 1
19 section played a significant role in the explosion on May
20 the 9th. There doesn't seem to be much debate about that
21 among the experts. The experts agree that the conditions
22 were right for the gas to layer in the roadways leading
23 into the working faces and that gas in fact became the
24 fuel that ignited the coal dust.

25 We submit you should find, Mr. Commissioner, that