



CANADA

115,000 mt. N. Cod
→ Income

Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans

NUMBER 020

1

2nd SESSION

1

39th PARLIAMENT

Mr. Bill Matthews:

How do we find out, then?

Mr. David Bevan:

That's a matter between the various companies.

Mr. Bill Matthews:

So the department would have no concern whatsoever about the dollar value that changes hands on a common property resource such as this.

Mr. David Bevan:

The practice on enterprise allocations, as we have had for the last 30 years, is that we would evaluate the request to transfer the quota from one company to another based on the policies that are administered by the department and approved by the minister. Those policies are that the company receiving the quota has to be qualified to do so and to fish it. Anything that happens between the companies is between the companies.

That policy was put in place as we made significant decisions, for example, on 2J3KL cod. The first 115,000 tonnes go to the inshore and the remainder would be shared between the inshore and the offshore. And those kinds of quota shifts that we made in the past to give portions of the quota to the offshore occurred because they didn't have as much as they had in the past and they needed the opportunity to be able to fish it economically, and that's what we've allowed them to do.

Mr. Bill Matthews:

I saw a recent letter to your minister from the Newfoundland and Labrador fisheries minister, Minister Rideout, expressing concern about this transfer. He talked about adjacency, dependency, and I believe at one point in one part of the letter he mentioned some concern about Bill C-32. I think they felt some comfort in Bill C-32, that this type of thing wouldn't happen.

I know the minister has to respond to the other minister. But what do you think off the top about Minister Rideout's concerns?

CONFERENCE

Thursday, March 13, 2008

[Recorded by Electronic Apparatus]

(0905)

[English]

The Chair (Mr. Fabian Manning (Avalon, CPC)):

I call the meeting to order.

We have a quorum for witnesses, so we'll begin. Since we've been in anticipation of your arrival over the past number of weeks, we want to start and have plenty of time to pose some questions.

I'd like to welcome our guests. We almost think Mr. Bevan is part of the committee here after this week, but it's great to see you again, as well as Mr. Hegge and Ms. Dansereau.

I will give you the opportunity for some opening remarks, and then we'll open the floor up for questions. Once again, thank you for appearing here this morning.

The floor is yours.

Ms. Claire Dansereau (Associate Deputy Minister, Department of Fisheries and Oceans):

Thank you.

Good morning, Mr. Chair and honourable members. I am actually very pleased to be with you today to get to know you better and to have you get to know me a little bit in my new capacity as associate deputy minister with Fisheries and Oceans Canada. I was going to introduce my colleagues, Cal Hegge and Dave Bevan, but as you said you know them well