

cc MAFF
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DSS



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

11 February 1981

Dear Mr Parry,

Thank you for your letter of 28 January about the closure of the Liverpool refinery.

We are all concerned at the impact a closure of this size will have on an area which already suffers from a higher than average rate of unemployment.

The Government has done what it can to explore with Tate and Lyle alternatives to closure but the final decision has to be for the Company. I understand they could find no economically possible alternative.

You already have a meeting arranged with Peter Walker, who will also be seeing delegations from the Merseyside County Council and the Liverpool City Council. Since he has been personally involved in meetings and discussions on the subject, which he will be reporting fully to me, I think it would be more sensible for this meeting to go ahead rather than that you should bring a deputation to see me.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Robert Parry, Esq., M.P.

SP