

HADFIELDS' JOINT SHOP STEWARDS COMMITTEE

R30
PPS
HADFIELDS LIMITED,
EAST HECLA WORKS,
VULCAN ROAD,
TINSLEY,
SHEFFIELD,
S9 1TZ.

cc Press office ✓

28th April, 1981

The Rt. Hon. M. H. Thatcher, M.P.,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON.

Copy: Sir Keith Joseph

Dear Madam,

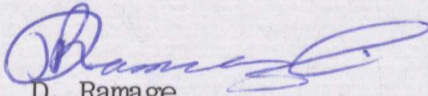
Thank you for your letter of the 23rd April, 1981. *behind*

I am afraid you have been misinformed by the British Steel Corporation since the two thirds reduction in capacity at Templeborough has been mitigated by the re-installation of two furnaces ex Templeborough at Aldwarke. The total reduction in capacity by the B.S.C. in engineering steels is therefore the equivalent of only one third of the previous Templeborough capacity, or put another way only 12% of B.S.C.'s total capacity.

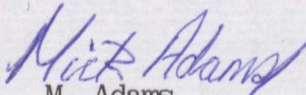
As you mention in your letter, Duport have eliminated 100% of their capacity and Hadfields' proposal will reduce 60% of its capacity.

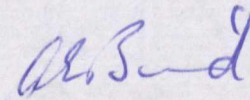
It is the very fact that your decisions, which we respect even though we may disagree with them, are based on misinformation from the B.S.C. that we feel it is imperative that you should meet the Hadfields' Conveners.

Yours sincerely,


D. Ramage


K. G. Poole


M. Adams


A. Bird



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 123 VICTORIA STREET
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Secretary of State for Industry

23 April 1981

M Adams Esq
 Secretary
 The Hadfields Joint Shop
 Stewards' Committee
 Hadfields Limited
 East Media Works
 Vulcan Road
 Tinsley
 Sheffield S9 1TZ

Dear Mr Adams,

In her absence abroad the Prime Minister has asked me to reply to your letter of 30 March.

I remember very well the determined fight that Hadfields' employees put up to safeguard their jobs during the BSC strike and I much regret that the company should now be in such difficulty. I am afraid that these are difficulties shared by all plants in the engineering steels sector in the EEC. They stem primarily from excess capacity in the UK and Europe. BSC is closing two-thirds of its capacity at Templeborough to meet the situation and, as you know, Duport has had to close its works at Llanelli.

I noted the points you put to me when we met on 2 March with Bill Sirs.

I am sorry that I do not feel any useful purpose would be served by a meeting with the Hadfields' workforce at this stage.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Joseph

Copies to -:

- PC/NT*
- FS/Min*
- FS/Sec*
- As Sec*
- Mr Binning*
- Mr ...*
- Mr ...*
- Mr ...*