

Not Ind: Coal.
Mufaxed

PRIME MINISTER

NOTTINGHAM MINERS

Nottingham Council met this morning to consider the position of their men in the light of delegate conference yesterday.

Council took the view that they would endorse yesterday's position. This means that those who wish to strike will be on strike officially, whilst those who continue to work must respect the picket lines.

In other words, Council is backing the strike. However, this action has been challenged as unconstitutional as no area vote has been taken. Council Chairman overruled this objection.

Position now is to wait and see what happens. In the past advice of the Council has been rejected and this may well happen again. But as all the pits won't be back to normal working until Wednesday (because of the Easter break) we need to wait until then to see if Nottinghamshire has succumbed.

Manley* (Department of Energy) stressed that in the past pits have ignored advice of Council and we must wait until Wednesday before jumping to any conclusions, either way.

The Secretary of State for ^{Energy} ~~the Environment~~ has been informed of this development.

DUTY CLERK

20 April 1984

1630 hours

* Mr Manley
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