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Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

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9 May 1984

The Rt Hon Peter Rees QC MP  
Chief Secretary  
HM Treasury  
Treasury Chambers  
Whitehall SW1

*D. Peter,*

MINERS' DISPUTE: POLICING COSTS

I have seen a copy of Leon Brittan's letter to you of 8 May, and his proposed arranged Question and Answer on the policing costs of the miners' dispute. I would like to support his proposals for meeting the additional costs of the dispute, and I agree with the lines of the statement which he proposes to make on Thursday.

2 I also agree with Leon's proposal in his letter to Patrick Jenkin of 8 May that we should exempt from grant holdback the additional part of a local authority's expenditure in 1984/85 which arises from the policing of this dispute.

3 I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, the other members of MISC 101, George Younger and Patrick Jenkin, and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Norman*

NORMAN TEBBIT