

DEPARTMENT OF

ENERGY

August 13, 1984

Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ.
Press Office Direct Line: 01-211 4545 Out of hours: 01-212 7071/2/3

PRESS NOTICE

The Rt Hon Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said today:

"This morning there has been a substantial increase in attendance at Bilston Glen where on Friday there was a record attendance of 47. Today the attendance rose into the 70s. Also, there is a record attendance at Warsop which again marks an increase on the previous record attendance. What is interesting is that at both of these pits massive picketing took place, violence occurred and many arrests had to be made.

"Yesterday, Mr Kinnock said that he was against violence on the picket lines. I now call on Mr Kinnock to denounce the totally unjustified violence that took place at Bilston Glen and Warsop today.

"Will Mr Kinnock now declare that he supports the TUC's guidance on picketing? Indeed, the guidance originally provided by the NUM itself when it said there should be only six pickets at any one colliery, picketing peacefully?

"If Mr Kinnock would support me in urging Mr Scargill's compliance with this guidance, then I have no doubt that throughout the country thousands more miners will join the miners at Bilston Glen and Warsop and return to work over the coming days.

"If Mr Kinnock is sincere in deploring violence, there is no better opportunity for him doing so than in commenting on what has occurred today."

Handwritten initials and date:
10/12