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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY

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Andrew Turnbull Esq Private Secretary to the Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SW1

20 September 1984

Rear Andrew

ENDURANCE

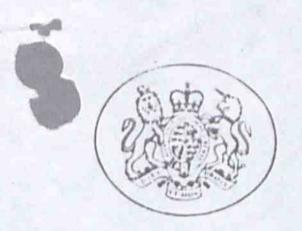
I attach this week's report on power station endurance.

Copies also go to Margaret O'Mara and Richard Hatfield.

J S NEILSON

Private Secretary

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POWER STATION ENDURANCE

- 1. Coal deliveries to CEGB power stations last week were 0.65 mt (including non-NCB sources), the best achieved since the start of the strike. Coal burn was 0.57 mt so that for the second week stocks have increased, by 0.08 mt. The Board's stocks last Sunday night (16 September) were 14.5 mt with a further 0.9 mt at Scottish power stations.
- 2. Total NCB deliveries last week were about 0.82 mt, of which about 0.20 mt went to customers other than power stations.
- 3. The average rate of coal deliveries to CEGB power stations over the whole period of the strike has been 0.45 mt per week. The average over the past 8 weeks has been 0.49 mt.
- 4. The range of endurance outcomes is estimated by the CEGB as follows:

	Oil burn (% of maximum)	
Average coal deliveries	90%	100%
0.30 mt/week	early Jan	late Jan
0.35	mid Jan	early Feb
0.40	late Jan	Late Feb
0.45	early Feb	early March -
between 0.45 and 0.52		(see Note)
above 0.52		Autumn 1985

NB: Between 0.45 and 0.52 mt/week it is particularly difficult to forecast endurance with confidence. The margin needed to extend endurance from Spring (March/April) throughout the Summer is small, as Sir Walter Marshall has explained.

Department of Energy 19 September 1984