

PRESS STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY

It is incredible that an NUM national executive which no longer represents the majority of miners should end in Mr Scargill again repeating that he is opposed to any pit, no matter how uneconomic, being closed after going through all of the appropriate procedures.

The sad fact is that coal faces are being lost week after week because of this unnecessary industrial action.

The final offer made by the Coal Board and conveyed to the NUM by the TUC is a document which embraces the NACODS agreement and deals with the crucial question of how the modified colliery review procedures agreed with NACODS can be implemented. If agreed to and put into operation, it will provide miners with the greatest influence they have ever had on the future of any individual colliery.

It is in the interests of every miner, his family and community, that miners return swiftly to normal working and the excellent offer that is available is put into effect.

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28 February 1985