

2023

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DAILY MAIL STORIES

REVIEW PROCEDURE

The National Coal Board are standing by the agreement made with NACODs in October. Unfortunately over 70 faces were lost during the strike and another 42 are causing concern but they are being realistic and if necessary transferring people from pits if they want to ~~xx~~ or offering them voluntary redundancy.

INTIMIDATION

Again, the NCB are standing by those miners who worked normally during the dispute and management are continuing to take firm action to protect their interests. Anybody found guilty of intimidation against other miners can be dismissed from the industry and management will not tolerate any intimidation against those miners who worked during the dispute.

In some of the areas the NCB have installed a free-phone telephone number so that any miner who feels that he may be intimidated can get in touch with his local area management. But the Coal Board are hoping that commonsense will prevail and that harmony and good working relations will return to the industry.

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27 March 1985

P E Heathfield Esq
Secretary
National Union of Mineworkers
St James' House
Vicar Lane
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S1 2EX

Dear Mr Heathfield

In order to avoid any misunderstanding of actions that are currently taking place in the coalfields, the Board are issuing the attached Statement to all the Unions.

Area Directors will also be ensuring that this statement by the National Coal Board is promulgated at colliery level.

Yours sincerely



/s/ H M SPANTON

(similar letter also sent to Mr P McNestry & Mr A Wilson)

STATEMENT BY THE NATIONAL COAL BOARD

The Board are urgently assessing the problems caused by the strike at individual collieries and other locations.

It is clear that, in many Areas, damage has occurred which will take months to recover. In some circumstances where the cost of recovery cannot be supported by a viable long term future the damage may be judged to be permanent and irreparable.

Whilst detailed assessments are being made the Board are taking immediate action to reduce costs by means of voluntary and consequential redundancy. The Transfer Scheme will also form part of this post-strike recovery strategy.

Management will make every endeavour to give as detailed an assessment as practicable about the state of individual collieries and the action that is proposed. However, this immediate post-strike strategy should not be regarded as action within the industry's normal joint procedures. Those procedures will be fully resumed when the detailed assessments have been made.

27 March 1985