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From the Private Secretary

18 July 1979

I have written to you, and to Private Secretaries to other Members of E, with the Prime Minister's comments on the enclosure to the Secretary of State for Energy's minute of 17 July about the Vale of Belvoir Inquiry.

In addition to the specific views I recorded in that letter, I should report to you that the Prime Minister commented that she would not be prepared to let that statement go forward in her own name. She also suggested that your Secretary of State might like to investigate the work being undertaken by Sir Frank Taylor's staff in the Technology Department at Taylor Woodrow.

M. A. PATTISON

W.J. Burroughs, Esq.,
Department of Energy.

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18 July 1979

From the Private Secretary

VALE OF BELVOIR INQUIRY

The Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's minute of 17 July, with which he enclosed the evidence he proposes to make available in writing to the Vale of Belvoir Inquiry on the Government's assessment of energy requirements.

The Prime Minister finds the statement inadequate. She has noted that it makes little reference to nuclear energy, nor to the predominant place this was given at Tokyo. She feels that the statement should draw attention to the reserves of energy in uranium supplies already available to us, and should make some assessment of the contribution that other sources of energy could make. She would also wish to see set out other possible alternative assessments of need and ways of meeting that need.

I would be grateful if the draft statement could now be reconsidered. As it has to be made available by 31 July, you will wish to ensure that a redraft reaches us by 25 July, to ensure that the Prime Minister can consider it before she departs for Lusaka.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to Members of E Committee and to Martin Vile (Cabinet Office).

M. A. PATTISON

W.J. Burroughs, Esq.,
Department of Energy.

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