

*Energy**CF*

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

12 October 1981

Dear Mr Murray

Thank you for your letter of 27 August.

The report of the Inspector who conducted the Inquiry into the NCB's proposals for mining coal in the Vale of Belvoir is currently being considered by Michael Heseltine. I hope a decision can be announced before long. I am sorry that I cannot say anything more at present, but I am sure you understand the reasons for this.

On the wider issues raised in your letter, the Government continues to believe that an efficient and competitive coal industry can play an important role in meeting the country's future energy needs.

(SGD) MARGARET THATCHER

The Right Honourable Lionel Murray, O.B.E.

RB



Energy

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY
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Mike Pattison
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

En m h

29 September 1981

Dear Mike

Your letter of 1 September to Julian West asked for a draft letter for the Prime Minister to send to the TUC in response to Len Murray's letter of 27 August. A draft is enclosed. My apologies for the delay.

Yours ever

David Lumley

DAVID LUMLEY
Private Secretary

DL 29/9

Enc

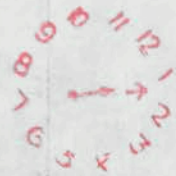
DRAFT LETTER TO RT HON LIONEL MURRAY

BELVOIR COALFIELD

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30 SEP 1987