

Telephone

01-238 8001

DEPARTMENT OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT  
2 MARSHAM STREET  
SWIP 3EB



*With the Compliments of the  
Secretary of State for the Environment*

To be associated with Mrs Ghosh's  
letter of 1/3/82

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S of S to see  
Adv for S of S  
Mr Everall

**NATIONAL UNION OF MINeworkERS**

222 EUSTON ROAD, LONDON, NW1 2BX

President J. GORMLEY, O.B.E.

Secretary L. DALY

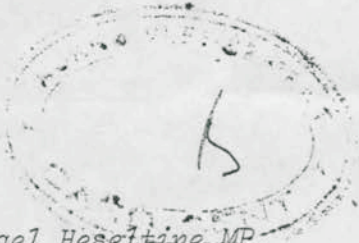
Telephone 01-387 7631

Please quote our reference in reply:

Your Ref: H/PSO/15670/81

Our Ref: JG/RE

29th January 1982



The Rt Hon Michael Heseltine MP  
Secretary of State for the Environment  
2 Marsham Street  
LONDON  
SW1P 3RB

cc PS Mr King  
PS Mr Slane  
Su Wiffed  
Dunn  
Mr Wedd

Dear Michael,

The saga of the Vale of Belvoir and the exploitation of coal reserves in that area is reaching a critical phase as the mines in the Leicestershire area grow daily to nearly a point of exhaustion. Unless there is an early decision made in a positive way for fulfilling the Coal Board's plans to exploit the coal in the Vale of Belvoir area, the country will lose the services of an exceptional workforce of miners who have proved over the years their skill and enthusiasm to produce coal and to exert moderation as has recently been shown in the recent Ballot on wages.

We believe that this matter has been dealt with long enough and that an early decision should be made in the interests of not only the miners and their families in that area, but for the Coal Industry itself and the country's supply of energy in the future years ahead. It is seven months since I last wrote to you on the matter and having already had the public inquiry report with you for months before that, I would have thought that an early positive decision was called for and on behalf of the NUM, I am asking that you make a positive decision by approving the plans of the Coal Board so that they can start getting on with providing jobs which will be of great value in the future.

Awaiting an early positive reply,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

*Joe Gormley*  
JOE GORMLEY  
President

4 MAR 1982

