Prime Minister (2) Mus a/3 NATIONAL UNION OF MINEWORKERS Enliqu 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: Our Ref: JG/RE 5th March 1982 The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SWI Dear Mrs. Thatcher, Thank you for your letter of the 3rd March regarding the Vale of Belvoir, and I note the contents therein. Yours sincerely,

CE DIN 10 DOWNING STREET 3 March 1982 THE PRIME MINISTER Than The Corney Thank you for your letter of 29 January about the Vale of Belvoir coalfield. I fully understand your concern about the time it is taking to reach a decision on the National Coal Board's planning applications, and I am well aware of the importance to your members in Leicestershire and South Nottinghamshire of creating new jobs. However, the Belvoir case really is very complex, and it is important that all the implications of the inquiry inspector's recommendations are fully studied. I know that Michael Heseltine, who has statutory responsibility for the decision, has himself devoted much time to this issue and is continuing to do so. Indeed, I understand he wrote to you recently about it. I do assure you that everything possible is being done to bring matters to a speedy conclusion. Livery good wish. Your sicuely Day wer helite J. Gormley, Esq., O.B.E.