



JF2310  
Secretary of State for Industry

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY  
ASHDOWN HOUSE  
123 VICTORIA STREET  
LONDON SW1E 6RB  
TELEPHONE DIRECT LINE 01-212 3301  
SWITCHBOARD 01-212 7676

23 December 1982

Councillor J H Edmonds OBE  
Leader of the Council  
Dudley Metropolitan Borough  
Council House  
DUDLEY  
West Midlands  
071 1HF

PS/Mr Lamont  
PS/Mr Butcher  
Mr Manzie  
Mr Binning  
Mr Mogg  
Mr Murray -  
on file

Dear Councillor Edmonds,

Thank you for your letter of 10 December about the closure of Round Oak Steel Works.

2 As you will no doubt be aware, when the deputation from the works and Dudley Council came to see me on 30 November, I explained that the decision to close Round Oak was a decision that BSC alone had to take in order to restore their financial and commercial position in the face of mounting losses; it was not open to me to influence or manage that decision in any way. I undertook to write to John Blackburn after carefully considering the dossiers handed over which made out the case for retaining steel making at Round Oak. I am enclosing a copy of that letter in case you have not already seen it and because it answers many of the detailed points raised in your letter. You will be particularly interested in the bid which has been made to BSC for that part of Round Oak which produces forging ingots.

Yours  
Peter Teb

Encl