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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

TELEPHONE 01-218 9000
DIRECT DIALLING 01-218 6169

MO 26/17/2V

3rd February 1986

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Dear Peter,

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ENERGY: REPORT ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY OFFICE

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 29th January to Kenneth Baker, enclosing a draft response to this Energy Committee report.

You will know from your attendance at our "Energy Special" on 10th December that the Ministry of Defence is now taking energy efficiency very seriously. We are particularly conscious of the point made in paragraph 11 of the response, since money spent on non-operational energy use is money which cannot be spent on strengthening our operational capability. We believe that the initiative launched last year will create significant additional savings for the Defence Budget.

John Lee has taken a particularly close interest in these matters, and will be holding a meeting next week of our Steering Group for Defence Energy Efficiency to review progress over the

The Rt Hon Peter Walker MBE MP



last few months and plans for the future. One of the things which is likely to come out of that meeting is a requirement for all sites on the Defence Estate to appoint Energy Managers, as predicted in paragraphs 8 and 38 of the response.

The section of the response which most concerns the Ministry of Defence is, of course, paragraph 38. There are one or two minor drafting changes which I would suggest and a / revised version of the text is attached. This also takes the opportunity to refer the Committee back to their comments about the Ministry of Defence in the main body of the report, and in particular the memorandum we have sent to the Defence Committee.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Nigel Lawson, Norman Fowler, David Young, Nicholas Ridley, Malcolm Rifkind, Nicholas Edwards, Tom King, Kenneth Baker, Paul Channon, Richard Luce and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours well,

George

George Younger

REVISED VERSION OF PARAGRAPH 38

A special briefing meeting was held in December for staff responsible for management within the Ministry of Defence. This was addressed by the Secretaries of State for Defence and Energy and attended by more than 250 senior officers and officials. A senior official within the Defence Staff has been appointed as Energy Co-ordinator for the Defence Estate, and consideration is being given to requiring each major site to nominate an energy manager responsible for monitoring energy consumption. The Committee noted that the Select Committee on Defence has recently also expressed an interest in the subject of energy efficiency in the MoD: a memorandum was submitted to that Committee by the Ministry of Defence in November 1985. The Government intends to secure substantial improvements in energy efficiency in the Defence Estate.

ENERGY

CONSERVATION

PT 2

