

CCBG



Qz.05399

Mr Powell (10 Downing Street)*attached.*Large Combustion Plants: possible discussion in E(A)

We spoke about the minute of 29 October from the Secretary of State for the Environment to the Prime Minister. The Secretary of State for the Environment has accepted that the handling in Brussels and any United Kingdom Presidency document should not involve us in costs higher than those which will already be incurred as a result of agreed action within the United Kingdom on pollution control, including the retrofit programme. In these circumstances it is mainly a technical question, on which the Inspectorate (IAPI) has advised, what, for example, the standards for new plants ... might be. I attach a draft letter for you to send expressing the hope that this can be agreed without a full meeting of E(A).

*D F Williamson*

D F WILLIAMSON

29 October 1986

Qz.05400

*CMU*  
*DLN*  
 Draft letter for ~~Mr Powell~~ (10 Downing Street) to send to  
Mr Robin Young (DOE)

*Please type*  
*JHR*  
Acid Rain : Draft EC Directive on large Combustion Plants.

Your Secretary of State minuted the Prime Minister on 29 October about the handling in Brussels of further discussions on emissions from large combustion plants, in the light of the conclusions of E(A) on 10 September. The Prime Minister notes that your Secretary of State intends that there should not be expenditure beyond that which has already been authorised explicitly or which is expected to take place anyway. She believes that the handling of this issue by the United Kingdom within the Community should follow from the decisions taken earlier, including those <sup>on</sup> retrofitting, and that broad guidance was given by E(A) at its meetings on 24 July and 10 September. She therefore hopes that it will be possible for the Ministers most directly concerned to agree, without convening a meeting of E(A), on the approach to the discussions in the forthcoming Environment Council in Brussels.

I am sending copies to the private secretaries of members of E(A) and to Colin Budd (FCO) and Sir Robert Armstrong.