

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY THAMES HOUSE SOUTH

MILLBANK LONDON SWIP 4QJ 01 211 6402

The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP Secretary of State Department of the Environment 2 Marsham Street LONDON SW1P 3EB

2 June 1988

Con Muhalan

ACID RAIN - LARGE COMBUSTION PLANTS DIRECTIVE

Many thanks for your letter of 36 May.

I agree that though the Environmental Council on 16 June may well be the occasion on which we can settle the Directive at the best price, we must not sign up regardless of that price. I have asked my officials to work as closely as possible with yours so that Ministers can decide on the best estimates possible whether the benefit of an agreement stands to exceed the costs.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, Geoffrey Howe, Members of $E\left(A\right)$ and Sir Robin Butler.

CECIL PARKINSON

