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R U Young Esq
Private Secretary to
The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP
Secretary of State for the Environment
Department of the Environment
2 Marsham Street
LONDON
SW1P 3EB

13 December 1986

NBP7.

Dear Robin,

~~Thank you~~ ^{WITH MGA?} for sending me a copy of your letter to Mark Addison of 11 December, enclosing a draft statement for your Secretary of State to make on Tuesday 16 December.

My Secretary of State has only a minor comment on the draft, which is to redraft the last sentence of paragraph 9 to read:

"Also in January my rt hon Friends and I will inform designated authorities of the exact rate and precept limits which will be implied by the settlement under the provisions of the Bill."

My Secretary of State has also asked me to say that if there is any prospect that the Bill will not be ready for introduction before January, he considers that an indication of the formula proposed for the PTAs will need to be given to them before the House rises.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Prime Minister, to other members of E(LA), to the Attorney General, to the Chief Whips in both Houses and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours,
Richard Allan

for. J CUNLIFFE
Private Secretary

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