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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT  
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The Rt Hon William Whitelaw CH, MC, MP  
Secretary of State for the Home Department  
Home Office  
50 Queen Anne's Gate  
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6 May 1982

*Dear William*

REVIEW OF RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM

Thank you for copying to me your letter of 26 April to Patrick Jenkin. I support your proposal to open up these issues for public debate through the agency of an independent review of the radio frequency spectrum between 30 and 960 MHz and I am content with the proposed terms of reference.

My department will wish to contribute to the review because we believe that mobile radios offer substantial benefits for land transport. Recent developments in electronics offer the possibility of exchanging up-to-the-minute information between vehicles and their bases of operation. As a result, transport costs should be reduced, along with energy consumption, traffic congestion, noise and pollution. Some additional profitable business for transport operators should also result from their being better informed.

I am concerned that the shortage of radio spectrum is beginning to frustrate the realisation of these benefits. I hope very much that your review will accelerate progress,

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and for this reason I think it is important to keep to the date of 1 September for the interim report on the future of bands I and III.

*Yours*

*David*

DAVID HOWELL

16 MAY 1982

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