Con Pol: PUS EXA AT872 The Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin MP Secretary of State for the Environment 2 Marsham Street LONDON SW1P 3EB

CONFIDENTIAL



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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

ELIZABETH HOUSE, YORK ROAD, LONDON SEI 7PH TELEPHONE 01-928 9222

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

7 February 1984

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copy astocked folder) Thank you for copying to me your letter of 3 February to Nigel Lawson about the state of the capital stock.

I agree with what you write.

We need, it seems to me, to take a measured view of the problem against a longish time-scale and within the inevitable financial constraints if we are to avoid storing up trouble for ourselves either in this Parliament or the next.

As the issue is, as you imply, sensitive, I hope that any inter-departmental study would do its job without publicity.

I am copying this letter as you did yours.

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