

*CEPA*



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From The Secretary of State for Wales

The Rt Hon Peter Walker MBE MP

CT/3619/89

24 October 1989

*[Handwritten signature]*

*NBP*

*Rice*

*31/10*

**ANCILLARY USE OF BROADCASTING SIGNALS**

I have seen your letter of 12 October to Nicholas Ridley in which you set out your proposals for using the spare capacity on television and radio transmission signals.

I am generally content with your proposals but I am concerned that they should not interfere in any way with the ability of S4C to provide sub-titles in English for Welsh-language broadcasts on their teletext service. I think this clearly falls within the category of "public service" use of spare capacity since it caters for those who would not otherwise be able to enjoy the full range of programmes on S4C. It also provides valuable support for those people learning Welsh. I would hope, therefore, that we can find some means of ensuring that this service can continue.

/ I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, other members of MISC 128 and to Sir Robin Butler.

*[Large handwritten signature]*

The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP  
Home Secretary  
Queen Anne's Gate  
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BROADCASTING: Legislation  
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