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The Rt Hon David Hunt MBE MP

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From The Secretary of State for Wales

12H November 1990

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BROADCASTING OWNERSHIP

Thank you for your letter of 1 November setting out your revised proposals covering the ownership of Channel 3 licences.

I see some attraction in proceeding in the way you propose. However for your proposals to be acceptable to Welsh interests it will be essential for HTV to be included in the extended list of 'large' areas as you propose. During the course of the Bill the question of how regional requirements should be interpreted as far as Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland were concerned was an issue which received considerable attention. Even hinting that we would be prepared to see a change in the Channel 3 map as it affects Wales would only rekindle this controversy and would I believe be completely the wrong signal to send at this stage.

On the understanding that HTV would appear on the list of 'large' areas I would support a change along the lines you propose.

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

Sur evel

The Rt Hon David Waddington QC MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department
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