



CPH

PRIME MINISTER

flap.

I have seen David Young's minute to you of 1 February proposing that the UK should participate in the second Earth Resources Satellite. I have also seen the replies by Kenneth Baker and John Major.

I agree that we should look closely at the ERS-2 option. However, it needs to be weighed up carefully with other opportunities to accelerate our understanding of climate change. You have remitted to the Chief Scientific Adviser the task of advising us on research priorities and I think it would be best if he were able to take on board the useful points on ERS-2 made by David Young when forming his overall assessment. If the UK was to agree to support ERS-2, this would be a major announcement in its own right, and unless colleagues have already convinced themselves of this venture's merit, I see no presentational advantage in rushed consideration ahead of the March Conference.

NR

15 February 1989

ENV. AFFAIRS: G.W. Pollution Pt. 7

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COMMISSION

