

Prime Minister

Content for (X) (at a cost of £30m for savings of £45m per annum)?

Content for (Y), as Greg Bowles suggests?

But do you agree that (Z) is not appropriate (perhaps the Efficiency Unit in PMU be used instead)?

27 June 1989

PRIME MINISTER

NEW PUBLIC SECTOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY CAMPAIGN

See attached minute

Cecil Parkinson notes that previous initiatives to promote energy efficiency in Government departments have been patchy and, with a few exceptions, short lived. It is important therefore to set up mechanisms to ensure that a continuous effort is made by departments to measure their energy usage and promote its efficient use.

Efficiency Unit in PMU be used instead?

CS 28/6

The Secretary of State proposes to:

(X)

- identify a Minister responsible for energy use in each Department;
- streamline existing guidelines on contract energy management;
- set up a system for monitoring progress;
- publish measures of performance where appropriate within the PES White Paper, including a league table.

Y CS

These measures will start the ball rolling. However, to sustain the effort, I believe Cecil Parkinson should:

(Y)

- publish the list of responsible Ministers (by post title to allow for changes);
- state a date for the first publication of energy usage and efficiency targets;
- state that the targets will be reviewed and published annually;

- ② - indicate that the Government intends to hire the NAO to carry out independent ad hoc audits to ensure compliance.

Adopting the above measures will harness the external pressures from MPs, select committees and bodies such as the Association for the Conservation of Energy. This external pressure will keep the Whitehall machine focussed on producing results and should prevent backsliding when other "more important" issues attract their attention.

It will also help demonstrate the Government's commitment to energy efficiency just when it is being brought into question during the passage of the Electricity Bill.

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GREG BOURNE