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Ms Caroline Slocock
Secretary to the Prime Minister
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10th July 1989

Dear Caroline

May I first thank you for your part in organising my recent meeting with the Prime Minister. I wonder whether it would be more appropriate to send communications addressed to you, rather than directly to the Prime Minister. If your portfolio changes in the future, perhaps you could kindly advise us of the name of your successor.

I enclose two copies of the latest issue of our Bulletin which is a special issue on the UK's wider environmental role. You will see that it also reports briefly that my meeting with the Prime Minister occurred, without revealing the contents of our discussions.

One point which we did discuss was the "safety inherent reactor" concept. I enclose an article from the most recent issue of ATOM, the UKAEA's journal, which discusses this. The first part is somewhat technical but the closing sections discuss the general concept. I have also asked some of the partners in the consortium to send some material direct.

Finally, can I turn to a matter which I raised at the ministerial seminar on 26th April, when there was debate on whether private enterprise initiative alone could respond to environmental challenges. I mentioned then that a leading UK company had initiated some discussions with us on a novel approach to urban transport problems designed to address both congestion and pollution problems.

I can now reveal some more details, although I would be grateful if you could treat them in confidence. The enterprise is the leading car hire company, Hertz UK Limited. They now wish to take their ideas forward and have asked us to convene a small high-level discussion with the leading agencies, public and private, which would need to be involved if their proposals are to progress.

/cont...

I also mentioned the matter briefly to Mr Channon with whom I talked before lunch on April 26th and am contacting him to ask for his help in arranging the appropriate Department of Transport involvement. I thought, however, that the Prime Minister might like to know of this substantiation of my assertion that private enterprise is responding to the environmental challenge.

The additional attraction is that, through the company's international links, there might well be opportunities to export this UK initiative.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely



David R Cope
Director

conqueror





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COVER ILLUSTRATION

Design of the Sir (small integral reactor), an integral PWR with core, steam generators, pumps and pressuriser all contained within a single pressure vessel. See feature, page 2.

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