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no on
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WAS*



The Rt Hon Christopher Patten MP
Secretary of State for the Environment
2 Marsham Street
LONDON
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1 November 1989

Dear Chris,

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ENERGY SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT.

Thank you for your letter of 20 October and your comments on the draft response.

I accept that we should delay giving the Government's response to the Committee so as to leave the field clear for the Prime Minister's speech on 8 November. However, this is an area in which events are moving fast, providing endless opportunities for further revision; the line has to be drawn somewhere, and I therefore intend to hand over the response to the Committee on the same day as the Prime Minister's speech. This would not produce any public reaction until the Committee subsequently publish it.

Turning to the document itself, I am content with the various drafting amendments which you and others have suggested. We have ourselves made some changes to the section on energy efficiency, and I hope that these will provide evidence of the more open attitude which you would wish to see. I attach a reviewed copy of the draft response, incorporating the various changes, which are underlined for ease of identification.

I hope that we can now agree this final version of the response - subject to any last-minute and minor polishing which may be necessary in the light of the Prime Minister's UNGA speech.

I am copying this letter to recipients of yours.

*Yours ever
John*

JOHN WAKEHAM

on its way