



FILE

JSG

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

4 November, 1983

Dear Mr Allday,

Many thanks for your letter of 25 October.

Action | I should be delighted to accept your kind invitation to open the new building at Risley. I am hoping to visit the North West next summer - probably in July - and I will ask my office to contact yours to find a mutually convenient date and time.

I am afraid that the chances of fitting in a visit to Capenhurst on the same day are not high, since I shall have quite a heavy programme in the region. But I should very much like to try, and perhaps we could postpone a final decision until my other plans have taken shape.

I look forward greatly to seeing your new building, and to hearing about the exciting projects you have in hand, especially of course THORP.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

C. Allday, Esq., C.B.E.

RW



Mr BARCLAY

My strong advice is that she should open new building. It might well be possible to do both Risley and Capenhurst, but I think formal opening of building, which identifies PM closely with industry, should have priority

BRITISH NUCLEAR FUELS

*John 1/11*

The Prime Minister has agreed in principle to visit BNFL in Cheshire as part of a one day visit to the North West next July (see your minute of 18 October on this subject). BNFL have not yet been told.

The official invitation from BNFL has now arrived. It emerges that they are asking the Prime Minister to open a new office building at Risley. This is not as exciting as one might have hoped. Do you think we should go ahead, or go back to the Prime Minister, or ask BNFL if they can arrange something at Capenhurst?

Alternatively, I suppose we could try to fit in a visit to Windscale when the Prime Minister goes to Penrith and the Borders on her way to Balmoral.

G R *Heath 1/11*

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*D*

*1/11*

*DMB*

31 October 1983





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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

24 November, 1983.

We had a word on the telephone about the enclosed invitation from BNFL to open a new office building at Risley. This follows an earlier invitation from Sir John Hill which the Prime Minister had to decline.

As I explained when we spoke (with apologies that you were not consulted earlier) the Prime Minister is keen to accept Mr. Allday's invitation, and is indeed quite firmly committed to doing so. The likelihood is that the Prime Minister would spend some part of the afternoon of Friday, 13 July, at Risley as part of a one-day visit to the North West.

I do not think that there is any action that you need take at present, though in due course I should be grateful if you could provide appropriate briefing. Perhaps we could be in touch about the precise form of this nearer the time.

The Prime Minister's proposed visit to Risley has not yet been announced, and I should be grateful if you would regard it as confidential until further notice.

I am sending a copy of this letter and its enclosure to Alan Davis (Department of the Environment).

David Barclay

Michael Reidy, Esq.,  
Department of Energy.

40



From the Chairman and Chief Executive

# British Nuclear Fuels Limited



Head Office: Risley Warrington WA3 6AS  
Telephone: Warrington (0925) 35953 Telegrams: NUFUEL Warrington Telex: 627581

Our ref

Your ref

Ext

The Rt. Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP.,  
10, Downing Street,  
LONDON SW1

25th October, 1983

*Dear Prime Minister,*

During the summer of next year we will complete construction of a new engineering design office and Company Headquarters building at Risley. It will house some 1800 staff working on design and control of major projects associated with the reprocessing of nuclear fuel and waste management, and in particular the Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant (THORP) which we are building at Sellafield and which was the subject of the Windscale Inquiry in 1977.

The Board of Directors and, I am sure, all employees in the Company, would be delighted if you would formally open the building for us, which we hope will be named "Hinton House" in memory of the late Lord Hinton, who did so much to found our industry.

The new design office and Headquarters, being built for us by Sir Alfred McAlpine and Son, will replace a collection of older war-time buildings and prefabricated structures in which our staff are presently housed, enabling us to bring associated design teams together under one roof. This will help us improve management efficiency and demonstrate the Company's confidence in the future of nuclear power.

The building has a pleasant aesthetic external appearance and houses an extremely efficient internal layout incorporating modern technology, including computer aided design and project control techniques.

We are situated in the centre of what has become the Warrington New Town Science Park, which is in itself an exciting and interesting technological complex.

You may remember that some time ago Sir John Hill, my predecessor as Chairman of the Company, invited you to visit Capenhurst to see something of our contribution to the tripartite Anglo/German/Dutch centrifuge project. This is going extraordinarily well and I would like to repeat the invitation so that if you could spare the time in the North West you could visit both Risley

/and ....

**BNFL**

Regd. Number: 1002607 England Regd. Office: Risley Warrington WA3 6AS





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The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP

25th October, 1983.

-2-

Capenhurst in one day.

We do realise that you have an extremely full diary, but we do hope that you are able to come. If so we would propose a date in July - September period next year.

Yours sincerely,

C. Allday

CBE