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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

6 November 1984

Dear Andrew,

The Prime Minister has considered your Secretary of State's minute of 2 November about the Government's response to the Environment Select Committee's Report on Acid Rain.

The Prime Minister is content with the terms of the draft response, and with the proposals for publication, subject to any comments from colleagues.

I am copying this letter to John Neilson (Department of Energy), Margaret O'Mara (H.M. Treasury), John Graham (Scottish Office), Colin Jones (Welsh Office), Andrew Lansley (Department of Trade and Industry), Peter Ricketts (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Ivor Llewelyn (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food), Steve Godber (Department of Health and Social Security), Dinah Nichols (Department of Transport), Dr. Nicholson and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

*Yours ever,
David*

DAVID BARCLAY

Andrew Allberry, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB

01-212 3434

8 November 1984

The Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin MP
Secretary of State for the Environment
Department of the Environment
2 Marsham Street
SW1P 3EB

nbpm
DMS
8/4

Dear Secretary of State

ACID RAIN

with AT

In your recent minute to the Prime Minister you asked for urgent comments on your draft response to the Environment Committee's report on acid rain.

Although I am content with the general line of the response on the recommendations which concern vehicle emissions (13 and 17A), I hope that the document can bring out more clearly than it does at present that it is wrong to blame UK emissions, and particularly UK vehicle emissions, for forest damage in Germany. That is a fact of which many people in this country seem unaware.

That might best be done by adding at the end of paragraph 26 a passage on these lines:-

"Certainly, UK vehicle emissions are unlikely to form anything more than a very small proportion of transboundary pollution".

I notice also that the final sentence of paragraph 24 implies that the Committee has recommended acceptance of the whole of the draft directive on vehicle emissions, which would involve the installation of catalysts. That is not so, as their recommendation 13 makes clear. Perhaps the last two sentences of paragraph 24 should be transposed?

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, Peter Walker, Nigel Lawson, George Younger, Nicholas Edwards, Norman Tebbit, Geoffrey Howe, Michael Jopling, Norman Fowler, Sir Robert Armstrong and Robin Nicholson.

yours sincerely

Henry Denton (Private Secretary)

for NICHOLAS RIDLEY

(Approved by the Secretary of State but signed in his absence)

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ENV. AFFAIRS. Acid Rain

58 NOV 1984





SCOTTISH OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AU

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The Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin MP
Secretary of State for the Environment
Department of the Environment
2 Marsham Street
LONDON

slip
DMS
9/11

7 November 1984

File with 93

Dear Patrick

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE HOC ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON ACID RAIN

Your minute of 2 November enclosing a draft Government response to the Select Committee's Report did not reach my office until late on 5 November so I am afraid that I have been unable to meet the deadline you proposed.

The approach of outlining the Government's interpretation of current scientific knowledge strikes me as a sensible way to counter some of the Committee's misunderstandings of the issues involved. The detailed responses to the individual recommendations are clear as is the statement to present Government policy, and I am content for the response to go forward as drafted.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Peter Walker, Nigel Lawson, Nicholas Edwards, Norman Tebbit, Geoffrey Howe, Michael Jopling, Norman Fowler, Nicholas Ridley, Sir Robert Armstrong and Robin Nicholson.

Yours well,
George

Env. Affairs
And Air
p. 3.

29 NOV 1984



GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE AIR EMERGENCY LIGHT POLLUTANTS
REPORT ON ACID RAIN

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the government's response to the air emergency light pollutants report on acid rain. The report is intended for the public and is not intended to be a technical document. It is intended to provide a clear and concise summary of the government's response to the air emergency light pollutants report on acid rain.

The government's response to the air emergency light pollutants report on acid rain is a comprehensive and coordinated effort. It involves a wide range of government departments and agencies, including the Environment Canada, the Health Canada, and the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment. The government's response is based on the latest scientific research and is designed to protect the health of Canadians and the environment.

The government's response to the air emergency light pollutants report on acid rain is a comprehensive and coordinated effort. It involves a wide range of government departments and agencies, including the Environment Canada, the Health Canada, and the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment. The government's response is based on the latest scientific research and is designed to protect the health of Canadians and the environment.



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

J F Ballard Esq
 Private Secretary to
 Secretary of State for the Environment
 Department of the Environment
 2 Marsham Street
 London
 SW1P 3EB

Wjpm November 1984
and
7/11

Dear John

**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE'S
 REPORT ON ACID RAIN**

The Chief Secretary is content with the thrust of the draft response attached to Mr Jenkin's minute of 2 November. This is on the understanding that where proposals are accepted (e.g. on research programmes), the cost can be contained within agreed programme totals.

2 We have several drafting amendments:

Para v line 13

"hundreds of "would be clearer than "many".

Para 27 line 5

The global figures (in para 91) would be preferable.

Para 91

Add "Control costs for industrial plants would be even higher in relation to the emissions abated."

Para 96

The third sentence might be clearer as " ..polluters pays principle, and the Government rejects it here as for other emissions."

We presume that the same point was not made separately under the sulphur emissions simply because no controls are envisaged, so the question of assistance does not arise.

In the penultimate sentence, "from vehicles" should follow NOx emissions.

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Para 98

to match the terms of previous announcements, rephrase penultimate sentence as "invited proposals from consortia led by the private sector for preparation."

3 A copy goes to Andrew Turnbull at No. 10, Mike Reidy (Department of Energy), John Graham (Scottish Office), Colin Jones (Welsh Office), Callum McCarthy (Trade and Industry), Len Appleyard (Foreign Office), Steve Godbar (Health and Social Security), Dinah Nichols (Transport) Ivor Llewelyn (Agriculture) and to Sir Robert Armstrong and Dr Nicholson.

Yours sincerely
Richard Broadbent

R J BROADBENT
Private Secretary

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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
WHITEHALL PLACE, LONDON SW1A 2HH

5 November 1984

From the Minister

The Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin MP
Secretary of State for the Environment
Department of the Environment
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 3EB

Patrick Jenkin

*nbpm
DUB
6/4*

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE HOC ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE'S
REPORT ON ACID RAIN

-with DB?

I am responding to your minute of 2 November to the Prime Minister.

My officials have been concerned in the interdepartmental discussions about the response, in which we have a small interest, and have agreed certain minor changes with them. On this basis I can agree to the response as now drafted, and to the arrangements set out in Paragraph 6 of your minute.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Peter Walker, Nigel Lawson, George Younger, Nicholas Edwards, Norman Tebbit, Geoffrey Howe, Normal Fowler, Nicholas Ridley, Sir Robert Armstrong and Robin Nicholson.

Michael Jopling
Michael

MICHAEL JOPLING

NOV 1984

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