



File SRW

cc Energy

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

For CF Coal file

13 June 1985

Dear Mr. MacGregor,

I should very much like to invite you and your Executive Committee to join myself and Peter Walker for lunch at 10 Downing Street on Monday, 24 June. I understand that this is a convenient date for you. I hope that Michael Eaton and Michael Butler will also be able to attend, as prospective members of the Committee. My Private Office will be in touch with your secretary about the arrangements, and I look forward to seeing you and your colleagues.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Shelton

I. K. MacGregor, Esq.

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List of those to be invited to the Prime Minister's lunch with
the NCB Executive Committee, 24 June

Executive Committee

- Mr Ian MacGregor - Chairman
- Mr Jimmy Cowan - Deputy Chairman
- Mr Fred Harrison - Board Member for Finance
- Mr Merrick Spanton - Personnel Director
- Mr Malcolm Edwards - Commercial Director
- Mr Ken Moses - Technical Director
- Mr John Northard - Operations Director
- Mr David Brandrick - Secretary

Prospective Members of the Committee

- Mr Michael Eaton - Personnel Director Designate
- Mr Michael Butler - Finance Director

+ Mr Peter Walker
Mr David Hunt

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THE PRIME MINISTER

13 June 1985

Dear Mr. MacGregor.

As you know, I have recently been receiving many complaints about working miners not receiving the proper protection from the National Coal Board to which their courage and determination throughout the strike entitles them. I understand that there are many who are still subject to intimidation at work, at home, and in the community and consequently they are applying for transfers to other pits or moving home. I am very disturbed about the situation as I believe everything possible must be done for these brave individuals.

Both Peter Walker and David Hunt were given to understand, as they explained to you this afternoon, that Michael Eaton was dealing with all these cases and it was Michael Eaton who was reporting to David Hunt how each individual case was being dealt with. I was therefore surprised to hear from David Hunt when he came to see me straight from the meeting you were having with Peter Walker that you had explained that Michael Eaton had no such authority. I believe it is essential to have Michael Eaton dealing with this vital task. He is someone in whom I have great confidence and I believe he is the right person to solve these problems. I want it to be absolutely clear that every complaint will be fully investigated immediately and unless there are overwhelming reasons to the contrary any genuine requests for help will be granted.

It must never be said that this Government or the Coal Board let down the people whose courage and determination took them through the worst strike in our history.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Mr. Ian MacGregor