



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG
01-233 3000

17 December 1984

The Rt. Hon. Peter Walker MBE MP
Secretary of State for Energy

MR GIL BLACKMAN

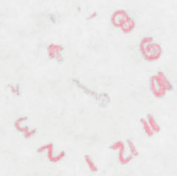
You wrote to me on 10 December, suggesting that we should recognise in some tangible way the sterling work that Gil Blackman is doing to ensure the endurance of the electricity supply system during the dispute in the coal industry.

I agree that Mr Blackman is doing wonders but I do not think that an uplift in his basic salary is the way to reward him. It would repercuss elsewhere and would single him out in an obvious way, while failing to recognise the significant contribution others have also made. I think a much better way of showing Gil Blackman how much his services are appreciated would be for the Prime Minister to meet him and thank him in person. I am sure that if she were prepared to do so, he would regard this as reward enough.

Incidentally, I hope that you will be able to let me have shortly your proposals for the 1984 salaries for the Electricity Supply Industry Board. We shall be reviewing Gil Blackman's salary in the normal way as part of this exercise. If you wanted to put forward a performance-related general pay scheme as an element of your 1984 proposals, I should, of course, be prepared to consider it.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Prime Minister.

NIGEL LAWSON



8 DEC 1984

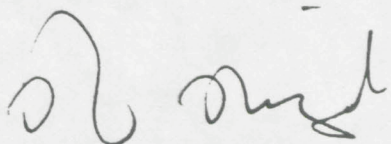
cc PS/RUSS (MR GOODHAD)
PS/RUS
Mr Brown
Mr Marley

01 211 6402

APPOINTMENTS IN CONFIDENCE

The Rt Hon Nigel Lawson MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
Treasury Chambers
Parliament Street
LONDON
SW1P 3AG

10 December 1984



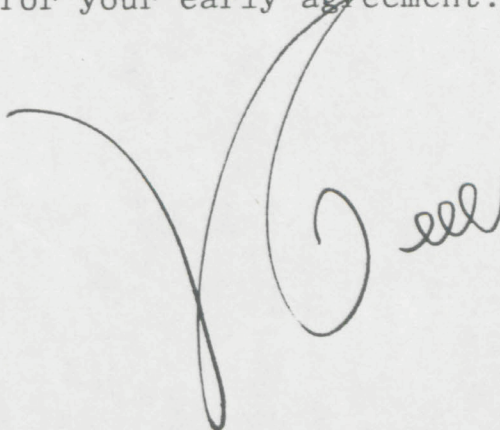
MR GIL BLACKMAN

I think we should recognise in some tangible way the sterling work Gil Blackman is doing to ensure the endurance of the electricity supply system during the dispute in the coal industry.

The obvious way of doing this (he already has the CBE) is by a significant increase in salary. He is already at the maximum of his range (£40,875) so we cannot act within the discretion on incremental progression already available. What is required therefore is an increase in salary personal to him.

You suggested at E(NI) in January that we should operate the existing system for determining Board pay in a robust and flexible way and you mentioned the need to reward exceptional performance.

Gil Blackman's is just such a case and I propose therefore that we should increase his personal salary from 1 January 1985 to £51,000. I should be grateful for your early agreement.



PETER WALKER



179 DEC 1984

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Board Salaries