

CONFIDENTIAL

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PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE  
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

8 October 1986

NB: 20

Dear Peter

COAL INDUSTRY BILL

In your letter of 2 October to Michael Havers you say that you would like to include in this Bill a provision to enable the Charity Commission to vary the terms of miners' welfare trusts on the application of any organisations representing substantial numbers of persons employed in the coal industry. I, for my part, do not question that proposal on policy grounds but, as you know from earlier correspondence, I am concerned about the feasibility of taking on another hybrid Bill next Session, in addition to the ones to which we are already committed. I do not think that we can take a final view on the inclusion of the potentially hybrid provisions in the Coal Industry Bill until it has been possible to consult the House authorities, and I trust that we shall be able to settle this point later in the month.

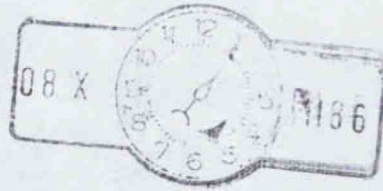
I am sending a copy of this letter to the Prime Minister, the members of E(A), the Attorney General, the Chief Whip, Commons, the Minister of State, Home Office (Mr Mellor), First Parliamentary Counsel and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours  
Peter

The Rt Hon Peter Walker MBE MP

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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY

THAMES HOUSE SOUTH  
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The Rt Hon Viscount Whitelaw CH MC  
Lord President of the Council  
Privy Council Office  
Whitehall  
LONDON SW1

21 October 1986

COAL INDUSTRY BILL

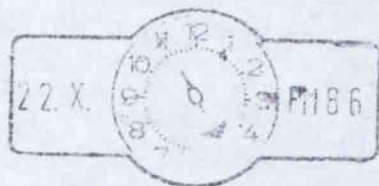
NSM

Thank you for your letter of 8 October.

As I said at Cabinet on 16 October, Parliamentary Counsel has drafted the provisions of the Bill, including those relating to the Mineworkers' Pension Scheme, the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation, and Mineworkers' Welfare Trusts, in a way which avoids hybridity. I am advised that the Commons Public Bill Office considers the Bill is not hybrid and will not refer the Bill to the Examiners; that the Speaker should defend this decision if it is questioned; and that the Lords Public Bill Office take a similar view.

I am sending copies of this letter to the recipients of yours.

PETER WALKER



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