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PRIME MINISTER

SELLAFIELD, ETC.

You will remember you have provisionally planned to visit Sellafield, as part of a tour of nuclear plants, on Friday, 1 November.

The programme for the day might look something like this:-

0845	Leave Northolt
0935	Arrive <u>Speke</u>
0945	Arrive Capenhurst
1115	Depart Capenhurst .
1130	Arrive Springfields .
1300	Depart Springfields .
1315	Arrive Heysham .
	Lunch
1500	Leave Heysham .
1515	Arrive Sellafield .
1730	Leave Sellafield after <u>opening new plant.</u>
1800	Arrive Speke
1850	Arrive Northolt

The attached map shows that the tour programme makes for a sensible tour in geographical terms, as well as tackling the nuclear cycle in the right order.

Travel would be by helicopter between sites, on each occasion landing within the perimeter fences. You will see that the itinerary includes a visit to Springfields which BNFL and the Department of Energy are keen for you to visit as it deals with the "front end" of the fuel cycle - both supplying Capenhurst with chemically purified uranium, and converting enriched uranium from Capenhurst into fuel elements for the AGR power stations.

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It will be a very full day at the end of a week involving bilaterals in Florence on the Wednesday; the State Opening is the following week on Thursday, 6 November.

An important point we had in mind was to ensure, as far as possible, a reasonable gap between the conclusions of the BNFL case and the visit. Energy's latest assessment is that the case will come to a conclusion by mid-August - a month later than we had thought. But, on the assumption that there will be no appeal, a November visit still looks OK from this point of view.

Content for me to go ahead and firm up the arrangements along the above lines?

Mark Addison

Yes

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(Mark Addison)

2 July, 1985



