

CONFIDENTIAL



PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

11 April 1985

NGM

Dear Peter.

COAL INDUSTRY BILL

with BTL / MEA
I have seen your minute of 9 April to the Prime Minister about additional provisions for the Coal Industry Bill. Without prejudging the conclusion, I am sure that a decision should not be unduly rushed and should only be reached after colleagues have had a chance to discuss the issues in the appropriate forum. To my mind this means that we cannot make a decision before next week at the earliest. You may take it that the Business Managers would be quite prepared to accept the short further delay in the introduction of the Bill that this might imply.

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

John Biffen

JOHN BIFFEN

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