

Energy  
Why  
pla



Prime Minister  
② ✓ cc JV  
ENERGY

We will wait patiently.

mt

Three cheers (or not quite yet)!

MIS 8/3

Prime Minister

ADVANCED GAS COOLED REACTORS (AGRs)

You have frequently expressed an interest in the lamentable progress of Dungeness B. You may like to know that it now seems at long last to be moving towards completion. Consent to raise power was given by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate just before Christmas and, following commissioning tests, the Board now report that they are hoping to commence limited generation from the first unit at the end of this month. They do not plan at present to make any announcement. In view of past experience of unforeseen technical difficulties arising at the last minute, this seems prudent.

Power generation from the other two long-delayed AGRs - Heysham I and Hartlepool - is currently expected to begin in July.

If all goes well the existing CEGB nuclear capacity should be increased by up to 50% this winter.

I am copying this minute to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Industry, Sir Robert Armstrong and Mr Sparrow.

Handwritten initials 'JA'.

Secretary of State for Energy

7th March 1983

Energy Policy Pt 8

CONFIDENTIAL



Prime Minister

Parliamentary Secretary (Energy)

You have frequently expressed an interest in the latest progress of  
the work of the Energy Commission. I am pleased to say that the Commission  
is making good progress in its work. It is particularly pleased with the  
results of its investigations into the possibilities of increasing the  
efficiency of the power generating process. It is also pleased with the  
results of its investigations into the possibilities of increasing the  
flexibility of the power generating process. It is particularly pleased with  
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flexibility of the power generating process.

Power stations in the other two four-stage areas - namely I and Hartlepool -  
is currently expected to begin in 1974.

8 MAR 1974

It will be noted that the existing CFB nuclear capacity should be increased by 10  
to 15 per cent.  
I am sure this will be of great benefit to the country and I am sure  
that the Government will be pleased to see the results of the Commission's  
work in this area.

Secretary of State for Energy  
10 Downing Street  
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