



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

16 May 1984

Thank you for your letter of 14 May about Falklands fishing limits. I am sorry that you were rather disappointed by my letter of 4 May. But I note that you are in correspondence with the Minister for Overseas Development and I think it is best for you to pursue your enquiries through that channel - that is where the expertise is.

C. E. Needham, Esq.

BZ

FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Coalite Group PLC

PERSONAL

14th May, 1984

*Dear John*

I am grateful for your reply of 4th May on behalf of the Prime Minister but disappointed that it avoided any reference to what has been the cause for all the delays i.e. the 'quid pro quo' of licence concessions if and when limits are declared, in return for the free exploratory fishing with observers on board. The same was true of a recent letter from Tim Raison, of which I attach copy and of my reply.

Although I appreciate at least some of the diplomatic problems involved, I cannot really agree with your reference to the benefits from fishing limits as "short term".

I understand that the awaited meeting of EXCO takes place today or tomorrow and I do hope that David Taylor will succeed in reaching agreement on the licencing concessions so that the observers can be put on board and start accumulating the required information on resources - whether or not the E.F.L. is eventually to be declared.

*John Coles*  
*Esq.*

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