

cc Energy, May 79
European Energy

(1)

PRIME MINISTER

Presentational Statement on Energy

Following your discussion with Clive and me this morning, we have attempted a redraft of the proposed statement on energy. I attach a new text. I hope that it takes account of the points you had in mind.

Before we commenced this new draft a minute was received from the Secretary of State for Energy stating his agreement to the previous text (copy attached) as amended by the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's suggestions which you saw yesterday. I assumed that you would nonetheless wish us to produce a new text. I imagine that Mr. Howell would find the new text equally if not more acceptable than the old one.

I have sent a copy of the new text to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary but to no other Minister at this stage.

*This is much better.
It is so much more vigorous
because it is practical.
Have we by any chance
sold oil forward to any
community countries? If so
perhaps we could add that
to the action on security.
And do we know how many
contracts to be made
operational in the
next few years?*

21 March, 1980.