

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1980 - 1981

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20 MAY 1980

DOCUMENT 1-176/80

### MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs CLYWD, Mr GALLAGHER, Mr KEY, Mr SEAI,  
Mr COLLINS, Mr MEGAHY, Mr ALBERS, Mrs VIEHOFF,  
Mr SCHMID, Mr VAN MINNEN, Mr GRIFFITHS, Mr ROGERS,  
Mrs BUCHAN, Mr CABORN, Mr BOYES, Miss QUIN, Mrs WEBER,  
Mr ADAM, Mrs SEIBEL-EMMERLING, Mr MUNTINGH and  
Mr KAVANAGH

with request for urgent debate  
pursuant to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure

on the imminent threat of closure of British  
coal mines



The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions calling for the expansion of Community coal production,
  - convinced that, in the continuing energy crisis, there is an unanswerable case for increasing investment in the coal industry as part of an overall Community energy policy,
  - concerned that the growing importation of coal from third countries into the Community, and in particular of coking coal, could soon result in extensive pit closures leading to redundancies among mineworkers and the absurd situation of reducing coal production capacity,
1. Considers that it is clearly necessary for the Community to increase its investment in indigenous coal production at this time;
  2. Condemns imports of non-Community coal to the UK where this could lead to the closure of Community coal mines and the loss of skilled employment;
  3. Calls on the Commission immediately to intensify its financial assistance to the British coal industry through the provision of substantial grants and loans under the terms of the ECSC and EEC Treaties, so as to improve the industry's efficiency and competitiveness;
  4. Considers that, in the short term, this would be a useful and practical step in the direction of reducing the burden of the unfair British financial contribution to the Community budget;
  5. Requests the Commission to make representations to the British Government urging it to reconsider its decision not to increase subsidies to British coking coal as this decision will continue to result in growing imports of coking coal at the expense of indigenous coal, which goes against the EEC's established policy of increasing domestic production;
  6. Requests the Commission to consider the anomalies surrounding transport aids for transporting coking coal within the EEC countries;
  7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission.

JUSTIFICATION

Urgent procedure is justified by the imminent threat of closure facing many coal mines in the UK, as a result of increased imports of coking coal, which will reduce domestic production of coal and cause further unemployment.

