

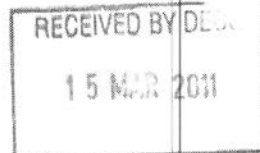
Scan Sheet eCase DECC CU - New Case	 System User 15392/04
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1. eCase Case Ref.	
2. Case type (please circle)	INV MC <u>PO</u> TO TFR
3. Case Title	Lynemouth Smelter Visit
4. Department/Directorate (Team)	Low Carb. EC
5. Subject	↓
6. Date Post Opened and Scanned (Date Received)	16/3
7. Urgency (please circle)	HIGH
8. Handling Instructions	Refer to [REDACTED] Maybe NRN?
9. Addressee minister (if applicable)	Barker <u>Hendry</u> Huhne Marland
10. Responding minister (if applicable)	Barker <u>Hendry</u> Huhne Marland
11. Allocated to (Drafter)	[REDACTED]
12. 15 day deadline	

WS/ML
11 March 2011



Mark Prisk MP
Minister of State for Business and Enterprise
Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS)
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET



Dear Minister,

I hope you are well. I note from your recent communication with Mario Foucault, the Managing Director of Rio Tinto Alcan's (RTA) Primary Aluminium Smelter in Lynemouth; that you are in agreement to visiting the plant, but that you may not be in a position to do so before the latter part of this year.

I spoke to John McCabe, RTA's Corporate Affairs Director, today and he informs me that BIS and DEFRA officials met last week to discuss the factors which may affect the future viability of the plant and the many people employed directly or indirectly by the operation. John reports that whilst your department was largely supportive of Lynemouth's situation, the DECC officials seemed far less supportive.

As you are aware, a key factor in determining the financial viability of the plant will be conversion of the current coal-fired, captive, power station to Biomass. Critical to the viability of this investment will be the long-term clarity on the value of Renewable Obligation Certificates – ROCs.

I and the UK Aluminium manufacturing sector welcomes your Government's realisation that the growth and development of the UK manufacturing sector is a key foundation stone of "rebalancing" and rebuilding the UK economy. This is a welcome change to previous policy, and we hope that this will both reduce legislative burden, and reverse the decline of UK Manufacturing.

You, and your department, have a real opportunity in this case to demonstrate the UK Government's commitment to our industry, potentially securing the future of several thousand jobs not only at RTA and their suppliers but also in the UK's aluminium and value added supply chain.

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Aluminium Federation Ltd
National Metallforming Centre
47 Birmingham Road
West Bromwich
West Midlands B70 6PY

t: +44 (0)121 601 6263
f: +44 (0)870 138 9714

e: alfed@alfed.org.uk
w: www.alfed.org.uk



I urge you to try to decongest your diary in order to plan an early visit to Lynemouth.

If I can do anything to help to facilitate this important visit I stand ready to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Will Savage
Chief Executive
Aluminium Federation

CC: Rt Hon Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills
Charles Hendry MP, Minister of State, Department for Energy & Climate Change
Mr John McCabe, Corporate Affairs Director - Alcan Aluminium UK Ltd
Mr Mario Foucault, Managing Director - UK, Rio Tinto Alcan
Mr Colin Davies, ALFED President
Mr [REDACTED] Department for Business, Innovation & Skills