



Department
of Energy &
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Dan Byles MP and Marcus Jones MP
House of Commons
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Dear Dan and Marcus,

Daw Mill

Further to our conversations over the last couple days regarding the fire at Daw Mill colliery, and the impact on UK Coal Operations Limited, I wanted to write to assure you that we are working closely with the company to consider what can be done to support them in the circumstances they now face.

As you are aware my officials have been in continuous contact with UK Coal Operations since the incident on Friday and they met with representatives from the company yesterday afternoon. I am told these discussions were constructive. The company have been invited to provide further information and I understand they are also talking to their insurers. As you are aware the longer term future of Daw Mill was already in some doubt. Officials from the Department are taking forward work based on information provided yesterday including analysis of the implications of the type of assistance the company are seeking. Like you, I am determined to ensure that the interests of the workers and local community are at the forefront of our consideration during this work.

As you will appreciate these are difficult issues and the comparatively recent restructuring of the UK Coal business adds further complexity to the situation. On our side everyone is committed to exploring all the options but inevitably this takes some time to ensure all relevant factors have been considered.

Let me assure you that I will continue to keep you apprised of developments.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN HAYES