



*European Communities  
Commission  
Press Release*

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ISEC/43/78

November 29, 1978

GRANT AND LOAN FOR UK COAL INDUSTRY

£5.66m grant to help coal industry workers

A grant of £5,660,000 is being made from European Coal and Steel Community funds to help nearly 6,000 British coal miners and other workers in the coal industry who were made redundant or were transferred during 1977 as a result of pit closure or rundown.

Altogether 5,960 workers are affected. Their jobs disappeared as a result of closures at Dalquharran (Scotland), Dudley (North-East England), Barrgoed and Caerau (South Wales), Norton (North-West England), and by mergers and re-organisation at other pits.

ECSC loan of £10m to the National Coal Board

The Commission of the European Communities has announced the approval of a loan of £10 million to the National Coal Board under Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, which will help to finance three investment projects. The projects are as follows:

<u>Colliery</u>	<u>Project</u>
Hatfield, Yorkshire	to construct a new coal preparation plant and materials handling facilities
Wearmouth, North-East England	to modernise surface facilities
Bilsthorpe, East Midlands	to construct a new coal preparation plant.

The loan will be disbursed in phase with the progress on the projects and the terms of each instalment will depend upon market conditions at the time of disbursement.

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