fst.sb/Lilley/1.4.90.1 NOPM PMG 3/4 Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SWIP 3AG David Mellor Esq MP Minister of State Home Office Queen Anne's Gate LONDON 2 April 1990 SWIH 9AT ill pa? PRIVATISATION OF THE IBA TRANSMISSION SYSTEM Thank you for your letter of 29 March. I am content for you to write to the IBA as you propose. I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, other members of MISC 128, and Sir Robin Butler. MPETER LILLEY Agreed by the Financial Secretary and signed in his absence. 4



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HOME OFFICE QUEEN ANNES GATE LONDON SWIH OAT un request to required PRIVATISATION OF THE IBA TRANSMISSION SYSTEM In your letter of 20 January, you suggested that we should consult our financial advisers about the kinds of incentive schemes we might try to secure for staff on the privatisation of the IBA's transmission system. We have now done so, and our officials have discussed the matter. The IBA is to announce its manpower plans and voluntary redundancy package to its staff on 5 April. It would be very helpful if, at the same time, the IBA could report the Government's intention to invite bidders for the new company to include proposals for employee incentives in their bids. I attach a draft letter, which I should like to send to the Chairman of the IBA. You will see that it makes no commitment either to the size or form of the employee incentives, nor does it absolutely commit the Government to accepting only a bid including an incentive package. Nonetheless, I think it would be a useful means at this stage of encouraging highly skilled staff to stay: we must avoid a haemorrhage of staff in the run up to the privatisation. Our officials have agreed that consideration of the cost of any incentive package, and its form, should wait until the time comes to invite and consider bids - we shall, of course, keep your officials closely informed. I share your view that any diminution in the purchase price as a result of offering an incentive scheme must be kept to a minimum. In order to be able to make the necessary announcement to the IBA, I am afraid I must ask for responses by 2 April. I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, other members of Misc 128, and Sir Robin Butler. DAVID MELLOR Peter Lilley Esq