

File

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FM WARSAW 251455Z OCT 84

TO ROUTINE FCO

TELNO 517 OF 25 OCT 84

YOUR TELNO 906 OF 19 OCTOBER : POLISH COAL INDUSTRY

1. WE HAVE NO DETAILS ON RECENT OR PLANNED PWT CLOSURES.
2. MANY POLISH MINES OPERATE AT A LOSS AND COAL PRODUCTION IS HEAVILY SUBSIDISED. THIS INCIDENTALLY CREATES BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR BRITISH MANUFACTURERS OF MINING MACHINERY ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO SPECIALIZE IN EQUIPMENT FOR EXPLOITING NARROW OR DIFFICULT COAL SEAMS.
3. AS THERE IS A LABOUR SHORTAGE IN THE POLISH MINING INDUSTRY AS WELL AS IN OTHER INDUSTRIAL SECTORS, ANY MINERS FREED BY A CLOSURE WOULD BE REDEPLOYED ELSEWHERE.
4. POLISH POLICY IS TO OPEN NEW LARGE MINES PRODUCING BETWEEN 12 AND 20 THOUSAND TONNES PER DAY AT THE RATE OF ABOUT ONE A YEAR TO KEEP PRODUCTION AT PRESENT OR VERY SLIGHTLY HIGHER LEVELS. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT ABOUT 1 AND A HALF PWTS ARE CLOSED PER YEAR.
5. THERE ARE NO CONSTRAINTS ON USING THIS INFORMATION PUBLICLY.

MORGAN

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