

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: BRITISH STEEL plc - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 5 August 1996	Ref: MMcC/.057	

North Lanarkshire Council was invited to send a representative to the British Steel plc Annual General Meeting which took place in London on 24 July 1996.

The Council was represented by Councillor Pat Connelly, Vice-convenor of the Economic Development Committee, who asked questions on the following 3 issues:-

- (i) Future of the Dalzell plant;
- (ii) Future of Fullwood plant;
- (iii) British Steel plc's continued involvement at the Ravenscraig Works.

Councillor Connelly has received a written reply from Sir Brian Moffat OBE, Chairman and Chief Executive of British Steel plc. This letter is appended to this report.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to note Sir Brian Moffat's response and homologate the attendance of Councillor Connelly at the British Steel plc Annual General Meeting.



 Stanley C Cook
Director of Planning and Development

For further information contact Gordon Smith, Head of Business Development and Property.



British Steel plc
9 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SN
Telephone: 0171 735 7654
Direct Fax: 0171 582 4087
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Sir Brian Moffat O.B.E. Chairman and Chief Executive

Councillor P. Connelly
North Lanarkshire Council
Civic Centre
Motherwell
ML1 1TW.

30th July 1996
Our Ref: 64269/BSM/SFC

Dear Councillor Connelly,

Following the AGM you asked me if I would set out in writing the content of the response I made to the questions you put to me during the meeting. Accordingly I shall deal with the three issues that you raised:-

Firstly, the future of the plants Dalzell and Fullwood; as I said at the meeting we can give no guarantee to any plant in British Steel as to its future. All of our plants are dependent on the market for their products and the effectiveness by which they serve that market. Our policy is to maintain our plants and invest in them where we see future prospects but we cannot guarantee the life of any plant; it is dependent very much on the market and the performance of the plant itself. That having been said, there are no thoughts of doom and gloom concerning either Dalzell or Fullwood. At the present time both are doing well and it is my hope and wish they will both continue to contribute to the profitability of the Company.

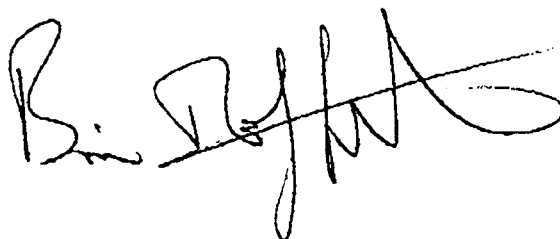
Secondly, as far as investment is concerned, if local management put up a good enough case to justify expenditure, then finance will be forthcoming.

The final part of your questions was on Ravenscraig Works, where the demolition programme is now well advanced. You will, since our meeting, have witnessed the demolition of the cooling towers and gas tanks. This is yet another milestone on the road to site clearance. It is unfortunate that we have had fatalities involving intruders, sadly one involving a young man. Intruders illegally entering the site have been a cause for concern. This has been discussed with your colleagues on North Lanarkshire Council and I hope we can continue to count on your support in condemning these activities. Meanwhile the Company's focus is to continue with the demolition programme and the plan is for the site to be totally cleared in about a year's time. In the meantime we continue to work with LDA and the other local agencies to promote the redevelopment of the site, and this, I think, is being handled in a very positive way.

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I hope this covers the sentiments expressed in my verbal response to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bin Singh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.