

Cc. Dr. Walford.

2/28/10



SCOTTISH HOME & HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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P A Winstanley Esq
Branch HSIA
Department of Health and Social Security
Hannibal House
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London SE1 6TE

Your reference

Our reference

NQH/1/4

Date

25 October 1983

Dear Mr Winstanley

PLASMA PROCESSING AT THE PROTEIN FRACTIONATION CENTRE (PFC) EDINBURGH

I mentioned during a recent telephone conversation that, in connection with AIDS and the treatment of haemophilia, our Minister had asked whether the PFC had capacity to process plasma from England to produce Factor VIII. You indicated that BPL is capable of processing all the plasma currently available, but plans to increase the plasma collected in England might lead to the situation in which the plasma stock exceeds BPL processing capacity. In that event we could consider whether any surplus capacity at PFC could be used to process English plasma.

We passed this information on to our Minister but at the same time we made it clear that such a step would not be possible without some capital investment in additional facilities for storage, filling, packaging etc at PFC, and increasing running costs. We also indicated that in recent months production at the PFC had been adversely affected by construction work required by the Medicines Inspector and that this will continue into 1984. As a result there was a backlog of plasma processing which would need to be cleared by temporary overtime arrangements.

We undertook to discuss with you the prospects for processing English plasma at PFC if we are approached. It is as well for you to know that, in the short term at least, we would be unlikely to be able to help.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

J O WASTLE

Mr. Green
On x1, I thought we had already
contributed capital to PFC and might
have come "right of access"

GRO-C

28/10

as. Parker
You will wish to note the position re-PFC. I spoke to
John Wastle who confirmed that SHHD would be prepared to examine
their position again when, and if, our plasma surplus was imminent.
You will remember we fully explored this avenue when the redevelopment
of BPL was planned. There were many pitfalls.

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