

MICHEL BARNIER

*Membre de la Commission européenne*

Bruselas, **19 -12- 2003**  
AG/iv D(03) 30995

Dear Mrs Lucas,

Thank you for your attention on the occasion of my participation at the meeting of the Environment Committee of the Parliament on 16 December. I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with more detailed information as regards the protection of the Iberian lynx in the context of the decision to support "La Breña" dam under the European Regional Development Fund.

I would like to inform you that this project has been formally approved by the Commission, following an exhaustive examination of its compatibility with all relevant community legislation in force, and in particular that relating to the environment. The Commission considers that the environmental information provided by the Spanish authorities including the corrective and compensation measures introduced concerning the possible effects on the natural environment, including areas populated by the Iberian lynx, are in compliance with the requirements of the legislation in force on the environment.

Yours sincerely, *et bien cordialement*



Michel BARNIER

Mrs Caroline Lucas, MEP  
Group of the Greens/EFA  
Parlement européen  
1047 Bruxelles