



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

*Dear Sofie,*

Thank you for writing to me expressing your concern about "acid rain". You are right to be worried: this is a very real environmental problem, and I share your concern.

Reading your messages, however, I do wonder whether you know, for example, that Britain may be responsible for only about 5-6 per cent of the sulphur deposited in Sweden? Calculations of this sort are difficult, but Russia, Poland and East Germany probably contribute more, and West Germany about the same as us.

Also, did you know that Britain's sulphur emissions have reduced by over 40 per cent since 1970 - in other words by a larger amount than the target of the "30 per cent Club"? And that, far from being the worst polluter - as some like to say - ten other European countries (including Denmark and Finland) send more sulphur dioxide into the air, per person, than we do? An even larger number, including all the Scandinavian countries, produce more of the other important components of acid rain, nitrogen oxides, per person.

I am sure that if these simple facts were more widely known, fewer people would write accusing Britain of being a bad neighbour. The truth is that we have a large action programme to combat this pollution: we are committed to spending about ten thousand million kroner making modifications to power stations in order to make further

reductions of emissions of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides. Only a few other countries can match this scale of effort.

I would ask you to share this letter with your fellow students who wrote to me. I wanted to write separately to each of you but not all gave their names.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

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Miss Sofie Arskold

AN EXAMPLE  
OF THE CARDS

Veberöd 9/9

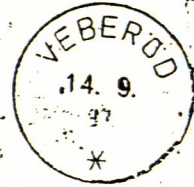
Dear Mrs Thatcher!

Many trees, flowers and lakes in  
our country are dying. Acid rain,  
kills them. We are working to  
save our nature, but can't without  
your help. Ferrybridge, Dix and  
Eggsborough give us every year  
62 000 tons of sulphur.

Please, do something!  
There is no time to waste!

Ragnar Gagneur  
Svalebostolan  
Veberöd  
Sweden

You must do it now!



Mrs Thatcher

10 Downing Street

London

England