



DARREN JONES MP
Member of Parliament for Bristol North West

Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Secretary of State, Business Energy and Industrial Strategy
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

February, 5th 2018

Dear *Greg,*
Melrose Hostile Takeover of GKN

GKN employs 6,000 people across 14 sites in the United Kingdom, with locations in North Bristol (Filton and Severn Beach) employing upwards of 2,000 people.

GKN is also a major supplier to other advanced manufacturing companies in the aerospace industry, including Airbus. In my region of the South West the aerospace industry is our number one sectoral employer, accounting for 15,000 jobs.

Melrose's hostile takeover bid of GKN puts this at risk.

Melrose has the stated aim of taking over, turning around and then selling off companies in a short period. This is no doubt why there has been a unanimous rejection by both the GKN board and by Unite the Union, on behalf of the workforce.

Aerospace is a crucial part of the Industrial Strategy not just today - but with space ports, drones and driverless vehicles - in the future too. An industrial strategy must surely include a willingness by the Government to intervene when the market seeks to undermine that strategy and in doing so the British economy.

The GKN Aerospace division is also vital to our defence systems, producing parts of the F35, Tornado and Chinook supply chains, as well as supplying parts to Airbus in North Bristol for the A400M military transport aircraft.

I therefore urge you to use your powers under s58 of the Enterprise Act 2002 to intervene based on public interest grounds, including national security.

And I invite your Government to ask itself: is it on the side of a short term, asset stripping, profit only motivated finance firm, or is it on the side of a long-established UK manufacturing firm, committed to British workers and British industry?

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