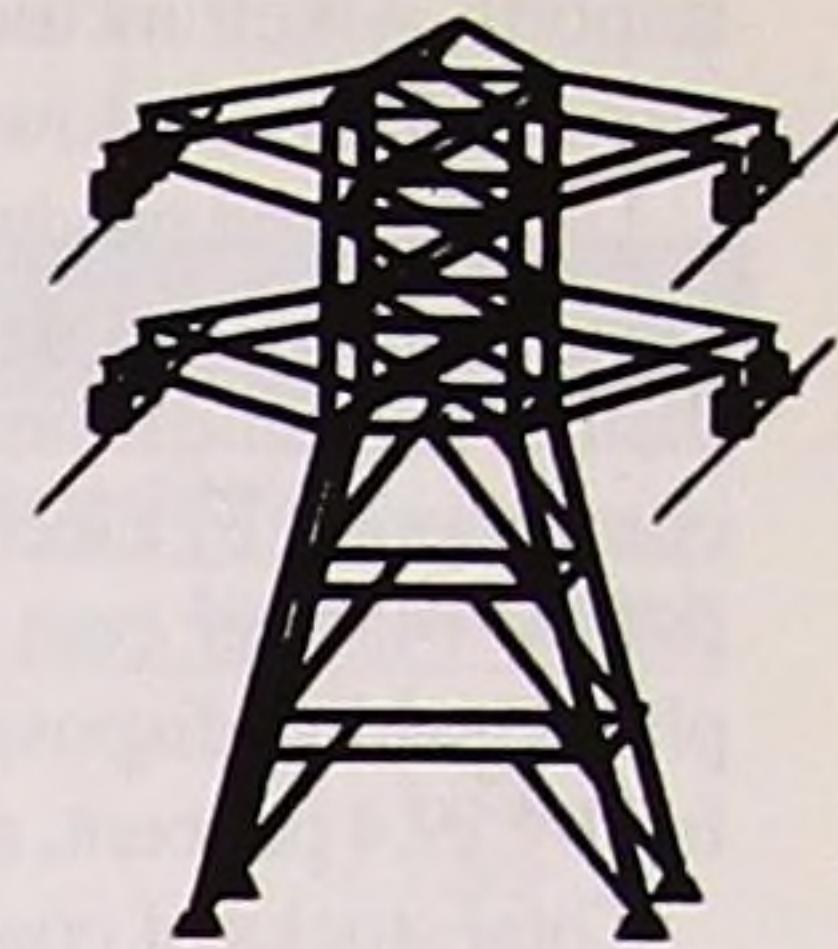


ENERGY Trends



A Statistical Bulletin from the Department of Trade & Industry

MAIN POINTS

- ★ Total primary energy consumption in the three months to January 1993, after temperature correction, was virtually the same as a year earlier.
- ★ Capital investment in the North Sea continued to increase — in 1992 investment was 6 per cent higher than in 1991.
- ★ Unleaded petrol's share of total petrol deliveries reached 50 per cent in January.
- ★ Electricity sales in 1992 were marginally higher than in 1991; sales to industry were lower but sales to commercial and domestic customers were higher than in 1991.
- ★ Industrial fuel prices in 1992 fell by 2 per cent in real terms compared to 1991
- ★ A summary of recent trends in energy prices is included on the back page of this issue.

ENERGY PRODUCTION (Table 1)

Indigenous production of primary fuels in the period November 1992 to January 1993, at 59.6 million tonnes of oil equivalent, was 0.6 per cent more than in the corresponding period a year earlier. Production of petroleum was 0.7 per cent lower than a year ago, due mainly to stormy weather off shore in January 1993. Production of natural gas increased by 7.4 per cent. Electricity production from natural flow hydro stations rose by 9.6 per cent and nuclear produc-

tion rose by 22.2 per cent, the latter due to continuing improved performance by the Advanced Gas Cooled Reactors of Nuclear Electric and Scottish Nuclear. Production of coal fell by 12.7 per cent.

TOTAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION (Table 2)

Total inland energy consumption, on a primary fuel input basis, in the three months November 1992 to January 1993 was 0.9 per cent lower than in the corresponding months a year ago. Consumption of coal fell by 11.6 per cent, whilst consumption of natural gas rose by 5.1 per cent. Consumption of nuclear electricity rose by 22.2 per cent while petroleum use fell by 2.0 per cent.

Chart 2 : Total inland consumption (primary fuel input basis)⁽¹⁾

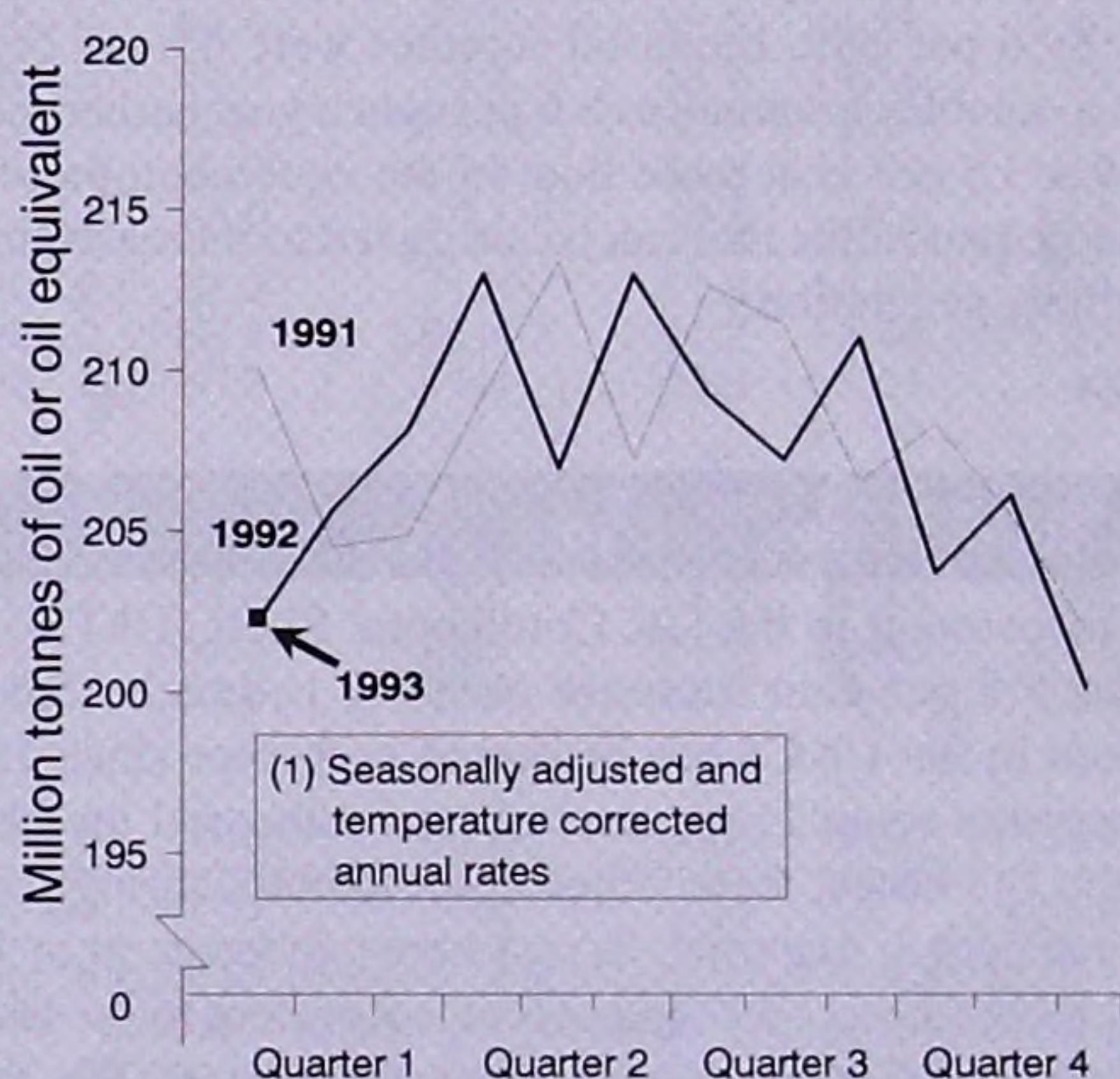
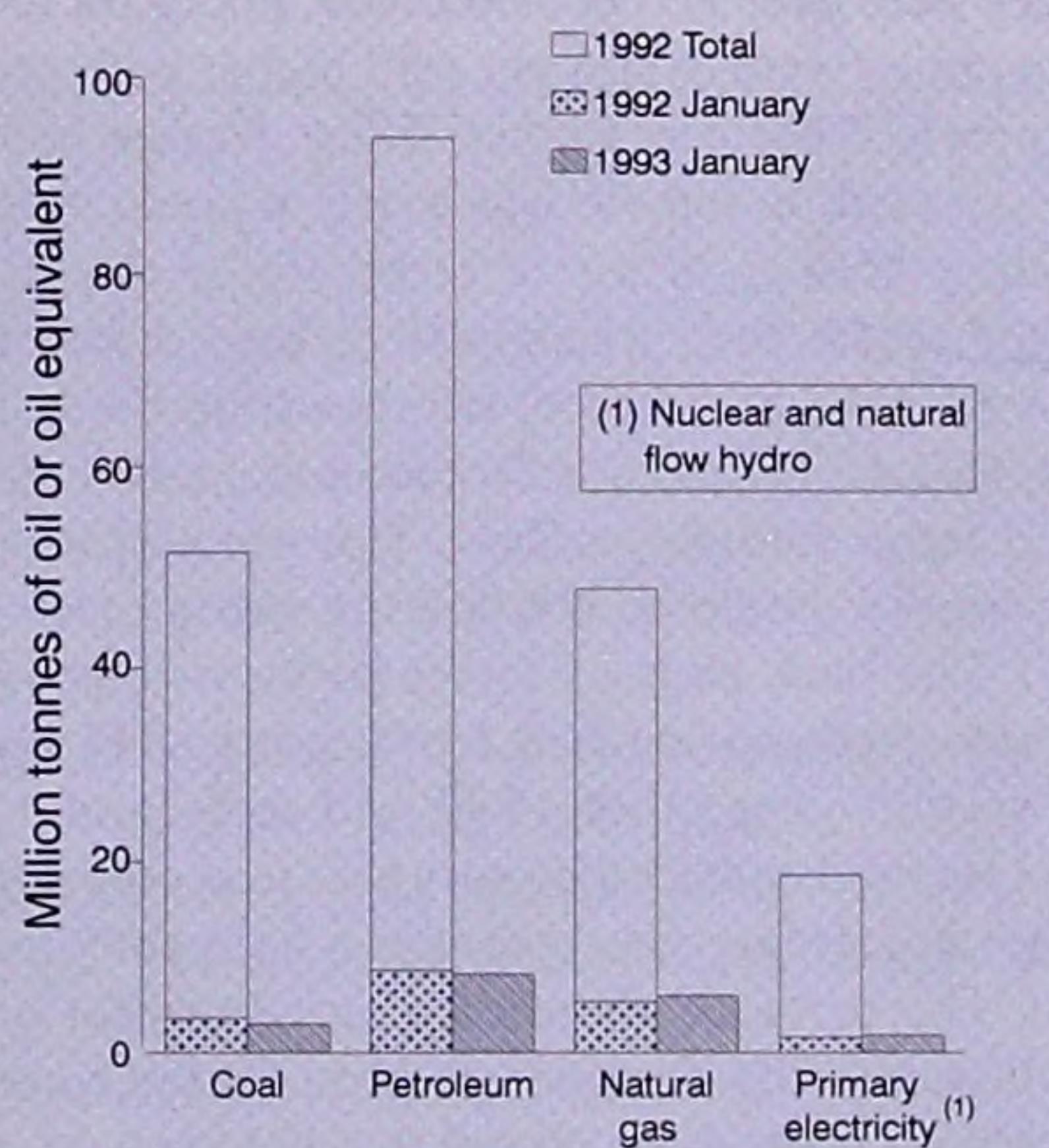


Chart 1 : Production of indigenous primary fuels in 1991 and 1992



Despite the mild January, the average temperature during the period was virtually the same as a year ago. Total consumption on a seasonally adjusted and temperature corrected basis was therefore only marginally lower than that in November 1991 to January 1992. On this basis, consumption of coal and petroleum decreased by 11.1 per cent and 1.2 per cent respectively, whilst consumption of nuclear electricity and natural gas rose by 22.0 per cent and 7.5 per cent, respectively, the latter due largely to an increase in gas used for electricity generation.

COAL (Tables 4 to 7)

Provisional figures for the three months November 1992 to January 1993 show that total production was 19.2 million tonnes, 12.7 per cent less than in the corresponding months a year earlier, and

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