



J. Sopko  
R. Miller

July 19, 2007

Honorable John D. Dingell  
Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2328 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Dingell:

This is pursuant to your letter of July 5, requesting that Paul Parfomak of our staff assist the Committee on Energy and Commerce and its Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations in their oversight of policy issues regarding the public safety of liquefied natural gas (LNG) tankers and terminal facilities, by serving as an impartial observer on the peer review panel configured to guide two Department of Energy (DOE) assessments, to be conducted by Sandia National Laboratories, on heat consequences from a large LNG fire on water and on the question of cascading failures of shipboard LNG storage tanks in the event of a major fire or act of malice against an LNG tanker. I will respond to Mr. Barton, Mr. Stupak, and Mr. Whitfield under separate cover.

Congressional guidelines on objectivity and non-partisanship require that our staff confine their comments to technical, professional, and non-advocative aspects of the matters under consideration, and limit themselves to questions within their fields of expertise. With the understanding that his comments will be prepared and delivered in accordance with these principles and limitations, I am pleased to authorize Dr. Parfomak's participation.

We appreciate this opportunity to be of service and hope that you will continue to call upon CRS in the future.

Sincerely,

Daniel P. Mulhollan  
Director

cc: J. Moore