

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 1, 2007

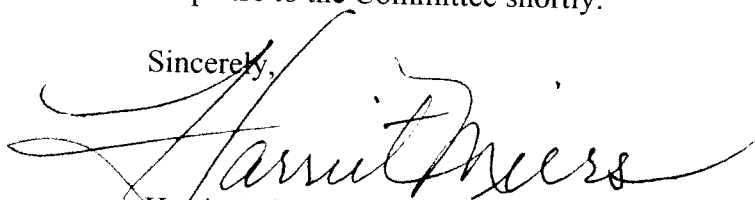
Dear Chairman Dingell and Chairman Boucher:

I am writing in response to your letter to Allan Hubbard, Director of the National Economic Council (NEC), dated January 25, 2007, concerning requests by the Committee on Energy and Commerce and its Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality for certain materials, including underlying analyses and documentation, prepared by the NEC to support the President's energy proposals announced in the State of the Union address. Committee staff has also orally requested that Director Hubbard personally appear before the Subcommittee to testify about the President's proposal.

The Administration looks forward to working closely with the Congress and your Committee on the proposals announced by the President in the State of the Union address, and looks forward to working with you on legislation addressing them. To that end, members of the NEC staff are prepared to meet informally with members of the Committee and its staff to discuss the specific proposals identified in your letter. In fact, I understand they have done so as recently as January 24, 2007. In keeping with the longstanding policy of the Executive Branch that members of the President's personal staff should decline requests to testify before congressional committees, Director Hubbard must respectfully decline your invitation to testify before your Committee. Director Hubbard would welcome the opportunity to meet privately with each of you and the ranking members of the Committee and Subcommittee to discuss the specific proposals referenced in your letter. And, of course, the Administration would be pleased to work with the Committee and its staff to identify knowledgeable witnesses appropriate to any hearings that the Committee or Subcommittee may schedule to address these specific proposals.

Finally, your letter requests documents, analyses, and information prepared by the NEC concerning the energy policy proposals announced by the President in the State of the Union address. We are continuing to consider the request and how best to supply materials and information relevant to the Committee's consideration of the President's proposals. We expect to be in a position to provide a more detailed response to the Committee shortly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harriet Miers". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Harriet Miers  
Counsel to the President

The Honorable John D. Dingell  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rick Boucher  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

cc: The Honorable Joe Barton  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515