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U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce Washington, DC 20515-6115

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March 6, 2007

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Mr. Gary Rodkin Chief Executive Officer ConAgra Foods, Inc. One ConAgra Drive Omaha, NE 68102

Dear Mr. Rodkin:

Pursuant to Rules X and XI of the Rules of the United States House of Representatives, the Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations is conducting an investigation into the safety of the Nation's food supply. The recent outbreak of salmonella contamination in peanut butter produced by ConAgra is of particular interest as part of this investigation.

To assist us in this investigation, we request that you provide the following information, along with all related documents, no later than Tuesday, March 20, 2007:

- 1. How did ConAgra first become aware of the salmonella contamination of its peanut butter and when?
- 2. Where and when was the salmonella contamination first detected?
- 3. When did ConAgra first notify, or was first notified by, Federal, State, and local officials of the contamination?
- 4. According to an announcement issued by ConAgra on February 22, 2007, ConAgra voluntarily recalled all varieties of Peter Pan Peanut Butter, and all varieties of Great Value Peanut Butter marked with the code 2111. Were any other ConAgra peanut butter products affected?

- 5. Please provide the names of all companies to which ConAgra has shipped peanut butter products in the last 12 months and the dates on which ConAgra notified those companies of any suspected contamination. Please provide copies of all correspondence with those companies pertaining to suspected contamination.
- 6. Please identify the source of the contamination in the Sylvester, Georgia plant and describe what inspections ConAgra has undertaken to detect contamination in its other facilities since alerted to the problems in the Sylvester plant.
- 7. What steps has ConAgra taken to prevent future outbreaks of salmonella contamination in its peanut butter products?
- 8. When was the last time ConAgra's peanut butter production facilities were inspected by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and State and local food safety officials? Please provide the dates of such inspections and the names of the officials, as well as all documentation associated with those inspections, as well as ongoing inspections.
- 9. Please provide copies of all ConAgra internal protocols and standards for monitoring and testing of its peanut butter products, including the dates and copies of the results of such monitoring and testing for the 12 months prior to February 22, 2007.

We very much appreciate your cooperation in this important inquiry. Should you or your staff have any questions regarding this request, please contact John Arlington, Committee Majority staff at (202) 225-2927 or Alan Slobodin, Committee Minority staff, at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,

John D. Dingell

Chairman

Bart Stupak Chairman

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Joe Barton

Ranking Member

Ed Whitfield

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations