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Statement of Rep. Henry A. Waxman February 22, 2002

It's remarkable and sad that the Administration has forced GAO to take this unprecedented action. The American people and Congress have an obvious right to know which lobbyists and special interests tried to influence the Vice President's energy policy.

Everyone in our government--even the Vice President--should be accountable to the American people, and I hope the White House will reconsider their unjustified insistence on secrecy. Revealing the names of lobbyists and campaign contributors may be unpleasant to the Vice President, but, as previous Administrations have learned, avoiding embarrassment isn't a constitutional protection.