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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

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June 15, 2001

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INDEPENDENT

Mr. Karl Rove  
Senior Advisor to the President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Rove:

I am writing to provide you with an opportunity to clarify some questions that have been raised about your personal financial holdings and any relation they may have to your official actions as Senior Advisor to the President. As you know, last week the White House released financial disclosure forms indicating that you owned at least \$2 million of stock in Enron Corp., Pfizer Inc., General Electric Co., Boeing Co., Johnson & Johnson, Intel, and other companies.

It was reported this week that you recently took the commendable step of selling your holdings in several companies.<sup>1</sup> However, concerns appear to remain that you might have been involved in decisions that could have affected your stock holdings, since you are "involved in virtually every decision that is made" at the White House.<sup>2</sup> On March 12, for instance, before you sold your holdings in Intel, you reportedly met with Intel executives who "wanted federal approval of a merger in the high-tech industry."<sup>3</sup> Reportedly, you discussed a "range" of subjects, such as "export controls on software," with the executives.<sup>4</sup>

I am writing not to make accusations about your conduct but to seek more information about your involvement in policy matters that potentially involve your holdings, including those stocks that you may have recently sold. I would like to know:

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<sup>1</sup>*Intel Pitched Proposed Merger to Rove*, Associated Press (June 14, 2001).

<sup>2</sup>*Bush Advisor Rove Owns Stock in Major U.S. Firms*, Wall Street Journal (June 4, 2001).

<sup>3</sup>*Intel Pitched Proposed Merger*, *supra* note 1.

<sup>4</sup>*Bush Aide Who Held Intel Stock Met Executives Seeking Merger*, Washington Post (June 14, 2001).

Mr. Karl Rove  
June 15, 2001  
Page 2

- (1) whether you have now sold all of your stock holdings, and if not, which stocks you are still holding;
- (2) whether you have held any meetings with representatives of any of the companies in which you held or now hold stock and, if so, the date of the meetings, the persons attending the meetings, the subject matters that were discussed, and your best recollection of any views you expressed in the meeting;
- (3) to the best of your recollection, the specific comments you made in the March 12 meeting with senior Intel executives;
- (4) whether you have been involved in any other meetings, discussions, or decisions that might have had a direct impact on the stocks in your portfolio.

I also have specific questions about your participation in the development of the Administration's energy policy. According to recent news accounts, Enron had access to the individuals developing the Administration's energy policy, and that the report prepared by the Administration's energy task force "embraces several initiatives dear to Enron."<sup>5</sup>

In light of your substantial holdings in Enron, I would also like to know:

- (5) whether you have been involved in any meetings, discussions, or decisions regarding the development of the Administration's energy policy; and
- (6) whether you have participated in any meetings or discussions in which Enron or energy policies identified as being advocated by Enron were discussed.

I would appreciate a response to this letter by June 29, 2001.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Minority Member

cc: The Honorable Dan Burton

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<sup>5</sup>*Power Trader Tied to Bush Finds Washington All Ears*, New York Times (May 25, 2001).