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

JOHN D. DINGELL, MICHIGAN CHAIRMAN

July 11, 2007

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Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., Ph.D., U.S. Navy (Ret.) Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere NOAA Administrator
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Attention: Eric Webster

Dear Vice Admiral Lautenbacher:

This is to advise you that under Rules X and XI of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Committee on Energy and Commerce and its Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations request that you provide us with an initial briefing on events surrounding the recent controversy about the management of your National Hurricane Center. In doing so, we expect your staff to provide Committee staff with information concerning a number of personnel matters of current or former Commerce Department staff.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

John D. Dingell

Chairman

Bart Stupak

Chairman

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., Ph.D., U.S. Navy (Ret.) Page 2

cc: The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Ed Whitfield, Ranking Member Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations