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ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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February 14, 2008

Mr. R. David Paulison
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Department of Homeland Security
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Mr. Paulison:

I am writing in regard to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform's ongoing investigation into dangerous levels of formaldehyde in travel trailers provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to victims of the 2005 Gulf Coast hurricanes.

First, I am concerned that FEMA has still not provided all responsive documents to the Committee. There is a striking absence of documents that would clarify how the agency's approach to the formaldehyde hazard was developed and approved. In particular, FEMA has not produced documents which clarify how the chain of command functioned above the level of Patrick Preston, a trial attorney in the Office of General Counsel.

In order to resolve this matter, I request that you produce all remaining documents and personally certify that FEMA has provided all documents. Additionally, I request that Patrick Preston be made available for a transcribed interview no later than Friday, February 29, 2007. Please ensure that FEMA produces every document responsive to its requests up to the date of the subpoena, July 16, 2007, including every responsive document relevant to your role as FEMA Administrator.

Finally, I understand FEMA has decided to reimburse individuals who purchased a travel trailer through the General Services Administration. Please provide the Committee with information that explains FEMA's decision to reimburse these individuals as well as how FEMA intends to make taxpayers whole for any defective products that may have been purchased with taxpayer funds. I also understand that the Federal Occupational Health (FOH) has been conducting an employee monitoring project with regard to the presence of formaldehyde in FEMA trailers. Please provide the results of this monitoring project.

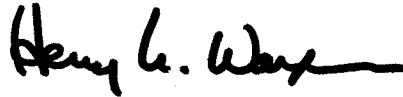
Mr. R. David Paulison
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Please provide the documents and information requested in this letter by Friday, March 7, 2008.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee in the House of Representatives and has broad oversight jurisdiction as set forth in House Rule X.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Erik Jones with the Committee staff at (202) 225-4407.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry A. Waxman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Henry A. Waxman
Chairman

cc: Tom Davis
Ranking Minority Member