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U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Resources Washington, DC 20515

February 23, 2004

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> Mr. Guy F. Caruso Administrator Energy Information Administration U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Ave. SW Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Caruso:

On February 2, 2004, Senator John Sununu requested that EIA provide information regarding the impact of certain provisions of the conference report of the Energy Policy Act of 2003. Last week, the EIA produced an analysis of those provisions using the National Energy Modeling System (NEMS).

I ask that you perform a similar analysis for the potential impacts of Division C, Title III of the H.R. 6 as it passed the House. These Sections, 30401 through 30412, authorize the leasing of the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska for oil and gas exploration and development. I am particularly interested in the impact of these Sections compared to EIA's 2004 annual energy outlook. I would ask that you use as appropriate, EIA's May, 2000, analysis regarding potential oil production from the Coastal Plain (SR/O&G/2000-02).

If possible in the time allotted, I am also interested in EIA's assessment of whether there may be significant synergies involved between ANWR development and other Alaska North Slope development, including the impact of possible additional natural gas discoveries on the economics of a proposal to build a natural gas line to the lower 48 States. In other words, does EIA's analysis of the scenarios for ANWR development suggest that Alaska's North Slope could be a major contributor to domestic production of oil and natural for decades into the future?

Mr. Guy Caruso February 23, 2004 page 2

I would appreciate receiving your analysis as soon as possible, but in any case by March 8, 2004. If you should have any further questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact my Committee office.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Pombo Chairman