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ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

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February 1, 2008

The Honorable Stephen L. Johnson Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Johnson:

In last year's State of the Union address, President Bush announced his "20-in-10" goal of cutting U.S. gasoline consumption by 20 percent over the next 10 years. In May 2007, the President signed an Executive Order directing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other federal agencies to develop regulations based upon this goal. The President explicitly stated that this Executive Order was in response to the landmark Supreme Court case, *Massachusetts v. EPA*. He stated:

Last month, the Supreme Court ruled that the EPA must take action under the Clean Air Act regarding greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles. So today, I'm directing the EPA and the Department of Transportation, Energy, and Agriculture to take the first steps toward regulations that would cut gasoline consumption and greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles, using my 20-in-10 plan as a starting point.²

I am writing to request an update on EPA's efforts to respond to the Supreme Court and to implement this directive. I request that you provide the Committee with the following information:

1. Please describe the EPA resources that have been devoted to implementation of the President's 20-in-10 plan. Your description should include the number of EPA employees who have worked on the issue, the number of EPA work hours spent on the issue, and an estimate of the financial cost to the agency of the effort.

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¹ White House Office of the Press Secretary, *President Bush Discusses CAFE and Alternative Fuel Standards* (May 14, 2007).

 $^{^{2}}$ Id.

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- 2. Please describe any ongoing efforts to implement the President's 20-in-10 plan. Your description should include the number of EPA employees who are now actively working on the issue, the number of EPA work hours currently being spent on the issue each week, and an estimate of the future financial cost to the agency of the effort.
- Please describe the product and status of your efforts to date to implement the President's 20-in-10 plan. Please state whether EPA drafted regulatory proposals to implement the plan, whether those proposals have been reviewed and approved internally within EPA, and if so, by which officials, whether those proposals were shared with other agencies, and the status of any ongoing review of those proposals within EPA and the Administration.
- 4. Please provide the date by which you anticipate proposing regulatory actions to comply with the Supreme Court's decision in *Massachusetts v. EPA*.

Please provide the requested information by February 15, 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 concerning this request, please have your staff contact Greg Dotson or Jeff Baran of the Committee staff at 202-225-4407.

Sincerely,

Henry A. Waxman Chairman

Haz G. Wahren

cc: Tom Davis
Ranking Minority Member