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Congress of the United States

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July 23, 2010

Mr. Steven Newman
President and CEO
Transocean Ltd.
P.O. Box 2765
Houston, TX 77252

Dear Mr. Newman:

The Committee on Energy and Commerce and its Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations are investigating the April 20, 2010, explosion at the Deepwater Horizon oil drilling rig. The Committee's investigation, recent media accounts, and statements by workers present on the rig have raised questions about safety practices on the Deepwater Horizon and the condition of equipment on the rig. Yesterday, *The New York Times* reported on a survey that found that rig workers feared reprisals for expressing safety concerns and documentation of the poor condition of numerous pieces of rig equipment. Today, Michael Williams testified before the Marine Board of Investigation that alarm systems on the rig had been put in "inhibited" mode to prevent false alarms.

To assist the Committee in investigating these developments, we request that you provide the following documents to the Committee for the period from January 1, 2005, to the present:

1. All documents related to safety on the rig, including any surveys of rig workers' attitudes about safety on the rig and any safety concerns or complaints expressed by any contracting party, rig worker, third party contractor, or rig inspector.
2. All documents related to the maintenance, functionality, repair, or replacement of equipment on the rig.

Please produce the requested documents to the Committee by July 30, 2010. An attachment to this letter provides additional information on how to respond to the Committee's request.

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In addition, the Committee requests a briefing on safety practices on the Deepwater Horizon and the condition of equipment on the rig by August 4, 2010. Please contact Tiffany Benjamin at (202) 226-2424 with the Committee staff to schedule the briefing and if you have any question regarding this request.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman
Chairman



Bart Stupak
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Joe Barton
Ranking Member

The Honorable Michael C. Burgess
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations