April 21, 2008

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-6143

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter further responds to your letter dated April 1, 2008 to Susan Dudley, the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs ("OIRA") at the Office of Management and Budget in the Executive Office of the President, and your letter to Administrator Dudley dated March 14, 2008. With this letter, we are providing an additional 144 pages of documents in response to the Committee’s request.

Although it has only been one month since EPA issued the ozone NAAQS regulation about which you have inquired, we have now provided extensive documents to the Committee on a prompt rolling basis in five installments. On March 26, 2008, we provided the Committee with more than 1,552 pages of responsive OIRA documents, which included the actual correspondence between the Administrator of OIRA and the Administrator and Deputy Administrator of the EPA relating to the new National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone, and this production also included the actual text of what EPA had submitted to OIRA and the final draft of the regulation at the conclusion of interagency review, as well as records from meetings OIRA had held with parties outside of the Executive Branch.

On April 11, 2008, we provided the Committee with another 3,559 pages of documents in response to your requests. Among other things, these documents included the communications directly between OIRA and EPA officials. To the extent the Committee is conducting oversight of EPA’s rulemaking, those would seem to be the main documents at issue.

On April 15, 2008, we provided the Committee with an additional 1,361 pages of documents. On April 18, 2008 we provided an additional 260 pages, and today we have provided an additional 144 pages of documents, which brings the total from OIRA to 6,878 pages of documents produced thus far. We also understand that the Committee is receiving significant numbers of documents from EPA as well.

Administrator Dudley has been making every effort to accommodate the Committee’s review of the EPA ozone NAAQS rulemaking. In that spirit, we hope to discuss with the Committee’s staff whether there are now alternative ways to reach further accommodations—in a manner that would respect both the Committee’s needs and important Executive Branch considerations.
My colleagues and I have had a continuing and ongoing dialogue with your staff—almost daily—and we are prepared to consult further, so please feel free to have your staff contact OMB through Shannon O'Keefe at (202) 395-4790 or my office at 202-395-5044.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Rosen
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Tom Davis
Ranking Minority Member