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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

BETTINA POIRIER, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
ANDREW WHEELER, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

January 4, 2008

Stephen L. Johnson
Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Johnson:

I have just learned that you are refusing my request to provide documents to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee regarding your denial of California's waiver to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles by the deadline.

Your continuing refusal to cooperate with this Committee, which has EPA oversight responsibility, demonstrates a failure to understand that the EPA and its Administrator are accountable to Congress and to the people of the United States.

I am urgently requesting that you hand over these documents by the original deadline of January 7, so they may be part of the Committee's field hearing in Los Angeles on January 10. It is essential that we have these documents since you have refused to attend the briefing, and have not allowed any other representative of EPA to attend. Apparently, we will have no EPA Administrator and no EPA documents. What we will have is an excellent presentation by State leaders that will make clear the outrageous nature of the decision you have made to deny California and the other states the right to curb global warming.

The initial documents requested include any records the Office of the Administrator received or reviewed related to the waiver request, and any records presenting options, recommendations, "pros and cons," legal issues or risks, and political implications or considerations related to the decision. This would include briefing papers for the Administrator and PowerPoint presentations, which should be readily available. This request also includes any records reflecting communications with the White House relating to this waiver request.

Please immediately notify your staff that the Monday, January 7 deadline stands. No extension will be granted. If you have any questions please contact Erik Olson of the Committee's staff at 202-224-8832.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
Chairman