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ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Energy and Commerce**  
**Washington, DC 20515-6115**

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CHAIRMAN

July 6, 2007

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Gary L. Ginsberg, Ph.D.  
Connecticut Department of Public Health  
410 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Dear Dr. Ginsberg:

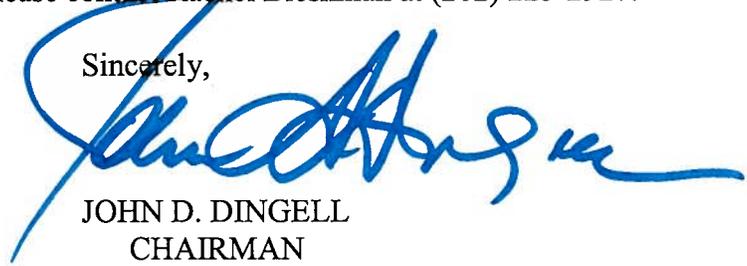
Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials on Wednesday, April 25, 2007, at the hearing entitled "Perchlorate: Health and Environmental Impacts of Unregulated Exposure." We appreciate the time and effort you gave as a witness before the subcommittee.

Under the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open to permit Members to submit additional questions to the witnesses. Attached are questions directed to you from certain Members of the Committee. In preparing your answers to these questions, please address your response to the Member who has submitted the questions and include the text of the Member's question along with your response.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, your responses to these questions should be received no later than the close of business on July 20, 2007. Your written responses should be delivered to 2125 Rayburn House Office Building and faxed to (202) 225-2899 to the attention of Rachel Bleshman. An electronic version of your response should also be sent by e-mail to Ms. Bleshman at [rachel.bleshman@mail.house.gov](mailto:rachel.bleshman@mail.house.gov). Please send your response in a single Word or WordPerfect formatted document.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. If you need additional information or have other questions, please contact Rachel Bleshman at (202) 225-2927.

Sincerely,



JOHN D. DINGELL  
CHAIRMAN

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Albert Wynn, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials

The Honorable John Shimkus, Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials

The Honorable Joe Barton and the Honorable John Shimkus

1. Congress has traditionally relied upon the guidance, assistance, and recommendations of the National Academy to resolve questions of science, including current efforts on climate change. The National Academy panel was comprised of 15 leading scientists and physicians with the wide ranging expertise necessary to evaluate all aspects of the available science related to perchlorate. Are you suggesting that you are right and the scientists appointed by the National Academy are wrong?
2. Isn't it true, that the National Academy, in its recommendation, incorporated a 10-fold intra-species uncertainty factor to account for sensitive populations, including the fetuses of pregnant mothers with iodine deficiency or hypothyroidism?
3. The National Academy suggested level for perchlorate in drinking water that is based on "no observed effects" rather than the traditional approach using "no adverse effects." For regulatory and public health purposes, is a standard that uses a "no observed effects" level more conservative than a "no adverse effects" level?
4. Dr. Utiger, your co-panelist, who has been a practicing physician specializing in thyroid function for 40 years, suggests that one of the best ways for people with hypothyroidism to compensate for potential perchlorate exposures is through greater dietary intake of iodine rich foods and vitamins. Yet, your testimony seems to reject these notions as inappropriate. What about your scientific background makes you more qualified to reject the health advice of this medical clinician?