

JIM GERLACH
6TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA
COMMITTEES:
FINANCIAL SERVICES
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

308 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4315
FAX: (202) 225-8440

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3806

November 10, 2005

Dr. Lee R. Raymond, Ph.D.
Chairman and CEO
Exxon Mobil Corporation
5959 Las Colinas Boulevard
Irving, Texas 75039-2298

Mr. John Hofmeister
President
Shell Oil Company
P.O. Box 2463
Houston, TX 77252

Mr. James J. Mulva
Chairman and CEO
ConocoPhillips
600 North Dairy Ashford, P.O. Box 2197
Houston, TX 77252-2197

Mr. John B. Hess
Chairman and CEO
Amerada Hess Corporation
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036

Lord John Browne
Group Chief Executive
BP
1 St. James Square
London, SW1Y 4PD, UK

Dear Dr. Raymond, Mr. Hofmeister, Mr. Mulva, Mr. Hess & Lord Browne:

I write because of my concern over high profits recently reported by oil and gas companies like yours in the third quarter of 2005. As a result, I request that you provide further details of this profit report.

Many of my constituents have contacted me about the high price of gasoline currently and in the weeks following the landfall of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. Recently reported third quarter earnings of your companies has only deepened this concern among my constituents. Indeed, these profits were significant to say the least. Exxon Mobil had a net income of \$9.9 billion in the third quarter of 2005 compared to \$5.68 billion in the third quarter of 2004, a 74.3% increase. Shell reported profits of \$9.03 billion, a 68% increase over the third quarter of 2004. Conoco Phillips reported a third-quarter net income of \$3.8 billion, or \$2.68 per share, compared with \$2.006 billion, or \$1.43 per share, for the same quarter in 2004. Amerada Hess reported net income of \$272 million for the third quarter of 2005 compared with income of \$178 million for the third quarter of 2004, a 52.8% increase. Finally, BP profits increased 34% over the third quarter of 2004 mark.

DISTRICT OFFICES:

BENNE COUNTY
501 NORTH PARK ROAD
WYOMING, PA 19610
(610) 376-7630
FAX (610) 376-7633

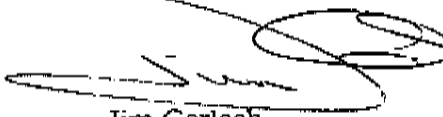
CHESTER COUNTY
111 EAST LINCOLN AVENUE
EATON, PA 19341
(610) 594-1415
FAX (610) 594-1415

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
580 MAIN STREET, SUITE 4
TRAPPE, PA 19426
(610) 405-2780
FAX (610) 405-7995

In an effort to better understand this situation, I hope that you will be willing provide to me and to Congress a full and accurate accounting of your profits from August 22, 2005 through the end of the third quarter. I feel it is vitally important to understand your third quarter profitability in the context of these natural disasters. Thus I would appreciate your thoughts on how much third quarter profit was incurred between August 22 and September 30 and your explanation as to the factors contributing to these profits.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Gerlach", is written over a horizontal line.

Jim Gerlach
Member of Congress