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## Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE 2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

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October 27, 2010

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Mr. Robert Dudley Chief Executive Officer BP PLC 1 St. James's Square London SW1Y4PD United Kingdom

Dear Mr. Dudley:

Thank you for your letter dated October 22, 2010, responding to the October 1, 2010, request that you appear before the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment to provide testimony at a hearing to be scheduled some time in November when the House is in session. As you know, this recent invitation was only the most recent of several oral and written requests for your testimony beginning in early August of 2010. We regret that, to date, you have been unable to make yourself available to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and we respectfully request that you reconsider your decision not to testify this fall at a hearing concerning BP's operations in the United States, its plans for improving the safety of its operations, and lessons BP can share from the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster.

The Subcommittee first inquired informally about your availability to appear before the Subcommittee in early August of 2010, and followed with a written invitation on August 16, 2010, that offered a range of available hearing dates. On September 3, 2010, you responded in writing, and stated that you would be unable to appear prior to becoming Chief Executive Officer of BP on October 1, 2010. As an accommodation, the Subcommittee did not require your testimony during September of 2010, so that you could familiarize yourself with your new responsibilities at BP.

On October 1, 2010, the Subcommittee again wrote to you requesting your testimony at a hearing during the month of November 2010. Three weeks later, you responded, and again declined to appear. You are now the Chief Executive Officer, and should be able to testify about your observations since assuming that role, and your plans going forward to improve operational safety in the United States. The Committee on Energy and Commerce has held ten hearings

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concerning many different issues related to the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and unanimously passed legislation addressing the key problems our investigations identified. It is appropriate that you should appear before the Committee, prior to the end of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, to testify about the steps BP is taking to ensure that a disaster like this never occurs again.

We would appreciate your reply no later than one week from today. Thank you very much for your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please have your staff contact Greg Dotson at (202) 225-2927 or Michal Freedhoff of the Subcommittee staff at (202) 225-2836.

Sincerely,

Henry A. Waxman

Chairman

Committee on Energy and Commerce

Edward J. Markey

Chairman

Subcommittee on Energy and Environment

cc:

Honorable Joe Barton

Ranking Member

Committee on Energy and Commerce

Honorable Fred Upton Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Energy and Environment