

July 19, 2000

Minister Ali Bin Ibrahim Al-Naimi  
Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources  
PO Box 247  
Riyadh 11911  
Saudi Arabia

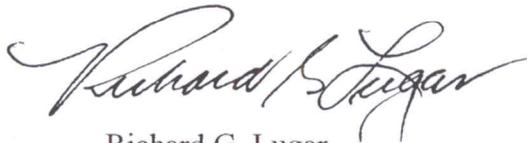
Dear Minister:

Thank you for considering my invitation to appear at this week's hearing of the Senate Agriculture Committee regarding contemporary energy issues. As you are unable to attend due to previous commitments, I would appreciate your review and response to nine questions (attached).

Being fully aware of the interrelationship between OPEC and U.S. energy policy, your perspective will assist me and other members of the Senate Agriculture Committee in our review of U.S. energy policy. Farmers and ranchers, as all Americans, are personally impacted by OPEC decision-making, and by energy policy initiatives of the U.S. administration.

Your written remarks will be entered into the hearing record. Thank you in advance for positive consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Richard G. Lugar  
Chairman

RGL/klk