

HARLEY O. STAGGERS
2D DISTRICT, WEST VIRGINIA

CHAIRMAN:
COMMITTEE ON
INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN
COMMERCE

HOME ADDRESS:
KEYSER, WEST VIRGINIA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 4, 1974

Mr. Charles H. Clements, Jr.
Clements Oil Company
Box 367
New Martinsville, West Virginia

Dear Mr. Clements:

This will acknowledge your letter of recent date. I appreciate your writing me with reference to the present "energy crisis."

From your communication, I note your opposition to Section 117 of the Emergency Energy Act pertaining to windfall profits. You may be assured I am pleased to have the benefit of your comments and will keep them in mind at the proper time.

As you no doubt know, the President recently recommended that the energy bill not be passed and the Senate voted accordingly. The bill was recommitted to Conference and further meetings have been scheduled. It is my sincere hope that something favorable can be worked out for the benefit of all.

Again, thank you for writing me.

With very best wishes to you and yours, I am

Sincerely yours,

HARLEY O. STAGGERS



CLEMENTS OIL COMPANY

BOX 367 -- NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA. 26155

Phone: (304) 455-2850

January 22, 1974

JAN 24 1974

The Honorable Harley Staggers
Room 2366
Rayburn Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Sir:

I am writing in regard to the proposed ENERGY EMERGENCY ACT, Sec. 117, RESTRICTIONS ON WINDFALL PROFITS. As a small distributor we feel that we cannot live with the provision of this proposed legislation. We are currently being shackled by price controls by the Cost of Living Council and by restrictions on product by our suppliers as well as the government. At the same time we are facing rising costs which eat away the small profits we have realized.

We started business here in 1970 and have seen our business grow from that time until the "Energy Crisis" cut back our volume of business. The years of 1970 thru 1972 were years of low profit while 1973 was the first year we have realized a profit we can live with; to restrict us to our previous profits would not be just. The profit of 1973 was obtained thru business growth not thru price increases.

It is hard to discuss this fact in light of the tremendous profits realized by the "Major" Oil Companies. U. S. News and World Report quotes one Senator as saying, "...It's going to take a real gutsy Senator to vote against severe restrictions on the petroleum interests." I sincerely hope that when you consider proposed legislation you look at the small Jobber and Service Station Dealers who do their job in a conscientious manner and that they are not penalized by the profits of the "Major" Oil Companies. We urge you to vote against legislation which penalizes the "Small" man.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Clements

Charles H. Clements, Jr.