

HARLEY O. STAGGERS
2D DISTRICT, WEST VIRGINIA

HOME ADDRESS:
KEYSER, WEST VIRGINIA

CHAIRMAN:
COMMITTEE ON
INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN
COMMERCE

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

January 7, 1974

Mr. William H. C. Webster
316 Country Club Boulevard
Weirton, West Virginia 26062

Dear Mr. Webster:

Thank you very much for sending me copy of your recent letter and enclosure directed to our mutual friend, Congressman Robert Mollohan.

It is certainly good to have the benefit of your comments with reference to our present "energy crisis." Many others have also expressed similar views concerning the relaxation of environmental standards during this crisis.

As you know, of course, the House and Senate did take action on the Energy Emergency Act during the last days of the First Session. In all probability, it will be one of the first items to be considered when the Second Session of the 93rd Congress convenes. You may be assured I will continue my efforts toward the passage of fair and equitable legislation for all.

Again, thanking you and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

HARLEY O. STAGGERS

316 Country Club Boulevard
Weirton, West Virginia 26062

December 13, 1973

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The Honorable Robert H. Mollohan
Congressman, First District W. Va.
Room 314, Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515

re: 1.5 n b

Dear Bob,

Enclosed is a copy of an Oil Daily article on removing lead from gasoline. After reading this article, I am left with the feeling that we, as a country, are dying from Crude Oil Starvation and are trying to hurry the process by cutting our wrists with the EPA knife. I know that to the "environmentalists" I am talking against "Motherhood" but we are long past the time when we should have faced up to the problem of developing a practical approach to improving the environment.

As you well know that without the Arabs, we were facing an energy problem in this country and environmental improvement does nothing to help this problem. The environmentalists are "nice guys" and we love them but now is the time to have them step aside until the energy problem is solved.

In my opinion, this can only be done by the Congress in temporarily re-defining the goals of EPA. Perhaps these goals should be "shelved" until the energy problem is solved and then redefined and accomplishment spread over a considerable period of time. The development of a system of National Priorities would be helpful because we, as a nation, cannot afford crash programs.

I sincerely hope that you along with our other West Virginia representatives in Congress can promptly move in concert with what I have set out above.

Very truly yours,

William H. Webster

William H. C. Webster

WHCW/jp

cc: Sen. Robert C. Byrd
Sen. Jennings Randolph
Cong. John M. Slack
Cong. Harley O. Staggers ✓
Cong. Ken Hechler
Cong. James Kee



Weirton Steel
Division of
National Steel Corporation

Weirton, West Virginia 26062

LEAD FREE GAS'L WILL BOOST CRUDE NEEDS 40 MILLION BBL/YEAR

Shouting is Far From Over On New EPA Regs

By MARVIN MURPHY

NEW YORK — The government may have won the battle for tougher lead regulations on gasoline but the shouting is far from over.

Following the announcement last Tuesday by the Environmental Protection Agency for a gradual reduction in gasoline lead content — scheduled to begin in 1975 — a chorus of protests arose, among them Ethyl, PPG Industries, and Nalco Chemical.

Nalco president Robert T. Powers said new regulations would increase crude oil requirements "by at least 40 million barrels per year in 1975."

New regulations, plus fuel penalties from low compression engines and unleaded gasoline used with catalytic emission control systems, would, he added, increase crude

oil requirements by one million barrels per day — as compared to alternate systems.

Manufacture of lead-free gasoline could require "about 20% more crude oil than the established low-lead or full lead gasoline," according to a report from Los Angeles by Bureau Chief Bill Gregg.

This view was expressed by the Serve Yourself and Multiple Pump Assn.'s directorial board which called for postponement of EPA entire leaded gasoline phaseout program.

Until new sources of energy can be turned up and more refining capacity becomes available, SYMPA said in a resolution adopted by the board, the whole thing should be called off.

Copies of the resolution were mailed to President Nixon, California's two U.S. senators, Alan Cranston and John Tunney, and to EPA officials.

Both Ethyl and PPG denied that lead in automobile emissions is damaging to health — one basis for EPA's new regulations.

A PPG spokesman said his company "does not feel that any penalty in additional consumption of crude oil should be paid to reduce the lead levels in leaded gasolines."

In light of the present energy problems and the accompanying necessity for refinery expansion, it seems unreasonable to ask the oil industry and ultimately the public to assume the additional unneeded expense for the removal of lead from gasoline."

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