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MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, MR. LYNN Thursday, September 25, 1975 2:30 p.m. Oval Office

# THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 22, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

JAMES CANNON

L. WILLIAM SEIDMAN

SUBJECT:

Auto Emission Standards

## BACKGROUND

We discussed auto emission standards in individual meetings with John Ford (Chrysler Corporation), Oscar Lundin (General Motors), Fred Secrest (Ford Motor Company), and John Secrest (American Motors). We also talked with Frank Zarb, Russ Train, Leonard Woodcock, and others.

Our purpose was to determine the impact on jobs, energy and industry of various aspects of a five-year, three-year, or two-year suspension on auto standards. (A two-year suspension would extend present standards through the 1977 and 1978 model years, while a three-year suspension would include model years 1977, 1978, and 1979.)

#### STATUS

There are individual differences of view, but a general consensus:

- a. An end to uncertainty is imperative. Both labor and industry want a decision by Congress as soon as possible. No one wanted to reopen hearings.
- b. There are compelling economic arguments for a three-year suspension, but a two-year suspension would be helpful--in terms of jobs, costs and energy.
- c. Lundin (GM) and Woodcock supported a proposal to have the responsibility for setting auto emission standards moved from Congress to an inter-agency

group (e.g., FEA, EPA, National Science Foundation, Public Health Service, etc.) -- with Congress retaining veto rights over any decision by such an inter-agency group.

#### REPORT TO CONGRESS

This information has been passed along to Senator Baker, Senator Buckley, Senator Domenici, and to Representatives Broyhill and Hastings, in individual meetings.

### OUTLOOK

Good for a two-year suspension--unless Senator Muskie blocks it.

A three-year suspension is possible but unlikely.

There could be a compromise of a two-year suspension, with some additional relief on the NOX standards.

cc: Max Friedersdorf

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ROD HILLS PAUL LEACH

FROM:

JIM CANNO

At the Cabinet Meeting last week the President asked for a progress on the major initiatives he has announced.

One of them was Executive Agency Regulatory Reform. He pointed out that the Domestic Council Review Group was announced on July 16 and he has not received plans for what is to be done in six Executive Agencies.

The President said, "we should get moving on this as rapidly as possible".

Could you give me a report on the progress we have made thus far and a timetable for the necessary steps?