

The original documents are located in Box 25, folder “Regulating Agencies” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.


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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 26, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN
FROM: ED SCHMULTS 
SUBJECT: Announcement of Presidential Meeting

Attached are copies of the letters sent to the independent regulatory commissions inviting the Chairman of each commission and one other commissioner of the Chairman's choosing to a meeting with the President at the White House on April 8, 1976.

An announcement of the meeting could read as follows:

The President today concluded his review of the reports from the ten major independent regulatory commissions on their progress in reforming their regulatory practices. The President noted, "I have placed the highest priority on seeing that federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy." As a part of the dialogue on needed reforms, the President has invited the Chairman of each agency and one other commissioner of the Chairman's choice to a meeting at the White House on April 8, 1976 at 2:00 PM.

This meeting will continue the review of regulatory policies and practices that the President began last July in his meeting with the commissioners from these regulatory agencies. The President's Deputy Counsel, Edward Schmults, and Paul MacAvoy, member of the Council of Economic Advisers, will lead a review of the specific administrative improvements underway in these ten commissions and a discussion of the need for additional reforms.

Copies of the letter sent to each agency are available and further details will be announced as they become available.

If you have any questions, please call.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

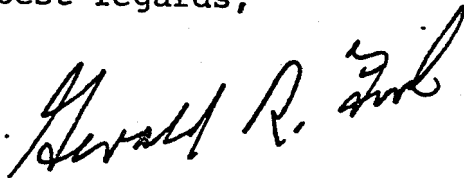
I have just completed my review of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission's year end report on efforts to improve its regulatory functions.

As you know, I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy. I am pleased to see that the CFTC has accomplished a smooth start-up without undue burden on the futures markets.

In order to continue our dialogue on needed reforms, I would like you and one other Commissioner of your choice to attend a meeting at the White House on April 8 at 2:00 P.M. I have asked Ed Schmults and Paul MacAvoy to lead the discussion and I will be very interested to hear your comments and suggestions on steps the CFTC is taking to improve its regulatory practices.

I look forward to discussing the Commission's future plans with you at that time.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "F" and "R".

The Honorable William T. Bagley
Chairman
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Washington, D.C. 20036

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

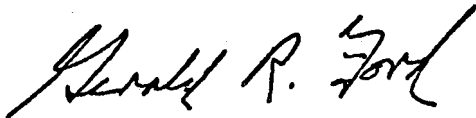
I have just completed my review of the Consumer Product Safety Commission's year end report on efforts to improve its regulatory functions.

As you know, I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy. I am pleased to see that the CPSC is expanding and refining its ability to develop cost-benefit analyses and is using this information to help make better decisions on product safety regulations.

In order to continue our dialogue on needed reforms, I would like you and one other Commissioner of your choice to attend a meeting at the White House on April 8 at 2:00 P.M. I have asked Ed Schmults and Paul MacAvoy to lead the discussion and I will be very interested to hear your comments and suggestions on steps the CPSC is taking to improve its regulatory practices.

I look forward to discussing the Commission's future plans with you at that time.

With best regards,



The Honorable Richard O. Simpson
Chairman
Consumer Product Safety Commission
Washington, D.C. 20207

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

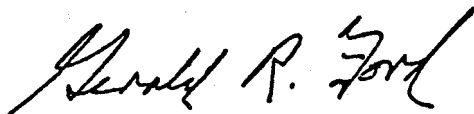
I have just completed my review of the Federal Power Commission's year end report on efforts to improve its regulatory functions.

As you know, I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy. I am pleased to see that your top priority is reducing delays in FPC proceedings by introducing fresh management approaches, streamlining application processing and expanding the use of automatic data processing methods. These efforts are critical to assure that the Federal Government itself does not impede development of the Nation's energy resources.

In order to continue our dialogue on needed reforms, I would like you and one other Commissioner of your choice to attend a meeting at the White House on April 8 at 2:00 P.M. I have asked Ed Schmults and Paul MacAvoy to lead the discussion and I will be very interested to hear your comments and suggestions on steps the FPC is taking to improve its regulatory practices.

I look forward to discussing the Commission's future plans with you at that time.

With best regards,



The Honorable Richard L. Dunham
Chairman
Federal Power Commission
825 North Capitol Street
Washington, D.C. 20426

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

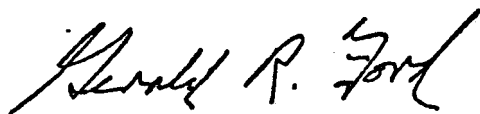
I have just completed my review of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's year end report on efforts to improve its regulatory functions.

As you know, I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy. I am pleased to see that the NRC has placed the highest priority on reducing the time required to consider and act on applications for licenses to operate nuclear power reactors.

In order to continue our dialogue on needed reforms, I would like you and one other Commissioner of your choice to attend a meeting at the White House on April 8 at 2:00 P.M. I have asked Ed Schmults and Paul MacAvoy to lead the discussion and I will be very interested to hear your comments and suggestions on steps the NRC is taking to improve its regulatory practices.

I look forward to discussing the Commission's future plans with you at that time.

With best regards,



The Honorable William A. Anders
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

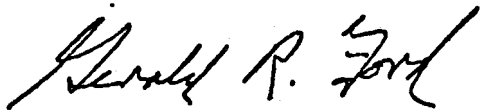
I have just completed my review of the Civil Aeronautics Board's year end report on efforts to improve its regulatory functions.

As you know, I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy. I am pleased to see that the CAB has achieved significant reform and liberalization of charter air carrier regulations and has under active review a number of major regulatory reform initiatives that may have far-reaching impact.

In order to continue our dialogue on needed reforms, I would like you and one other Commissioner of your choice to attend a meeting at the White House on April 8 at 2:00 P.M. I have asked Ed Schmultz and Paul MacAvoy to lead the discussion and I will be very interested to hear your comments and suggestions on steps the CAB is taking to improve its regulatory practices.

I look forward to discussing the Commission's future plans with you at that time.

With best regards,



The Honorable John E. Robson
Chairman
Civil Aeronautics Board
1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW.
Washington, D.C. 20428

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

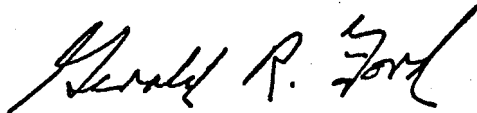
I have just completed my review of the Interstate Commerce Commission's year end report on efforts to improve its regulatory functions.

As you know, I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy. I am pleased to see that the ICC has accepted and implemented a large number of the recommendations made by its "Blue Ribbon Panel" and that it is placing greater emphasis on economic analysis in decisionmaking.

In order to continue our dialogue on needed reforms, I would like you and one other Commissioner of your choice to attend a meeting at the White House on April 8 at 2:00 P.M. I have asked Ed Schmults and Paul MacAvoy to lead the discussion and I will be very interested to hear your comments and suggestions on steps the ICC is taking to improve its regulatory practices.

I look forward to discussing the Commission's future plans with you at that time.

With best regards,



The Honorable George M. Stafford
Chairman
Interstate Commerce Commission
Washington, D.C. 20423

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

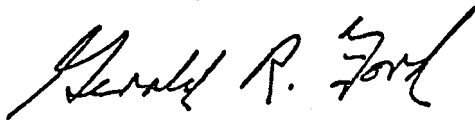
I have just completed my review of the Securities and Exchange Commission's year end report on efforts to improve its regulatory functions.

As you know, I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy. I am pleased to see that the SEC is moving quickly to carry out its many responsibilities under the Securities Acts Amendments of 1975 and that it is taking steps to insure that the Nation's securities markets function in a new environment of healthy competition.

In order to continue our dialogue on needed reforms, I would like you and one other Commissioner of your choice to attend a meeting at the White House on April 8 at 2:00 P.M. I have asked Ed Schmults and Paul MacAvoy to lead the discussion and I will be very interested to hear your comments and suggestions on steps the SEC is taking to improve its regulatory practices.

I look forward to discussing the Commission's future plans with you at that time.

With best regards,



The Honorable Roderick M. Hills
Chairman
Securities and Exchange Commission
500 North Capitol Street
Washington, D.C. 20549

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

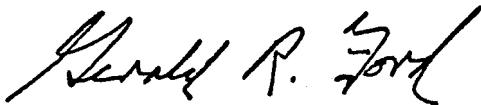
I have just completed my review of the Federal Trade Commission's year end report on efforts to improve its regulatory functions.

As you know, I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy. I am pleased to see that the FTC is devoting more resources to insuring fair and honest competition and that it is beginning to use cost-benefit analysis to help select priority activities.

In order to continue our dialogue on needed reforms, I would like you and one other Commissioner of your choice to attend a meeting at the White House on April 8 at 2:00 P.M. I have asked Ed Schmults and Paul MacAvoy to lead the discussion and I will be very interested to hear your comments and suggestions on steps the FTC is taking to improve its regulatory practices.

I look forward to discussing the Commission's future plans with you at that time.

With best regards,



The Honorable Calvin Collier
Chairman
Federal Trade Commission
Washington, D.C. 20580

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

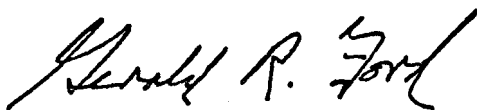
I have just completed my review of the Federal Communications Commission's year end report on efforts to improve its regulatory functions.

As you know, I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy. I am pleased to see that the FCC is making progress in eliminating or significantly altering outdated regulations and procedures, and I appreciate the thoroughness with which you are pursuing a comprehensive review of each staff and commission activity.

In order to continue our dialogue on needed reforms, I would like you and one other Commissioner of your choice to attend a meeting at the White House on April 8 at 2:00 P.M. I have asked Ed Schmults and Paul MacAvoy to lead the discussion and I will be very interested to hear your comments and suggestions on steps the FCC is taking to improve its regulatory practices.

I look forward to discussing the Commission's future plans with you at that time.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gerald R. Ford".

The Honorable Richard E. Wiley
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW.
Washington, D.C. 20554

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

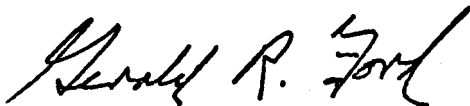
I have just completed my review of the Federal Maritime Commission's year end report on efforts to improve its regulatory functions.

As you know, I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy. I am pleased to see that the FMC has begun to reduce delays in its regulatory proceedings by developing priorities for case scheduling and establishing time limitations for staff reviews.

In order to continue our dialogue on needed reforms, I would like you and one other Commissioner of your choice to attend a meeting at the White House on April 8 at 2:00 P.M. I have asked Ed Schmults and Paul MacAvoy to lead the discussion and I will be very interested to hear your comments and suggestions on steps the FMC is taking to improve its regulatory practices.

I look forward to discussing the Commission's future plans with you at that time.

With best regards,



The Honorable Karl E. Bakke
Chairman
Federal Maritime Commission
1100 L Street, NW.
Washington, D.C. 20573

DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH THE REGULATORY COMMISSIONERS

April 8, 1976

We are announcing

the P's

~~The President~~ today ~~announced~~ another step in ~~his~~ program of regulatory reform. ^{*The P.*} ~~He~~ has invited the Chairman of each of the ten independent regulatory agencies ^{*1/*} and one other commissioner to a meeting in the Cabinet Room at the White House on April 8, 1976 at 2 o'clock. This meeting will continue the review of regulatory policies and practices that the President began last July in his meeting with the commissioners from these regulatory agencies.

In calling the meeting, the President emphasized that "I have placed the highest priority on seeing that Federal agencies modernize their procedures and insure that the regulations they create do not impose unnecessary burdens on the economy." For more than a year, the President has pointed out that the reform of government regulation requires both legislative and administrative changes. He has submitted several legislative proposals in the areas of transportation, banking, and natural gas, but he has also urged the regulatory commissions to work toward needed administrative reforms through a four-point program. During the meeting last July he asked the commissions to:

1/ They are:

Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB)	Federal Maritime Comm (FMC)
Commodity Futures Trading Comm (CFTC)	Federal Power Comm (FPC)
Consumer Product Safety Comm (CPSC)	Federal Trade Comm (FTC)
Federal Communications Comm (FCC)	Interstate Commerce Comm (ICC)
	Nuclear Regulatory Comm (NRC)
	Securities & Exchange Comm (SEC)

1) improve economic analyses of proposed or existing regulation; 2) reduce delays in reaching agency decisions; 3) increase representation of consumer interests; and 4) further opportunities for competition. Each of the agencies has submitted to the President a report on the agency's progress in achieving reforms in these areas.

The President's second meeting with the regulatory agencies will be conducted by his Deputy Counsel, Edward Schmults, and Paul MacAvoy, member of the Council of Economic Advisors. They also serve as co-chairmen of the President's Domestic Council Review Group on Regulatory Reform. The meeting will review specific administrative improvements underway in these ten commissions and will serve as a forum in which to discuss the need for additional reforms.