The original documents are located in Box C35, folder "Presidential Handwriting, 2/24/1976" of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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February 24, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ED SCHMULTS

FROM:

JIM CONNOR & 6

SUBJECT:

Next Steps in the Administration's Regulatory Reform Program

The President reviewed your memorandum of February 17 on the above subject and approved your recommendation for a follow-up meeting with the Commissions.

The following notation was also made:

"Good - proceed".

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Dick Cheney Jerry Jones

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

February 19, 1976

MR PRESIDENT:

Next Steps in the Administration's Regulatory Reform Program

Staffing of the attached package resulted in concurrence in Ed Schmults' recommendation by Messrs. Cannon, Marsh, Jones and Seidman.

Jim Connor

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 17, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:

JIM CANNON

FROM:

ED SCHMULT

SUBJECT:

Next Steps in the Administration's

Regulatory Reform Program

On February 4 several senior staff and members of the Domestic Council Review Group on Regulatory Reform met with you to review the present status of the regulatory reform program and to discuss with you the future directions of the effort. At this point we need your decision on whether to schedule a follow-up meeting with the ten major independent regulatory commissions. We also want to outline how we intend to follow-up on the various items raised in our meeting.

I. Decision Memo on a Follow-Up Meeting with the Commissions

During our recent talk you asked about progress on reforms in the ten major independent regulatory commissions. The attached notebook contains their year-end reports on efforts to improve the process and substance of regulations and a brief summary of these actions. (Tab A).

Also enclosed is a more detailed decision memo from Jim Lynn and me which we wrote prior to the February 4 discussion of the regulatory program. We both recommend that you preside over a follow-on meeting with the chairmen (and ranking Democratic commissioners or vice chairmen) of these ten agencies.

Such a meeting would underscore your leadership on this important initiative, would help to reinforce the on-going reform efforts of the commissions, (many of which have had new leadership since last July), and would give you the opportunity to discuss further work that you would like to see them accomplish. The only major cost would be the demand on your time, approximately two hours.

We feel it is important for you to acknowledge the commissions' progress reports, and if you decide to meet with their chairmen, to issue a press release announcing your decision. Drafts of this material are included in the notebook at TABS L and M.

Decision on Follow-	-Up Meeting:	
nati		
Agree Agree	Disagree	See Me

II. Schedule for Additional Regulatory Activities

In addition to our focus on the independent agencies, we are following up on the other issues which were discussed in our February 4 meeting:

- 1) We are developing your proposal to create two or three task forces that would focus on improving the regulatory practices of the executive branch agencies. This proposal will concentrate on reforms that can be achieved administratively and the task forces will be made up of staff from outside the affected agency. We hope to have this proposal ready for your review early in March.
- 2) We are developing a draft legislative proposal which would establish a fixed Congressional-Executive timetable for a comprehensive reform of government regulatory and subsidy interventions in the economy. This proposal is an extension of the Percy-Byrd legislation, although there are several significant differences. We plan to discuss this approach with the key White House officials as well as conduct a number of sessions with important economists, lawyers, congressmen and intellectuals.

We will then circulate a draft for review within the Administration. Our tentative time schedule calls for a decision by you regarding submission of the legislation early in April.

- 3) We are drafting a major Presidential policy address on important regulatory issues. Once completed, a draft will be circulated for comment and an audience will be selected. In preparation for that address, we will work to improve the name of the regulatory reform effort and to identify better methods of obtaining support from the general public and the business community. We are targeting on the middle of April for delivery.
- 4) We are preparing background materials on the Administration's regulatory program to be distributed to all Administration policy officials by February 20, 1976. A follow-up briefing will also be scheduled.
- 5) Any unresolved issues in the areas of insurance, Robinson-Patman and cable television will be staffed out in the White House and brought to your attention as necessary.
- 6) Finally, we will be considering a number of ways to advance the program including whether a follow-up meeting with the 24 congressmen and senators similar to the one held last June would be useful.

We very much appreciated the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the future of the reform program. We will keep you closely informed of legislative and administrative developments as they occur. I am confident that your personal interest in these efforts will encourage our group to accelerate progress in dealing with this important issue.

Attachments

WASHINGTON

5 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

EDWARD C. SCHMULTS

JAMES T LYNN

SUBJECT:

Regulatory Reform Initiatives in Ten

Independent Commissions

As part of your government-wide regulatory reform program, you met with all the Commissioners of the ten major, independent regulatory agencies last July 10. At the conclusion of that meeting, you asked the Commissioners to concentrate their efforts on accomplishing a four point program designed to: (1) improve the quality of the economic analyses they perform in conjunction with regulatory decisions; (2) reduce the delays which have characterized many regulatory proceedings; (3) increase representation of general consumer interests; and (4) develop better understanding for areas in which greater market competition can be used to supplement or replace government regulation.

After that meeting, letters were sent to each commission asking for a detailed end of year progress report on its efforts to implement your reform program. Attached is a short summary of the highlights (Tab A), organized around the four points which you emphasized, and copies of those ten reports (see Tabs B-K). (Also at the Cabinet Meeting the following day, you asked the Executive agencies to pay particular attention to these same problems. Reports on progress in five of the most critical--DOT, HEW, USDA, Labor, EPA--will be available soon.)

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relatively short tenures, they have been encouraged by their agency's response and intend to place your program high on their list of priorities. The two commissions most closely connected with energy issues (FPC and NRC) have pledged to speed up the Federal approval of private plans to develop further energy production. The CAB has relaxed some rules in order to allow greater pricing flexibility for charter airlines. The CPSC has recently used an economic analysis to justify its unwillingness to ban certain aerosol products until it can be more conclusively proven that they could create a major environmental and health hazard.

At the same time, there have been setbacks. The ICC Chairman has consistently opposed your rail and motor carrier reform legislation. The FMC and ICC have been unable to resolve a jurisdictional fight over which agency should regulate shipments of containerized cargo. There are currently two vacancies on the FTC and a majority of the three incumbent Commissioners is reported to be considering increased Robinson-Patman Act activity.

The agency reports will soon be available to the Congress and the general public. In order to publicly acknowledge the work that these agencies have done and to maintain your position of leadership on this issue, we recommend that letters be sent to each Chairman thanking him for his efforts and urging continued improvements. (A proposed letter is attached at Tab L). A summary of your reactions and planned next steps could be issued in the form of a press release (Tab M.)

We believe that the meeting which you held last July helped to stimulate the agencies' reform efforts. We also feel it is important for you to continue to demonstrate your concern for regulatory improvements. Therefore we recommend that you preside over a follow-up session with the commissions to be scheduled within the next six weeks. This would give you the opportunity to: (1) discuss the agencies' activities in greater detail, (2) acknowledge specific successes and point out areas where further work is needed; and (3) re-emphasize your personal commitment to the program and objectives before an audience which could include as many as six

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We recommend, however, that the format and attendance of this meeting should differ from the July 10 session and that it follow more the pattern of your meeting with the 24 designated Congressional Members. This follow-on session should be limited to the chairmen and a second commissioner from each of the ten agencies. It could be conducted in the Cabinet Room for an hour and a half, with appropriate press briefings afterward. In order to emphasize your major concern for improved economic analyses and more streamlined legal procedures, the session could be chaired jointly by the White House Counsel's Office and the CEA.

The meeting should concentrate on those administrative steps the commissions must continue to take in order to improve their operations, and should also solicit ideas from these agencies on the need for additional reform legislation. You could ask for a further status report in 5-6 months.

We believe that such a meeting would help to keep congressional and public attention on the vital questions of regulatory reform, thereby increasing the probability of speedier congressional action on the slate of legislation you have already submitted. If you agree that such a follow-on meeting would be useful, we will begin immediately to complete the agenda and make the necessary arrangements. Invitations to the meeting could be included as part of a letter from you to the commissions acknowledging their December 31, 1975 reports and thanking them for their continued efforts.

Decision

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		gement letter and issue of a specific follow-up
Alternative #3.	Take no action at	this time.
Alternative #4.	See me.	

Attachments

February 19, 1976

MR PRESIDENT:

Next Steps in the Administration's Regulatory Reform Program

Staffing of the attached package resulted in concurrence in Ed Schmults' recommendation by Messrs. Cannon, Marsh, Jones and Seidman.

Jim Connor

up 2/19

WASHINGTON

February 17, 1976

The state of the s

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:

JIM CANNON

FROM:

ED SCHMULTS

SUBJECT:

Next Steps in the Administration's

Regulatory Reform Program

On February 4 several senior staff and members of the Domestic Council Review Group on Regulatory Reform met with you to review the present status of the regulatory reform program and to discuss with you the future directions of the effort. At this point we need your decision on whether to schedule a follow-up meeting with the ten major independent regulatory commissions. We also want to outline how we intend to follow-up on the various items raised in our meeting.

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Also enclosed is a more detailed decision memo from Jim Lynn and me which we wrote prior to the February 4 discussion of the regulatory program. We both recommend that you preside over a follow-on meeting with the chairmen (and ranking Democratic commissioners or vice chairmen) of these ten agencies.

Such a meeting would underscore your leadership on this important initiative, would help to reinforce the on-going reform efforts of the commissions, (many of which have had new leadership since last July), and would give you the opportunity to discuss further work that you would like to see them accomplish. The only major cost would be the demand on your time, approximately two hours.

We feel it is important for you to acknowledge the commissions' progress reports, and if you decide to meet with their chairmen, to issue a press release announcing your decision. Drafts of this material are included in the notebook at TABS L and M.

Decision on Follow-Up Meeting:

Agree	D:	isagree	See	Me	

II. Schedule for Additional Regulatory Activities

In addition to our focus on the independent agencies, we are following up on the other issues which were discussed in our February 4 meeting:

- 1) We are developing your proposal to create two or three task forces that would focus on improving the regulatory practices of the executive branch agencies. This proposal will concentrate on reforms that can be achieved administratively and the task forces will be made up of staff from outside the affected agency. We hope to have this proposal ready for your review early in March.
- We are developing a draft legislative proposal which would establish a fixed Congressional-Executive timetable for a comprehensive reform of government regulatory and subsidy interventions in the economy. This proposal is an extension of the Percy-Byrd legislation, although there are several significant differences. We plan to discuss this approach with the key White House officials as well as conduct a number of sessions with important economists, lawyers, congressmen and intellectuals.

We will then circulate a draft for review within the Administration. Our tentative time schedule calls for a decision by you regarding submission of the legislation early in April.

- 3) We are drafting a major Presidential policy address on important regulatory issues. Once completed, a draft will be circulated for comment and an audience will be selected. In preparation for that address, we will work to improve the name of the regulatory reform effort and to identify better methods of obtaining support from the general public and the business community. We are targeting on the middle of April for delivery.
- 4) We are preparing background materials on the Administration's regulatory program to be distributed to all Administration policy officials by February 20, 1976. A follow-up briefing will also be scheduled.
- 5) Any unresolved issues in the areas of insurance, Robinson-Patman and cable television will be staffed out in the White House and brought to your attention as necessary.
- 6) Finally, we will be considering a number of ways to advance the program including whether a follow-up meeting with the 24 congressmen and senators similar to the one held last June would be useful.

We very much appreciated the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the future of the reform program. We will keep you closely informed of legislative and administrative developments as they occur. I am confident that your personal interest in these efforts will encourage our group to accelerate progress in dealing with this important issue.

Attachments

February 17, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ED SCHMULTS

FROM:

JIM CONNOR E

SUBJECT:

Next Steps in the Administration's Regulatory Reform Program

The original joint memorandum submitted by Jim Lynn and yourself on the above subject is returned herewith together with your later memorandum of February 13th. You are requested to combine these two memorandums into one memorandum to be sent forward to the President for decision.

cc: Jim Lynn Jim Cannon 2/13/76 Jan Cormor -THE WHITE HOUSE Showshit be Three Combrued into memo? and I 42 Can

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

February 13, 1976

Jim -

Here is a re-draft of the covering memo for the regulatory commission reports summaries. As you suggested, I have fudged the deadlines for our two principal proposals. I think Bill Seidman should get a copy of this covering memo.

Ed Schmults

WASHINGTON

February 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:

JIM CANNON

FROM:

ED SCHMULTS

SUBJECT:

Next Steps in the Administration's

Regulatory Reform Program

Attached are the reports on major regulatory reform efforts of the ten independent regulatory commissions. These reports respond to your July request that the commissions inform you of their progress to improve regulatory practices. As we discussed during our recent meeting, we are also requesting your decision on whether to schedule a follow-up meeting with the Chairmen and ranking Democratic Commissioners or Vice Chairmen of these agencies.

In addition to our focus on the independent agencies, we are following up on the other issues which were discussed in our February 4 meeting:

- We are developing a proposal which would create a
 task force that would focus on improving the regulatory practices of the Executive branch agencies.
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ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO .:

Date:

February 18, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

Jerry Jones
Jack Marsh
Bill Seidman

cc (for information):

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

Quick Turnaround

Time:

SUBJECT:

Memorandum from Ed Schmults datd 2/17/76
re Next Steps in the Administration's Regulatory
Reform Program

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

X For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

This subject was mentioned at the Senior Staff Meeting this morning. The President is expecting to receive this package before the end of the day.

Ed Schmults memorandum has been rewritten since you last reviewed, therefore, we would like your comments on the new version before it goes forward.

Jones - OK Sudman-OK March - OK

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James E. Connor For the President

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

February 18, 1976 Date:

Time:

due : ASAP!

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Jerry Jones Jack Marsh Bill Seidman

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

Quick Turnaround

Time:

SUBJECT:

Memorandum from Ed Schmults datd 2/17/76 re Next Steps in the Administration's Regulatory Reform Program

ACTION REQUESTED:

For	Necessary	Action

___ For Your Recommendations

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____ Draft Reply

X For Your Comments

___ Draft Remarks

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James E. Connor For the Presid ent

· ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO .:

Date: February 18, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Jerry Jones Jack Marsh Bill Seidman

FROM	THE	STAFF	SECRETAR	?3	Č
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DUE: Date:

Quick Turnaround

Time:

SUBJECT:

Memorandum from Ed Schmults datd 2/17/76 re Next Steps in the Administration's Regulatory Reform Program

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action	a
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approve becommendation loge B. factice for XW Scidence

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James E. Connor
For the Presid ent

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WASHINGTON

LOG NO .:

Date: February 18, 1976 Time:

FOR ACTION:

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Quick Turnaround

Time:

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For Your Recommendations

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James E. Connor For the Presid ent

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Jim - Regulatory Reform Initiatives

Staffing is now completed but Jim Cannon comes up with a whole new letter --

Jones

and Seidman went for Option 1 of
Schmults memo

Marsh said he went with recommendation on page 3.

Shouldn't this new version go to Schmults to put the whole thing together again.?

Trudy

WASHINGTON

5 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

EDWARD C. SCHMULTS
JAMES T. LYNN

SUBJECT:

Regulatory Reform Initiatives in Ten

Independent Commissions

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We believe that the meeting which you held last July helped to stimulate the agencies' reform efforts. We also feel it is important for you to continue to demonstrate your concern for regulatory improvements. Therefore we recommend that you preside over a follow-up session with the commissions to be scheduled within the next six weeks. This would give you the opportunity to: (1) discuss the agencies' activities in greater detail, (2) acknowledge specific successes and point out areas where further work is needed; and (3) re-emphasize your personal commitment to the program and objectives before an audience which could include as many as six

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Decision

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		gement letter and issue of a specific follow-up
Alternative #3.	Take no action at	this time.
Alternative #4.	See me.	

Attachments

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO .:

Date:

February 11, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Jim Cannon Dave Gergen Jerry Jones V Jack Marsh

Bill Seidman

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

Friday, February 13

Time:

10 A.M.

SUBJECT:

Memorandum dated 2/5/76 from Edward Schmults andJim Lynn re: Regulatory Reform Initiatives in Ten Independent Commissions

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

X For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

X For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Jury Jones - aption 1 Jack Marsh - see comments Sudman - Support apt 1

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James E. Connor For the President

WASHINGTON

February 17, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CONNOR

FROM:

ED SCHMULTS

SUBJECT:

Next Steps in the Administration's

Regulatory Reform Program

As you requested, I have combined the two cover memos on the regulatory reform program into one decision memo for the President. It recommends that he preside over a follow-up session with the heads of the independent regulatory commissions and lays out a schedule of next steps to be accomplished this spring.

LOG NO .: ACTION MEMORANDUM WASHINGTON · February 11, 1976 Time: Date: FOR ACTION: cc (for information): Jim Cannon Dave Gergen Jerry Jones Bill Seidman Jack Marsh FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY Friday, February 13 10 A.M. DUE: Date: Time: SUBJECT: Memorandum dated 2/5/76 from Edward Schmults and Jim Lynn re: Regulatory Reform Initiatives in Ten Independent Commissions ACTION REQUESTED: X For Your Recommendations For Necessary Action ____ Prepare Agenda and Brief ____ Draft Reply X For Your Comments __ Draft Remarks REMARKS: greenth Option

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James E. Connor
For the President

ACTION MEMORA	NDUM	WASHINGTON		LOG NO.:	FEB 1
Date: Februa	ary 11, 1976	Tir	ne:	de	ll;
FOR ACTION: Jim Cannon Dave Gerge Jerry Jones Jack Marsh FROM THE STAFF	n Bill	cc l Seidman	(for information	on):	/(
DUE: Date:	Friday, Febru	uary 13	Time:	10 A.M.	
SUBJECT:					
ACTION REQUEST	'ED:				
For Neces	sary Action	X	For Your Re	commendations	5
Prepare A	genda and Brief		_ Draft Reply		
X For Your	Comments	-	_ Draft Rema	rks	
REMARKS:					
	neur		Just	rosal	

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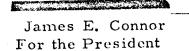
James E. Connor For the President

ACTION, MEMO	RANDUM	VASHINGTON FEB 1 1 RECT	LOG NO.:
Date: Feb	ruary 11, 1976	Time:	
FOR ACTION: Jim Cann Dave Gen Jerry Jo Vack Man FROM THE ST	gen nes Bill S	cc (for informati	on):
DUE: Date:	Friday, Februa	ry 13 Time:	10 A.M.
SUBJECT:			
	and Jim L	dum dated 2/5/76 fron lynn re: Regulatory R lependent Commission	eform Initiatives
ACTION REQU	ESTED:		
For No	ecessary Action	X For Your Re	ecommendations
Prepa	re Agenda and Brief	Draft Reply	
X For V	our Commonts	Draft Roma	

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REMARKS:



Support Alt. 1
Roger B. Factre
for K. Willin Seilm