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United States Government Accountability Office
Washington, DC 20548

August 23, 2007

The Honorable Joseph Courtney
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Courtney:

Thank you for your letter of May 18, 2007, jointly signed by a number of your colleagues, asking the Government Accountability Office to examine a number of issues concerning domestic oil refining capacity and the demand for and price of gasoline. About the time we received your letter, we received a related request from Joint Economic Committee Chairman Charles Schumer.

After receiving your letter members of our Natural Resources and Environment team met with staff of the Connecticut delegation to discuss your request, which GAO now accepts as work that is within the scope of its authority. We plan to merge your request with that of Senator Schumer. To fully respond to these requests, GAO will initiate this review later this fall when it is expected that staff with the required skills will be available. Mr. Mark Gaffigan, Director, NRE will be the point of contact for this review and will continue to work with your office as the engagement progresses.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Gaffigan at 202-512-3168, or Ms. Casey Keplinger, Assistant Director for Congressional Relations, at 202-512-9323.

Sincerely yours,

Gloria L. Jarmon

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Managing Director for
Congressional Relations

Ref: CCAR 07-0893