The Honorable Ed Whitfield  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy and Power  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  

Dear Mr. Chairman:


Enclosed is the answer to one question that was submitted by Representative Lee Terry to complete the hearing record.

If we can be of further assistance, please have your staff contact our Congressional Hearing Coordinator, Lillian Owen, at (202) 586-2031.

Sincerely,

Christopher E. Davis  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Congressional Affairs  
Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs  

Enclosure  

cc: The Honorable Bobby L. Rush, Ranking Member
Q. In light of the data presented prior to and during the spike of propane prices, do you believe that an investigation by the FTC is warranted?

A. EIA does not usually state a view as to whether an investigation is warranted or not, as this is a policy issue. However, EIA does have some limited information that might help other agencies decide whether or not a review or investigation is warranted. The retail prices EIA reports are state averages collected by the state energy offices. EIA provides funding support for states to participate in the State Home Heating Oil and Propane Program (SHOPP) [http://www.eia.gov/petroleum/heatingoilpropane/](http://www.eia.gov/petroleum/heatingoilpropane/). This supports efforts to monitor the heating fuel markets in each State, to publish weekly average retail prices, as well as to develop and maintain programs which provide financial assistance for heating costs to low-income residents. EIA also has republishing rights for the weekly statewide average wholesale prices collected by a private vendor.