THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 29, 1975

Dear Mr. Henderson:

The President has asked me to acknowledge in his behalf your letter of September 25, concerning our instruction to James A. Wilderotter, Associate Counsel to the President, that he respectfully decline to appear as a witness at your Subcommittee's public hearings last Wednesday. As you know, Mr. Wilderotter has previously cooperated with Subcommittee staff and restated in his letter to you his complete willingness to cooperate with the Subcommittee in any appropriate way.

It is still our preference, in light of the tradition of Legislative and Executive comity in these matters, that a means be worked out whereby Mr. Wilderotter's testimony can be provided without necessarily appearing at an open session of your Subcommittee. Nevertheless, if an alternative arrangement along these lines is not satisfactory, Mr. Wilderotter will be happy to appear as requested by your Subcommittee to deal with information he acquired during the time he served as Executive Assistant to former Secretary James Lynn when they were both at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. I understand that Mr. Wilderotter has already orally advised you to this effect.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen

Counsel to the President

The Honorable David N. Henderson Chairman, Subcommittee on Manpower and Civil Service Committee on Post Office and Civil Service House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515