

*Signed & given
to Jackson 2/12
per LWS*

February 12, 1975

Dear Senator Jackson:

I have your February sixth letter inviting me to appear and testify before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs on February twelfth about the economic impacts of alternative energy policies. I would like to set down what was told last week to the Committee's Chief Counsel.

As you know, I am one of the "immediate staff assistants" provided to the President by law. 3 U.S.C. §105, 106. I understand that, in the absence of the most exceptional circumstances, members of the President's immediate staff do not appear before a Congressional committee to testify with respect to the responsibilities assigned them by the President. This limitation has been recognized as an aspect of the separation of governmental powers.

Although I must, therefore, respectfully decline your invitation, let me say that I appreciate your interest in my views. I would be happy to meet with you at any time to discuss them.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

L. William Seidman
Assistant to the President
for Economic Affairs

Honorable Henry M. Jackson
Chairman
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

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