



Industrial Energy Consumers of America
The Voice of Industrial Energy Consumer

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August 1, 2007

The Honorable David R. Obey
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Obey & Ranking Member Lewis,

In behalf of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA), I strongly support increased funding for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission in H.R. 3161, the FY 2008 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. We specifically request that you increase the CFTC funding by \$13.5 million to a total of \$116 million which is what the Administration requested.

IECA is a 501 (C) (6) nonprofit organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: plastics, cement, paper, food processing, aluminum, chemicals, fertilizer, brick, insulation, steel, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, construction products, automotive products, and brewing.

The CFTC has significant responsibilities to oversee an energy trading market that has exploded in size and complexity without the benefit of sufficient resources to protect the public from abuse. Trading volumes have more than doubled while CFTC staff numbers have been reduced.

We thank you for giving this consideration and we look forward to working with you to ensure the CFTC has the resources to protect the American public from market power and abuse.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio
President

cc: The Honorable Walter Lukken, Acting Chairman, CFTC