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ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS

## Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE 2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

> MAJORITY (202) 225–2927 FACSIMILE (202) 225–2525 MINORITY (202) 225–3641

energycommerce.house.gov

June 2, 2009

John M. Rost, Ph.D. Chairman North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. 1203 19th Street, NW Suite 300 Washington, DC 20036-2401

Dear Dr. Rost:

The Committee on Energy and Commerce and its Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations have been investigating the possible dangers of the chemical Bisphenol A (BPA) in consumer products and food product containers, particularly in infant formula containers and other items used by infants and children.

Over the past week, both the *Washington Post* and the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* have reported on a recent meeting of the BPA Joint Trade Association at the Cosmos Club in Washington D.C. during which industry officials discussed a public relations strategy to counter efforts to regulate BPA.

Internal notes from the meeting obtained by the *Post* state that industry representatives discussed "using fear tactics [e.g. 'Do you want to have access to baby food anymore?']." The notes also state that the group focused on "befriending people that are able to manipulate the legislative process." According to the *Journal-Sentinel*, industry officials "hammered out" a public relations strategy they hoped would include the "holy grail" of "showcasing a pregnant woman to talk about the chemical's benefits."

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Strategy Being Devised to Protect Use of BPA, Washington Post (May 31, 2009).

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  Id

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> BPA Industry Seeks to Polish Image, Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel (May 29, 2009).

John M. Rost, Ph.D. June 2, 2009 Page 2

We request that you provide the following documents to the Committee:

- 1. All documents and communications, including talking points, minutes, summaries, memoranda, media statements, e-mails, and drafts of any such documents, relating to meetings of the BPA Joint Trade Association in April and May 2009, including documents and communications created by the date of this request;
- 2. A list of all attendees at these meetings, including their affiliations and contact information; and
- 3. A list of all members of the BPA Joint Trade Association, including their contact information.

Please provide these documents by June 16, 2009. An attachment to this letter provides additional information on how to respond to the Committee's request. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Paul Jung of the Committee staff at (202) 226-2424.

Sincerely,

Henry A. Waxman

Jerry h. Ways

Chairman

Bart Stupak Chairman

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Signel

Enclosure

cc:

Joe Barton

Ranking Member

Greg Walden
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight
and Investigations