Chairman Henry A. Waxman announced that the Oversight Committee will hold a hearing next week to examine the reports that officials at the Minerals Management Service accepted illegal gifts from oil companies and engaged in other unlawful and unethical conduct.

“The Administration’s energy policy has enriched oil companies at the expense of consumers, the environment, and our national security,” said Rep. Waxman. “It appears that the officials who are supposed to be looking out for the taxpayers have instead been corrupted by gifts from the oil companies and a culture of ethical failure.”

The hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.