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STATE OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 7863
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January 29, 2014

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

With your scheduled visit to Wisconsin this Thursday, you are aware that cold temperatures, along with other factors, have caused a propane shortage in Wisconsin and across the nation. During the last few weeks our State has taken many important steps to ease this situation, however more can still be done to help our residents. We would appreciate your assistance in several ways to ensure the more than 250,000 homes relying on propane can heat their homes during record-cold temperatures, farm animals can be protected and businesses can continue to operate.

First, the exemption that the U.S. Department of Transportation issued for the Hours of Service regulations for propane is greatly valued. Given our need to increase our supply and that the cold temperatures will stay around for at least several more weeks, we ask that your Administration continue this waiver through March. Similar hours of service exemption for rail may also aid in helping alleviate the shortage.

Second, with the higher propane prices, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a valuable tool in helping families stay warm during these cold winter months. Having the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services expedite the release of the Fiscal Year 2014 LIHEAP funds would be helpful to our communities. Given our businesses are also struggling with the higher propane costs and a need to often pay the entire bill upfront, easing some Small Business Administration loan requirements would be hugely beneficial.

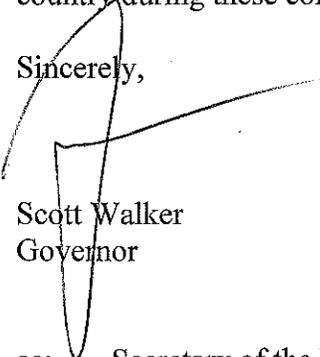
Third, we would welcome actions by the U.S. Department of Energy to review any impact of propane exports on the domestic supply and price, as well as address any regulatory barriers that could ease shipments of propane delivered by other modes of transportation, such as rail, ship and pipeline.

Finally, the increased demand and great lengths that suppliers have needed to travel to purchase propane has led to a large price increase. We support the Federal Trade Commission continuing to monitor the recent price spike in wholesale propane to ensure no anti-competitive activity.

The additional support from your Administration would complement our previous efforts, some including: declaring a state of emergency; activating a call center; remaining in communication with the propane industry; and instructing the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) to move forward with a \$5 million loan guarantee program to banks for up to 80 percent of new or expanded lines of credit to propane dealers in Wisconsin.

We appreciate your prompt attention to the situation we are facing in Wisconsin and across the country during these coldest months.

Sincerely,



Scott Walker
Governor

cc: Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy
Chairwoman of the Federal Trade Commission
Wisconsin Congressional Delegation