

November 6, 2008

The Honorable Henry Paulson  
Secretary of the Treasury  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I write to you on behalf of the working men and women of Connecticut who provide the much needed and important home heating oil to the residents of our state during our cold New England winters.

As you will see from the attached letter, home heating oil dealers, and more importantly the residents who heat their homes by oil in Connecticut and in each state in New England, are facing a potential financial catastrophe.

Because of the recent severe drop in oil prices, and the credit and lending freeze from lending institutions, consumers who locked in their prices at over \$4.50 per gallon will face a potential situation with disastrous consequences for consumers and the family owned oil dealer who serve them.

The current banking and lending crisis has hamstrung consumers and oil dealers who are struggling with the effects of rapidly declining commodity markets and the ability to access adequate credit to enable them to operate.

I would like to request a meeting with you and your team and the home heating oil dealers as soon as possible to discuss and work on providing some support and assistance for my constituents and small businesses here in Connecticut.

This is a serious matter that demands your attention and focus as the potential failure of this system during this winter could cause unthinkable and dangerous outcomes.

I await your prompt response to this urgent and important request.

Respectfully,

Christopher J. Dodd

United State Senator