

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH 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
Minority (202) 225-3641

May 13, 2016

The Honorable Karen L. Haas
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol, Room H154
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Clerk Haas:

I am writing to request that you ensure preservation of the audio recordings of depositions taken by the Select Investigative Panel of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Preserving these audio recordings to supplement written transcripts is needed to reflect the full interaction between witnesses, Members, and counsel during these proceedings.

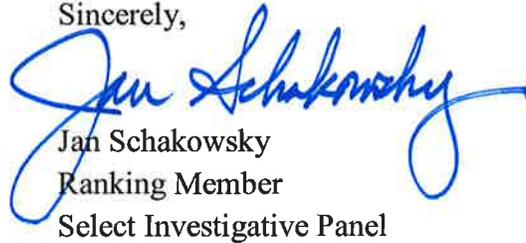
Counsel for one witness already has alerted Speaker Ryan to concerns about possible misconduct during their client's deposition.¹ This witness and others have been threatened with possible contempt of Congress. Their counsel and Panel Democrats have sought to make any necessary objections during the depositions in a timely, concise, and non-argumentative manner, in accordance with House deposition rules.² They have been told that they cannot object or interrupted by Panel Republicans in a manner that has jeopardized the creation of an accurate and complete record. Preserving the audio recordings will ensure that a complete record, which accurately captures the entire interaction, is available as needed.

¹ Letter from Jessica Hertz and Mary Ellen Callahan, Jenner & Block to Hon. Paul Ryan, Speaker of the House of Representatives (May 12, 2016).

² 114 CONG. REC. E21 (daily ed. Jan. 7, 2015) (extension of remarks of Rep. Sessions).

I therefore ask that you take steps to ensure that audio recordings of the Select Panel's depositions preserved. I would also appreciate confirmation that this has been done.

Sincerely,



Jan Schakowsky
Ranking Member
Select Investigative Panel

cc: The Honorable Marsha Blackburn