

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE WHITE HOUSE

EXCHANGE OF REMARKS
BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
AND

RUSSELL PETERSON
CHAIRMAN
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

THE OVAL OFFICE

12:04 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning everybody.

Let me say to you, Mr. Chairman, and to your colleagues on the Council on Environmental Quality, that I appreciate very much the fine job that has been done and I am looking forward to an opportunity to read this and hopefully we can implement a good many of the recommendations, a good many of the suggestions that are included in here, and I thank you not only for the good job you have done but also the record that I think we have achieved in the last five years in trying to get real and very substantial progress in meeting the challenge of our deteriorating environment.

We have made a lot of progress. We have a long way to go but I think we can improve it, we can balance it appropriately with our needs for energy and our needs for the other requirements for a better America.

I thank you very much.

MR. PETERSON: Thank you.

I think that it shows here that we are making good headway in cleaning up the air and the water. We have a way to go, as you know, but I think we are underway to reach the goals we have set out to reach, and your letter in here, I think, well illustrates the kind of philosophy we need to reach the goal.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, keep the pressure on and we will make that kind of progress as we move ahead.

MR. PETERSON: Good.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

MR. PETERSON: Thank you.

END (AT 12:06 P.M. EST)