UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

THE CHAIRMAN

April 2, 2003

The Honorable Carl Levin
Ranking Minority Member
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
United States Senate
SR-199 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Levin:

I want to express my thanks for your recent introduction of S. 183, your proposal to enhance the Commission's authority to seek civil penalties for violations of the federal securities laws, increase the penalties the Commission may seek, and eliminate a procedural requirement that may slow the Commission's efforts to trace and recover misappropriated investor funds.

I support this proposal, which was previously reflected in a bill you introduced in the 107th Congress, to significantly supplement and strengthen the Commission's ongoing enforcement efforts. I very much appreciate your steadfast dedication to supporting the work of the Commission in protecting investors.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Stephen Cutler, Director of the Division of Enforcement, at (202) 942-4500 if we can be of any assistance in this regard.

Sincerely,

William H. Donaldson