

January 9, 1978

The Honorable Sam Nunn
United States Senate
110 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Sam:

Thank you for your letter of December 23 and the copy of Senator Nelson's news release regarding the December hearings by the Senate Select Committee on Small Business. We especially appreciate your willingness to follow this issue very closely to insure that all sides have an equal opportunity to have their views known.

Judging from Senator Nelson's news release and certain publicity stemming from it (see Page 15 of the January 2 issue of *Chemical and Engineering News*), he has already made up his mind on the issue and we are very disappointed about that. In fact, after reading the news release, we are even more convinced that we need your help to insure that fair consideration will be given to the subject. Such sweeping, emotional statements as "the American people are being robbed blind" and "the government ends up not only playing Santa Claus, the Tooth Fairy, the Candy Man and Guardian Angel to great corporations" do not seem worthy of the situation nor the prelude to objective and fair consideration of the whole question.

Also, apparently no consideration whatever has been given to the equities of the innovating organizations in either making inventions generated in part with Federal funds or developing them at private expense for introduction into the marketplace. The fact that only a very small percent of the thousands of Government-owned patents are actually licensed was not addressed. Foreign appropriation of Federally-sponsored innovations was not considered.

Again, we will appreciate your efforts to see that a fair and comprehensive review is carried out in the two-year study being initiated by Senator Nelson's Subcommittee.

Cordially,

Robert C. Anderson
Vice President

BRA:ev
Encl.