

DANA ROHRBACHER

48th District, California

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2300 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0548
(202) 225-2415

DISTRICT OFFICE:

101 Main Street, Suite 380
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-8118
(714) 960-6483

<http://rohrbacher.house.gov>



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

December 14, 2017

Committees:

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Chairman, Subcommittee on
Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats
Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific

SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

Subcommittee on Space
Subcommittee on Energy
Subcommittee on Environment

Matthias Mueller, CEO
Volkswagen AG
Berliner Ring 2
38440 Wolfsburg
By telefax: +49-5361-9-28282

Dear Mr. Mueller:

We write today regarding certain developments at Volkswagen AG in Egypt, Germany and elsewhere relating to compliance and ethical issues that we find deeply troubling and that suggest a persistent continuation of the type of inappropriate conduct that led to one of the largest scandals in automotive history in the US.

A bribery scheme detected in Egypt led to the termination of a longstanding agency agreement for Skoda vehicles under the eyes of you and your colleagues rather than a serious effort to restore lawful conduct, a fact potentially relevant under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 78dd-1, et seq.).

This year alone, two additional models (the Porsche Cayenne Diesel and the Audi A8 Diesel) were barred from registration in Germany after independent investigations revealed that illegal defeat devices were installed in those vehicles. Statements by former and current employees of Volkswagen AG and its subsidiaries suggest that top executives played a larger role in the fraudulent scheme known as “Dieselgate” and its cover-up vis-à-vis US and other authorities than previously anticipated.

In light of these serious developments, the question arises if Volkswagen AG has indeed achieved any improvement in its compliance with legal requirements and ethical standards.

The consuming public needs to know:

- Whether, in light of troubling developments in Egypt, Germany and elsewhere, Volkswagen AG is actually compliant with applicable legal and ethical standards.
- The fact that lower-level employees who admitted criminal conduct in the “Dieselgate” investigations take all the blame for a scandal that has in all likelihood been caused by decision-makers at higher levels requires complete examination and total transparency.

- If this level of cooperation is not forthcoming, this controversy will require much closer official examination by the Congress.

Certainly, such executives as you, Martin Winterkorn, Hans Dieter Poetsch, Wolfgang Porsche, Hans-Michel Piech, Guenther Horvath (Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer), Bernd Pischetsrieder, Wolfgang Bernhard, Giovanni Pamio, Wolfgang Hatz, Manfred Doess and others need to be on the record as to the processes and policies that led to this scandal on the part of one of the world's most respected automobile manufacturers.

We are looking forward to having confidence again that Volkswagen may be dedicated to a better, ethical future,

Sincerely,

Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress

Michael McCaul
Member of Congress

Darrell Issa
Member of Congress

Steve King
Member of Congress

Jeff Fortenberry
Member of Congress

Dr. Brian Babin
Members of Congress

Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress

Robert Pittenger
Member of Congress

Ron DeSantis
Member of Congress

Kathleen Rice
Member of Congress