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Duane E. Brasch
Branick Industries
Box 1937
Fargo, ND 58103

Dear Duane:


Thank you for meeting with members of my Fargo staff about nitrogen. I understand that we'll also have a chance to talk when you're here in Washington September 19.

I have contacted several agencies on your behalf to inquire into their use of nitrogen in tires. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration tells me it uses nitrogen in the Space Shuttle's tires and does so to prevent possible tire failure. Enclosed is additional information that explains its reasoning.

The Navy says it uses nitrogen in its aircraft tires for the same safety reasons NASA cites. And, at the same time, the Air Force and the Army also use nitrogen in their aircraft tires, but have not yet provided me their rationale. That's something I'm still pursuing.

Thanks again for contacting me. I look forward to seeing you in a couple weeks.

Sincerely,



Byron L. Dorgan
U.S. Senator

BLD:cs/kc/pg

Enclosure