

**Concurring Statement of Commissioner Jon Leibowitz
Regarding the Commission's Report on
"Gasoline Price Changes: The Dynamics of Supply, Demand and Competition"**

There are few economic issues on the minds of Americans today as significant as gasoline prices. Over the past several years, consumers have watched the price of gasoline rise rapidly and disturbingly. The Report issued today by the Commission clearly describes to consumers and policymakers the factors that affect gas prices and contribute to price increases and price spikes, and it places these price changes into context. Our policy and economic staff deserve credit for producing this valuable Report.

The Report analyzes in detail the multiple factors that affect supply and demand – and thus prices for gasoline – including growing foreign demand (especially from China and India), the impact of OPEC (though not a fully effective cartel, one that contributes to higher prices and clearly would be *per se* illegal if engaged in by p