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To investigator of the RF Procuracy General  
V.N. Alyshev

Mr Alyshev!

Today, on 20.04.07, I received another letter from you in which you once again explained to me my rights and obligations provided for by Art. 49 of the CCP RF, obviously assuming that I'm not aware of them.

In view of your persistency, I, in my turn, have to explain to you that I've never waived the defence of M.B. Khodorkovsky and am not going to do so. However, with your permission, I intend to conduct his defence in the way and by the means deemed most efficient by my client and me.

The fact that the legal team was not in Chita in its entirety can be explained, first of all, by the grave violation by the RF Procuracy General of the CCP RF provisions concerning determination of the territorial jurisdiction. The second reason, which is related to the first one, is the need to supplement the materials, which were compiled one-sidedly and with bias, by way of collection of evidence in the places where – unlike in Chita – it actually exists. I don't think there is a need to explain that all our actions are agreed with M.B. Khodorkovsky. You are, of course, aware of the fact that I have come to Chita on numerous occasions when interests of my client required my presence there.

To the best of my knowledge, there has not been a single occasion when familiarization of the accused with the case file would be interrupted due to absence of a certain lawyer. My colleagues and I have many times explained to the members of the investigative team present in Chita that we mostly read the case file using its copies, which, in compliance with the law, were made for us using technical devices by experts we retained. Every defence lawyer has a digital copy of the materials. Regardless of how much time a certain lawyer spent in Chita and how many volumes [of the case file] he/she was able to lay his/her hands on, all of us have the same level of knowledge, so there will be no delay in signing of the record on fulfilment of the requirements of Art. 217 of the CCP RF through the fault of the defence.

Lawyer

[signature]

Yu. Schmidt