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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

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July 15, 2014

The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro
Comptroller General of the United States
U.S. Government Accountability Office
441 G St., NW
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Mr. Dodaro:

We are writing to request that you make Valerie Melvin, Director, Information Management and Technology Resources Issues, available to testify before the Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight at a hearing entitled, "A More Efficient and Effective Government: The National Technical Information Service." The hearing will be held on **Wednesday, July 23, 2014, at 2:30 P.M.** in Room SD-342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to examine the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). The hearing will examine NTIS's statutory mission to maintain a clearinghouse of government-funded scientific, technical, engineering, and business-related information, focusing on the need to maintain the clearinghouse and its current and future financial viability. The hearing will also explore other services that NTIS provides. The hearing will also provide an opportunity to review S. 2206, the Let Me Google That for You Act, which would eliminate NTIS and allow the Secretary of Commerce to transfer any functions deemed critical to another office within the Department of Commerce.

Ms. Melvin's testimony should discuss the U.S. Government Accountability Office's prior work related to NTIS. Ms. Melvin's testimony should also address the long-term sustainability of NTIS's business model. Ms. Melvin's testimony should also address the services NTIS provides that are not within NTIS's statutory authority, including the extent to which these services duplicate those provided by other agencies. Finally, Ms. Melvin's testimony should address any critical functions provided by NTIS that are not provided by other federal agencies.

We request that she summarize her testimony in 5 minutes, although a longer written statement may be submitted for the official record. This will allow adequate time for her to engage in questions and answers with members of the Subcommittee. **Subcommittee rules require that testimony be submitted by no later than 2:30 P.M. on Monday, July 21, 2014.** Please send official correspondence relating to this invitation, including an electronic copy of Ms. Melvin's written statement and a brief one page biography, to Subcommittee Clerk Kelsey Stroud at Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight is set forth in Senate Rule XXV clause 1(k); Senate Resolution 445 section 101 (108th Congress); and Senate Resolution 64 (113th Congress).

The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro

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We appreciate your assistance. Please contact Charlie Moskowitz with Senator McCaskill's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-7155 or Michael Howell with Senator Johnson's Subcommittee staff at (202) 228-0653 with any questions. Please send any official correspondence relating to this request to Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Financial and
Contracting Oversight



Ron Johnson
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Financial and
Contracting Oversight

Cc: Tom Coburn
Ranking Member