

RON JOHNSON, WISCONSIN, CHAIRMAN

JOHN McCAIN, ARIZONA  
ROB PORTMAN, OHIO  
RAND PAUL, KENTUCKY  
JAMES LANKFORD, OKLAHOMA  
MICHAEL B. ENZI, WYOMING  
KELLY AYOTTE, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
JONI ERNST, IOWA  
BEN SASSE, NEBRASKA

THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE  
CLAIRE McCASKILL, MISSOURI  
JON TESTER, MONTANA  
TAMMY BALDWIN, WISCONSIN  
HEIDI HEITKAMP, NORTH DAKOTA  
CORY A. BOOKER, NEW JERSEY  
GARY C. PETERS, MICHIGAN

# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

KEITH B. ASHDOWN, STAFF DIRECTOR  
GABRIELLE A. BATKIN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

January 22, 2015

The Honorable John McHugh  
Secretary of the Army  
1400 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In March 2014, I received information raising concerns about the renovation of Building 660 at Fort Greely by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). This information indicated that, in 2012 and 2013, contracting regulations may not have been followed during the procurement process for contracts to renovate Building 660. Allegations were also made regarding misuse of the Small Business Association's 8(a) program, and USACE's failure to adequately solicit competition for the project.<sup>1</sup>

In response to my inquiry into the contracting process at Fort Greely, the Small Business Administration Office of Inspector General (SBA IG) conducted a review of the Small Business Administration's (SBA) role in the procurement process at Ft. Greely and found that SBA officials had acted appropriately throughout the contract procurement and negotiation.<sup>2</sup> After receipt of SBA IG's findings, I sent a letter to USACE asking for information regarding their role in the Fort Greely procurement.<sup>3</sup> USACE's response provided a log of correspondence between SBA and USACE regarding the Fort Greely contracts and contended that USACE contracting officers acted in good faith and in compliance with regulations.<sup>4</sup>

I continue to question whether best practices were adhered to during the procurement process. Because the integrity of the contracting process is imperative to ensuring that government funds are judiciously spent, I request that you commission a comprehensive review

---

<sup>1</sup> Letter from Chairman to Inspector General, Small Business Administration Office of Inspector General (March 28, 2014); Letter from Chairman to Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (June 30, 2014).

<sup>2</sup> Letter from Inspector General, Small Business Administration Office of Inspector General to Chairman (June 6, 2014).

<sup>3</sup> Letter from Chairman to Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (June 30, 2014).

<sup>4</sup> Letter from Office of Principal Assistant, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to Chairman (July 14, 2014).

The Honorable John McHugh  
January 22, 2015  
Page 2

of the Army's procurement management at Fort Greely and determine whether Army contracting protocols are in compliance with federal laws, regulations, and best practices.

Please contact Margaret Daum with the Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-7155 with any questions. Please send any official correspondence related to this request to Kelsey Stroud at [Kelsey\\_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov](mailto:Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Claire McCaskill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Claire" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "McCaskill".

Claire McCaskill  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

cc: Rob Portman  
Chairman  
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations