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U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, DC 20515

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JEFFREY DUNCAN
DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

August 1, 2011

The Honorable Mary Kendall
Acting Inspector General
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW – Mail Stop 4428
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Kendall:

On April 25, 2011, we requested the underlying documents, drafts and communications reviewed by the Office of Inspector General (OIG) in reaching its conclusion and issuing its Report of Investigation – Federal Moratorium on Deepwater Drilling Case No. PI-PI-10-0562-I. Specifically, we requested the following items:

Any and all documents, referring, relating, or pertaining, directly or indirectly, to:

- a. The Report of Investigation – Federal Moratorium on Deepwater Drilling, including but not limited to emails or other communication regarding the Executive Summary or any portion of the draft report "Increased Safety Measures for Energy Development on the Outer Continental Shelf;"
- b. Drafts, revisions, excerpts, inserts, deletions, or other alterations or modifications of the Executive Summary or any portion of the draft report "Increased Safety Measures for Energy Development on the Outer Continental Shelf;"
- c. Witnesses or individuals interviewed or sought to be interviewed, whether formally or informally, in connection with the Report of Investigation – Federal Moratorium on Deepwater Drilling, including but not limited to interview transcripts, notes, summaries, letters, or other communications;
- d. Individuals or entities including their titles and telephone and mailing contact information receiving any version, in whole or in part, of the draft report pertaining to the "Increased Safety Measures for Energy Development on the Outer Continental Shelf" and the dates on which draft reports were received; and
- e. A moratorium on drilling including but not limited to communications.

A complete written response was to be provided to the Committee no later than May 13, 2011. On May 11, 2011, OIG provided the Committee with two copies of Report of Investigation – Federal Moratorium on Deepwater Drilling Case with eleven attachments. Six other attachments were withheld as potentially privileged per instructions given to OIG by DOI Deputy Solicitor Arthur Gary. In the letter which accompanied this production, OIG indicated that Mr. Gary would be contacting the Committee to assert DOI's claim of privilege over these withheld documents. Mr. Gary has not contacted the Committee in any manner to assert a privilege nor to extend an invitation to communicate directly with his office to reach a mutually agreeable accommodation regarding the six withheld attachments. Following the May 11th production, OIG has not produced any additional documents, including the names of the individuals or entities receiving any version, in whole or in part, of the draft report pertaining to the "Increased Safety Measures for Energy Development on the Outer Continental Shelf" and the dates on which draft reports were received or an inclusive listing of the witnesses or individuals interviewed or sought to be interviewed as requested in items c and d of the April 25th letter. See Request c,d.

Because it has been several months since OIG's production of documents, we write to ask OIG to confirm that its May 11th response is its complete written response to the Committee's April 25th letter. If not, the Committee requests that OIG provide additional responsive documents no later than August 16, 2011. Your response should conform with the Instructions included in the Committee's April 25th letter to you.

If you have any questions about this matter or to make arrangements for production, please do not hesitate to contact Traci Rodriguez, Senior Counsel, Office of Oversight and Investigations. We look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doc Hastings", written over a horizontal line.

Doc Hastings
Chairman
Natural Resources Committee

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doug Lamborn", written over a horizontal line.

Doug Lamborn
Subcommittee Chairman
Energy and Mineral Resources