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United States Government Accountability Office
Washington, DC 20548

May 8, 2007

Congressional Requesters

Subject: DOE's Cyber Security Program

Concerning your request to the Comptroller General requesting a GAO study of DOE's cyber security program we met with your staff on March 8, 2007, to gain a further understanding of your needs. Please see enclosure I for the list of requesters with whom we will be coordinating this assignment.

Due to the complexity of issue, we need to proceed with a separate design phase. The purpose of this letter is to set forth the study objectives and provide you with a completion date for the design phase. We agreed that the overall objectives of our work will be to conduct a broad review of DOE's cyber security program. Specifically, we plan to assess various aspects of DOE's cyber security program, including (1) the status of cyber security across the DOE complex, (2) the effectiveness of cyber security management at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, and (3) the progress DOE has made in improving its cyber security posture.

The design phase will be completed by October 18, 2007. We will remain in contact with your staff, and at the end of the design phase, we will provide you with a projected completion date for the total study. If you should have questions, you may contact me on (202) 512-3841 or my Assistant Director, Glen Levis, on (202) 512-6961.

Sincerely yours,

Gene Aloise

Gene Aloise
Director, Natural Resources
and Environment

Enclosure