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ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Washington, DC 20515-6115

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July 3, 2007

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The Honorable Delores M. Etter
Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research,
Development and Acquisition
Department of Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon, Rm. 4E739
Washington, D.C. 20350

Dear Assistant Secretary Etter:

The Committee on Energy and Commerce and its Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations are evaluating contracts awarded to American Superconductor Corporation (AMSC) by the Office of Naval Research between 2001 and 2007. We are aware that AMSC was contracted to use its high temperature superconductor wire to develop smaller and lighter motors for the U.S. Navy. To assist us in our evaluation, we request that you provide the following information:

1. Copies of contracts between the Department of Navy and American Superconductor Corporation (AMSC);
2. Summary documents describing the evaluation and basis for awarding the contracts—including those competitively awarded, those which had less than full and open competition, and those which were awarded on a non-competitive basis;
3. Written correspondence and e-mail communications between AMSC and its representatives, and Navy officials and contractors or consultants between January 1, 2001, and June 19, 2007, related to the submission or solicitation of contracts; and
4. Reports by the Office of Naval Research, Defense Contract Audit Agency, or Inspector General related to work performed by American Superconductor Corporation.

After we have reviewed this information, the Committee asks that it receive a detailed

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briefing on the projects and the quality of work performed by AMSC for the Department of Navy. If you have any questions and to arrange for the briefing, please contact us, or have your staff contact John F. Sopko, Chief Counsel for Oversight, or Richard Miller, Investigator, with the Committee on Energy and Commerce staff at (202) 226-2424.

Sincerely,



John D. Dingell
Chairman



Bart Stupak
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

cc: The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Ed Whitfield, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations