



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

January 28, 2008

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCIAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM

WESTERN CAUCUS
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Lurita Doan
Administrator, General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dennis Goldstein
Director, Asset Management Division
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Mrs. Doan and Mr. Goldstein,

We respectfully request that the General Services Administration return to its past practice of publicly reporting federal land ownership by state.

In the past, GSA included in its annual Federal Real Property Report a listing of how much land the federal government owns and leases in each state, as well as the percentage that such land is of the total acreage of each state. This information was particularly helpful to those of us who believe that the federal government owns too much land and that some of this land should be returned to the states, localities, or private entities. Additionally, this information enabled us to know which states were dominated by federal lands and which were not. The implications for this information are far-reaching.

We have noticed that, while the Federal Real Property Report contains *aggregate* data about federal land ownership and state-level data for federal *buildings*, it no longer includes state-level data for federal land. While we understand that GSA stopped reporting such state-by-state data because of imperfections in data collection, we urge that you not let the perfect be the enemy of the good. Perhaps some new data-collection methodology could be devised, or perhaps the state-level data could be published with expanded disclaimers.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter, and we hope to see state-level data for federal land in the next Federal Real Property Report.

Sincerely,

~~Wally Hergen~~

Wally Hergen

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