FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, July 26, 2012 PERMALINK CONTACT: <u>Spencer Pederson</u>, <u>Crystal Feldman</u> or <u>Jill Strait</u> 202-226-9019

MEDIA ADVISORY

DOI Acting Inspector General Called to Testify Before Full House Natural Resources Committee

WASHINGTON, D.C. – House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Doc Hastings (WA-04) today invited the Department of the Interior's Acting Inspector General Mary Kendall to testify at a Full Committee hearing on Thursday, August 2nd titled "Oversight of the Actions, Independence and Accountability of the Acting Inspector General of the Department of the Interior." Click here to read the invite letter.

The letter specifically asks Acting IG Kendall to be prepared to testify and answer questions on her role in overseeing the operations and actions of the Department of the Interior's Office of Inspector General ("IG"), including circumstances surrounding 1) Whether the Obama Administration intentionally misrepresented the views of engineering experts in order to justify the unilateral moratorium decision and the Administration response to complaints by the engineering experts, 2) actions by the Office of Inspector General concerning its investigation into these matters, 3) the IG's response to a Committee subpoena for documents, 4) the independence and effectiveness of an Inspector General in an Acting capacity, and 5) previous testimony before the Committee by the Acting Inspector General, and other matters.

"It is important for an Inspector General to be independent and hold an Administration accountable. This hearing will focus on legitimate questions involving the Acting Inspector General's actions, including the thoroughness of the investigation into President Obama's Gulf Drilling Moratorium Report, subpoena compliance, and related decisions," said Chairman Hastings.

WHAT: Full Committee Oversight Hearing on:

"Oversight of the Actions, Independence and Accountability of the Acting Inspector General of the Department of the Interior."

Witnesses invited to date:

• Department of the Interior's Acting Inspector General Mary Kendall

WHEN: Thursday, August 2, 2012

10:00 A.M.

WHERE: 1324 Hearing Room in the Longworth House Office Building

Visit the <u>Committee Calendar</u> for testimony and additional information, once it is made available. The hearing is open to the public and a live video stream will be broadcast at http://naturalresources.house.gov/live.

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