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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

MICHAEL L. ALEXANDER, STAFF DIRECTOR  
BRANDON L. MILHORN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR AND CHIEF COUNSEL

December 10, 2009

Robert F. Hale  
Under Secretary (Comptroller) and Chief Financial Officer  
United States Department of Defense  
1100 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20310-1100

Dear Under Secretary Hale:

We are writing to invite you or your designee to testify before the Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight at a hearing entitled, "Afghanistan Reconstruction and Development Contracts: An Overview". The hearing will be held on Thursday, December 17, 2009 at 2:00 P.M. in Room SD-342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. This will be the second in a series of hearings held by the Subcommittee on oversight of the government's contracts in Afghanistan.

The purpose of the hearing is to examine whether sufficient steps are being taken to ensure adequate management and oversight of troop support, reconstruction, and development contracts in Afghanistan, which are expected to increase in number and value in conjunction with the increase in uniformed personnel in Afghanistan that was announced by President Obama on December 1, 2009. The hearing will also review whether the lessons learned from Iraq are being applied in Afghanistan. In addition, the hearing will discuss findings from federal auditors and explore potential abuses in the award, management, and oversight of Afghanistan contracts.

Your testimony should address the Defense Department's planning, management, and oversight for troop support, reconstruction, and development contracts in Afghanistan. Your testimony should include the Department's current and planned obligations for these contracts. You should also be prepared to address the Department's plans for increasing Afghan participation in reconstruction and development contracts and ensuring the sustainability of U.S.-funded projects. In addition, you should address the planning, monitoring, and oversight of Afghanistan reconstruction and development projects funded through the Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP).

The Subcommittee requests that you summarize your testimony in 5 minutes, although a longer written statement may be submitted for the official record. This will allow adequate time for you to engage in questions and answers with members of the Subcommittee. **Subcommittee rules require that your testimony be submitted by no later than 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, December 15, 2009.** Please send an electronic copy of your written statement and a brief one page biography to Subcommittee Clerk, Kelsey Stroud, at [Kelsey\\_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov](mailto:Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov).

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We look forward to your participation in this hearing. Please contact Alan Kahn with Senator McCaskill's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-3230 or Molly Wilkinson with Senator Bennett's Subcommittee staff at (202) 228-3141 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Senator Claire McCaskill  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight

Senator Robert Bennett  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight