Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

NOV 19 2014

Professor Roscoe Giles, ASCAC Chair
Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering
Boston University
8 St. Mary's Street
Boston, MA 02215

Dear Professor Giles:

Thank you for the recent Advanced Scientific Computing Advisory Committee (ASCAC) report on the ASCR relevant workforce issues. The report was both informative and timely.

As we move forward to realize exascale computing during a time of significant budget restrictions, it is important that we focus our efforts on the principal research challenges required to develop an exascale computing environment . We are at a point in our planning where input from the community would be enormously useful, but only if gathered quickly.

By this letter, I am charging the ASCAC to review the Department's draft preliminary conceptual design for the Exascale Computing Initiative. Specifically, we are looking for input from the community as to whether there are significant gaps in our plans or areas that need to be given priority or extra management attention. ASCAC should gather, to the extent possible, input from a broad cross-section of the stakeholder.

To inform our budget process, I would appreciate receiving the committee's preliminary comments by March 30, 2015 and a final report by September 30, 2015. I appreciate ASCAC's willingness to undertake this important assignment.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Christine Chalk, the Designated Federal Official for the ASCAC at 301-903-5152 or by email at christine.chalk@science.doe.gov.

Sincerely,

Patricia Dehmer
Acting Director, Office of Science