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Congress of the United States
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Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515-6015

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April 2, 2009

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Hon. Robert I. Cusick
Director
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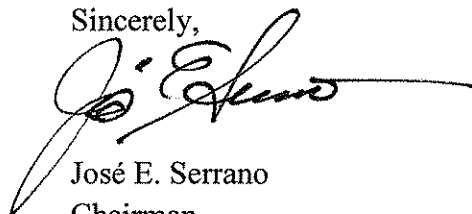
Dear Director Cusick:

I am writing in response to your letter of March 24, 2009, requesting approval for the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) to retain 50 percent of remaining fiscal year 2008 unobligated balances as permitted under section 611 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-161). The funds that would be available to OGE total \$35,930.

The Committee understands that OGE intends to use \$30,000 to obtain the services of a public accounting firm to conduct an annual financial audit of OGE in accordance with the Accountability of Tax Dollars Act of 2002. The remaining \$5,930 will be used for travel costs related to reviewing agency ethics programs.

The Committee has reviewed your request and has no objection. Accordingly, your request is approved.

Sincerely,



José E. Serrano
Chairman

Subcommittee on Financial Services and
General Government

cc: Hon. Jo Ann Emerson