

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND
TRANSPORTATION
HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
INDIAN AFFAIRS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE
ON INVESTIGATIONS

May 8, 2008

The Honorable Clay Johnson III
Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget
Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Deputy Director Johnson:

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) designated federal real property management as a high-risk area in 2003 because of long-standing problems with excess and underutilized property, deteriorating facilities, unreliable real property data, and reliance on costly leasing. On February 4, 2004, President George W. Bush created the Federal Real Property Council (FRPC) according to the provisions of Executive Order 13327, "Federal Real Property Asset Management."

I am writing to express my concern that federal real property management continues to be designated as high risk after four years. It is well understood that institutional change is often complex and takes both time and resources to transform these often unwieldy programs. However, strategic planning and budgeting can yield staggering results with disciplined management and oversight. As Chairman of the FRPC, you are uniquely positioned to guide this process.

Federal agencies currently have 29 reports with multiple issues identified by the GAO addressing federal property and federal property management that remain outstanding. What actions has the Administration taken to address these issues and achieve removal from the GAO high risk list in January 2009? Your prompt response is greatly appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Sheldon Shoemaker of my staff at (202) 228-6476 if you would like to discuss these concerns or other matters.

Sincerely,



CLAIRE McCASKILL
United States Senator