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Ms. Shalanda Young
Deputy Director
The Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Subj: Recommendations to Improve Program/Project Management and Reduce Military Spending

Dear Ms. Young:

Please read the attached letter that I had sent to Mr. Fairweather on April 9, 2021. One of the attachments to the Fairweather letter is a letter that I had sent to then-OMB Dep. Dir. Jeff Zients in 2009. The recommended acquisition reforms in the 2009 letter are still needed. Consequently, my recent letter (June 1) to Mr. Zients, subj: Acquisition Reforms to Reduce Defense Costs, is pertinent.

Objectives of Recommended Acquisition Reforms

The recent letter to Mr. Zients includes the objectives of the recommended reforms, as follows:

These reforms are still needed to reach the following objectives:

1. Acquire needed weapons within Pres. Biden's budgetary goals.
2. Increase transparency and accountability regarding acquisition of capital assets.
 - a. Require contractors to submit valid reports of cost, schedule, and technical performance.
 - b. Identify unfavorable variances requiring corrective actions sooner.
 - c. Identify programs that should be cancelled, including Nunn-McCurdy breaches, years earlier. Achieve HASC Chairman Smith's objective:
 - i. "We have wasted a spectacular amount of money on weapons systems that either haven't worked at all or who have not lived up to their promise. The failure we wind up tolerating is failure on a massive freaking scale. Think F-35."
 - ii. "I want to stop throwing money down that particular rathole."
3. Remove a barrier to entry to potential commercial bidders on defense contracts.
4. Improve Program/Project Management (P/PM) training of civilian and military personnel.

What You Can Do

Regarding Recommendations to Mr. Vought

Please consider implementing the recommendations to OMB that are in the letter to Mr. Vought, dated 10/27/20, as follows:

Current Recommendations to OMB:

The following recommendations, if implemented, will fill the Voluntary Consensus Standard (VCS) vacuum, help to close the GAO findings, and help to meet legislative requirements:

- (1) Adopt the VCSs for P/PM from the Project Management Institute (PMI), including American National Standards Institute (ANSI) ANSI/PMI 19-006-2019 in concert with PMBOK® Guide, instead of OMB-developed standards and
- (2) Replace EIA-748 in the Capital Programming Guide with ANSI/PMI 19-006-2019 in concert with PMBOK® Guide.
- (3) Revise the 5-year strategic plan for implementing the PMIAA to include these recommendations.

Of course, regarding the second recommendation, it would be applicable to future contracts after issuance of supporting guidance and policy changes.

Regarding Rep. Speier's Markup

Last year, Rep. Speier introduced a markup to the NDAA for FY 2021 that was included as HR 6395, Sec. 1745, Requirements Relating to P/PM. Unfortunately, that provision was receded per the Conference Report. I have requested that she reintroduce it in the current markup. See the letter to her, subj: Request to Resubmit HR 6395, Sec. 1745, in NDAA for FY 2022, dated July 2, 2021.

If passed, it would amend Sec. 503.c.1.D of Title 31, USC by striking "consistent with widely accepted standards" and inserting "in accordance with standards accredited by ANSI." Please support that acquisition reform.

Please contact me for additional information or support.

This letter and the cited letters, may be downloaded from www.pb-ev.com at the "Acquisition Reform" tab.



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