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June 8, 2011

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa
Chairman
House Oversight and Government Reform Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On Tuesday, June 14, 2011, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is scheduled to hold a hearing entitled, "Achieving Transparency and Accountability in Federal Spending." The hearing is expected to explore federal spending transparency and accountability and is a follow up to the hearing held on March 11, 2011, before the Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and Procurement Reform entitled, "Transparency through Technology: Evaluating Federal Open-Government Initiatives."

I am writing to request that the Committee invite Craig Jennings, the Director of Federal Fiscal Policy at OMB Watch, to serve as a witness at the hearing. OMB Watch is an independent, nonpartisan watchdog organization credited with the development of FedSpending.org, a website that provides access to federal spending data that led to the development of USASpending.gov. OMB Watch is dedicated to government transparency and accountability, has worked to improve the quality of federal spending data, and will provide both practical and policy experience with federal spending information.

Mr. Jennings has indicated he is available and willing to testify. Thank you for your cooperation with this request.

Sincerely,


Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member