

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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AUTHOR: Maurice McTigue (George Mason Univ)
AFFILIATION: VA
ADDRESSEE: CHRM Dale Klein
SUBJECT: Provides website to download the findings of the 8th Annual Performance Report Scorecard:
Which Agencies Best Inform the Public?

ACTION: Information

DISTRIBUTION: RF

LETTER DATE: 04/12/2007

ACKNOWLEDGED No

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MERCATUS CENTER
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

April 12, 2007

The Honorable Dale E. Klein
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Chairman Klein:

The Mercatus Center's Government Accountability Project released the findings of the 8th *Annual Performance Report Scorecard: Which Agencies Best Inform the Public?* on April 3rd at a briefing on Capitol Hill. This publication provides a summary evaluation of the fiscal year 2006 performance reports of the 24 Cabinet departments and other agencies covered by the Chief Financial Officers Act of 1990 and ranks them according to reporting quality. As you may know, this year's study revealed that agencies have improved significantly on two of our criteria: accessibility and linking results to costs. The biggest challenge this year for many agencies seemed to be backing up narratives with substantive performance metrics, as scores in this area declined noticeably.

The research team for this study, which I led along with Mercatus Center Senior Research Fellow Jerry Ellig and Mercatus Center Visiting Fellow Henry Wray, evaluated the documents based on the following criteria: 1) transparency; 2) benefits to the community; and 3) forward-looking leadership. Agency reports were then ranked based on their total score.

The briefing was attended by more than seventy representatives from federal agencies, congressional offices, media, and other public and private sector organizations. Once again, we were honored to have Comptroller General David Walker as our guest. C-Span was also on hand to film the briefing, which was carried live and re-aired later in the day.

Our report may be downloaded from our website at www.mercatus.org/scorecard. Also available on the website are more detailed evaluations of each agency's report than those included in the published Scorecard.

I hope you find our observations and comments helpful. If you have questions or wish to discuss our findings further, please contact my colleague Heather Hambleton at 703-993-4911 or hwier@gmu.edu.

Sincerely,

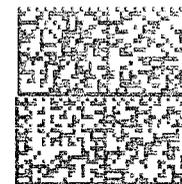


The Hon. Maurice P. McTigue, QSO
Director, Government Accountability Project

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