



# Center for Regulatory Effectiveness

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May 29, 2002

Hon. Spencer Abraham  
Forrestal Building  
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Abraham:

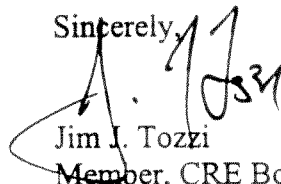
On behalf of the Center for Regulatory Effectiveness ("CRE"), I am sending this letter to advise you that the Department of Energy has violated the Data Quality Act, 44 U.S.C. § 3516 note ("Act"), and the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") Guidelines implementing the Act. 67 FR 8452-60 (Feb. 22, 2002).

The Act imposes new standards on the quality of information disseminated by most federal executive branch agencies and departments, including the Department of Energy. The Data Quality Act requires OMB to promulgate guidelines implementing the Act. OMB promulgated these final guidelines on February 22, 2002. 67 FR 8452. The OMB guidelines require that the Department of Energy propose its own Data Quality Act guidelines by May 1, 2002; allow public comment on the guidelines; send the guidelines to OMB for review by July 1, 2002; and publish final guidelines by October 1, 2002. 67 FR 8453, 8459. The Department of Energy is required to designate its Chief Intelligence Officer or another official to be responsible for compliance with the Data Quality Act and OMB's guidelines. 67 FR 8459.

As of this letter's date, the Department of Energy has not published proposed Data Quality Act guidelines for public comment.

The Department of Energy is a flagship agency, and we would hope that you will take all appropriate actions to ensure that the Department complies with the Data Quality Act.

Sincerely,



Jim I. Tozzi

Member, CRE Board of Advisors

cc: Lee Liberman Otis, DOE GC