



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20503

October 12, 2012

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Issa:

Thank you for your interest in the work of the Office of Management and Budget's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA). OIRA seeks to improve regulation and regulatory review by: helping to ensure that agencies support their regulatory actions with reasoned analysis of benefits and costs; promoting public participation in the regulatory process; encouraging coordination, simplification, and harmonization of rules; and advancing the role of scientific and technological information in rulemaking. Among other things, OIRA is coordinating regulatory "lookback" initiatives by executive departments and agencies, most recently focusing on initiatives that reduce paperwork burdens. OIRA also plays an important role in promoting international regulatory cooperation initiatives.

You asked about three specific areas of OIRA's activity. With respect to the Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, each agency's agenda generally covers regulatory actions anticipated within the next 12 months, and agencies may choose to include long-term regulatory actions beyond that period. Agencies are currently compiling the most updated information about their anticipated regulatory actions since the Agenda was last published in February 2012, and we look forward to the release of the next Agenda.

You also inquired about regulations that might be issued in the coming months. This Administration is committed to a regulatory system that is cost-effective, informed by science, and consistent with economic growth without sacrificing health, safety, and the environment. This will continue to be our focus.

Finally, you asked about OIRA's draft 2012 Report to Congress on the Costs and Benefits of Federal Regulations and Unfunded Mandates on State, Local, and Tribal Entities, which was published for public comment in March 2012. OIRA continues its work on the final version of that Report, including by considering comments from members of the public and peer reviewers. As OIRA's website shows (see http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg_regpol_reports_congress), it is not uncommon for work on a final Report to continue during this time of year. We look forward to finalizing the 2012 Report.

Thank you again for your inquiry about OIRA's ongoing work on improving the regulatory process. If you have additional questions, please contact OMB's Office of Legislative Affairs at 202-395-4790.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristen J. Sarri". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and "S".

Kristen J. Sarri
Associate Director for Legislative Affairs

Identical letters sent to: The Honorable Lamar Smith, The Honorable Howard Coble, The Honorable Jim Jordan