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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON
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October 27, 2017

The Honorable Trey Gowdy
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
2471 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Gowdy and Ranking Member Cummings:

In light of the revelation that Whitefish Energy's \$300 million contract to rebuild Puerto Rico's electrical grid contains an anti-auditing clause, I am respectfully requesting that you convene hearings to investigate both the Whitefish deal and the full scope of any anti-auditing language in government contracts.


Whitefish Energy's contract states the following:

In no event that PREPA, the Government of Puerto Rico, the FEMA Administrator, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their authorized representatives have the right to audit or review the cost and profit elements of the labor rates specified herein.

As a former Special Assistant Attorney General in Illinois's anti-corruption unit, I have seen firsthand the effect that sweetheart contracts and backroom deals have on both state budgets and people's trust in government. And as a former small businessman, I'm appalled that anyone would allow this clause in a financial contract. We have an obligation to get to the bottom of why this clause was inserted into a contract to help Puerto Rico recover from two devastating hurricanes.

The most alarming part of this contract is that it prohibits the government from reviewing the costs Whitefish charges for services. The federal government has sacred promise to the American taxpayers to not misuse or waste federal funds. This contract breaks that promise, and Congress needs to investigate both the deal with Whitefish and the full use of any anti-auditing clauses in the federal contracting process.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress