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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6050

January 29, 2009

William J. Lynn III
400 South Lee Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3816

Dear Mr. Lynn,

I am disappointed in your response to my letter of January 26 which asked you to provide a detailed list of matters and decisions which you felt you would be disqualified from under existing ethics rules. Instead of providing such a list, your letter refers to a screening process run by lawyers. That is an inadequate response from an individual who is a former lobbyist who seeks to become the second most powerful person in the Department of Defense.

Let me be perfectly clear. I do not expect you to look into the future with perfection and predict every issue involving Raytheon that may come across your desk in the next year. What I do expect is that you know now the issues you have lobbied the Department of Defense on for Raytheon that would raise concern with the American public if you took action on them, or any other issue that could impact Raytheon, if confirmed as Deputy Secretary of Defense.

An understanding of these issues is fundamental to whether you can effectively serve in the position for which you have been nominated and whether I can, in good conscience, support your nomination.

I again ask that you provide your understanding of the sorts of defense programs, matters, and issues which you feel you should not be allowed to participate in given your relationship with Raytheon. I would like your response immediately.

Sincerely,


John McCain
Ranking Member

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