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To: David C. Childs A-76comments/OMB/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Competitive Sourcing

I think it is a faulty assumption to assume that the private contractors can provide an acceptable product in place of the federal worker. The private contractor could not provide an acceptable product at airports searching luggage for guns, bombs, etc. Why do they think something more complex, such as managing the countries resources will be easier and less costly? None of this adds up. Why are we AGAIN spending money we don't have to study something we have already done many times and then concluded that we can not conclude anything about how much money we saved. Are we going to replace the federal worker with a green card carrying person at less wages and no benefits so the CEO's and managers can reap hefty profits and bonuses from the contracting budget? How can we, in the Forest Service and other agencies support a full time fire fighting force, (such as the full time military), to sit around and wait for fires to occur? Presently we provide fire fighters that have other jobs and are mobilized only when necessary, such as the reserves and national guard. We have been warned to forget our fire fighting duties and stay in our functional areas. How costly would it be to maintain a full time dedicated firefighting workforce? It is my suggestion that the comment period be extended to give the public time to read, understand, and comment on the A-76 Program. Most of the current fire fighting costs and budget already go to private contractors, crews, caterers, engines, showers, and equipment suppliers, so what is left other than the dedicated and highly trained foresters, biologists, forestry technicians, and clerks who leave there regular jobs and go to the fire camps as overhead etc. How are we going to save money by privatizing what is left?

Thanks for listening, I feel better!!!