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☞ Details: Miscellaneous correspondence

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2007-08

(session year)

Joint

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on Audit...

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
 - (**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
 - (**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

* Contents organized for archiving by: Stefanie Rose (LRB) (October 2012)



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor
Scott Hassett, Secretary

101 S. Webster St.
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Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7921
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January 4, 2007

Senator Jim Sullivan and
Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz, Co-chairpersons
Joint Legislative Audit Committee
State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Subject: Response to Legislative Audit Bureau Recommendations in the 2006 Fish and Wildlife Funding Audit.

Dear Senator Sullivan and Representative Jeskewitz:


Hope all is well with you both as we start this New Year. The 2006 Fish and Wildlife Funding Audit included two Legislative Audit Bureau recommendations which called for a response by the Department to the Committee. These responses were due by January 1, 2007. I am writing this letter to request an extension of that due date until January 16, 2007. I apologize for the delay in requesting this extension, but I certainly intend to comply with the information requested in the audit. The two recommendations in the audit included:

1. *"We recommend the Department of Natural Resources renew its efforts to limit the use of the basic program services time-reporting category and report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee on the result of its efforts by January 1, 2007."*
2. *"We recommend the Department of Natural Resources:*
 - incorporate clearer time lines in its project planning documents, annually compare initial project budgets to actual expenditures, and tie project outcomes to specific goals and objectives included in its strategic plans; and*
 - report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee on its progress in improving project-planning by January 1, 2007."*

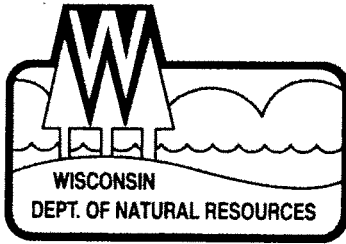
An extension will allow the Department to do an evaluation of the basic program services time-reporting category based on complete six month actual fiscal data for 2006-07. We feel that would be useful for comparative purposes.

Thank you for your consideration of this requested extension.

Sincerely,


Scott Hassett
Secretary





State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor
Scott Hassett, Secretary

101 S. Webster St.
Box 7921
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7921
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January 16, 2007

Senator Jim Sullivan and Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-chairs Joint Legislative Audit Committee
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Subject: Follow-up Response - Fish and Wildlife Funding Audit Recommendations

Dear Senator Sullivan and Representative Jeskewitz:

This letter is to follow-up with you, to report on our progress in addressing the recommendations included in the Fish and Wildlife Funding Audit. Thank you for extending the deadline for our response.

Following are the two recommendations with our response:

1. *"We recommend the Department of Natural Resources renew its efforts to limit the use of the basic program services time-reporting category and report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee on the result of its efforts by January 1, 2007."*

Response: I directed each of the fish and wildlife related programs in the Department to take specific steps to review their policies and processes to assure that all staff are reporting their time accurately and that general "basic program services" time codes are not being used for program or project specific work more appropriately reported using other time codes.

Given the June 2006 release of the Audit recommendations, time codes were in place for FY 2007. However, in most program areas, progress has already been made to assure accurate time coding, with our remaining efforts focused on fine tuning procedures in a few areas to further improve accuracy. For example, our Fisheries program has had long-standing procedures in place that clearly define the type of work appropriately recorded as "Basic Program Services", limiting that work to general administrative functions. The Fisheries Management Team actively monitors the data from the time reporting system regarding the use of general time codes by staff state wide. In addition, they've provided direction and guidance on the maximum amount of time appropriate for various staff and managers in the program to code to "Basic Program Services" based on historical trends, specific roles and responsibilities of staff to carry out administrative functions, and based upon the need to maximize the amount of staff time being directed to fisheries program and project accomplishments in the field.

For the upcoming FY 07-09 biennium the program is further limiting and defining the work to be reported as general administration, and will continue to monitor. Other programs are taking similar steps to first evaluate their current practices, and then to fine tune those practices as needed to improve the accuracy of reporting.

The Wildlife and Enforcement programs are also evaluating time code reports on an ongoing basis to review the use of general administrative time codes and assess trends in the use of those codes over time.

In addition, we plan to monitor this issue on an ongoing basis – taking a look at the numbers during quarterly financial briefings with each of the programs and our Finance Bureau to analyze the specific situation in each program regarding time reporting, and then including this specific issue on the agenda for our Fish and Wildlife Management Team meetings each month so that we can evaluate trends across all of the Fish and Wildlife programs and decide whether adjustments are needed to make further improvements.

2. *“We recommend the Department of Natural Resources:*

- *Incorporate clearer time lines in its project planning documents, annually compare initial project budgets to actual expenditures, and tie project outcomes to specific goals and objectives included in its strategic plans; and*
- *Report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee on its progress in improving project-planning by January 1, 2007.”*

Response: Our fish and wildlife related programs are administered and implemented under the framework of our overall Department “management system” – the system of processes and tools we use across the Department to identify and communicate goals, develop plans to implement specific priority objectives, allocate staff and financial resources, monitor and evaluate progress, and then adjust as needed to better meet those goals and objectives. Each of these steps is carried out in concert with our partners, and a basic premise of this system is continuous evaluation and continuous adjustment.

The system starts with the Department Strategic Plan – with the idea that the work we carry out is for the purpose of meeting the goals established in that plan. As was discussed during the audit process, we continue to evaluate our planning processes, and identify specific areas where improvements can be made to clarify timelines, compare project budgets to expenditures, and tie outcomes to the goals and objectives in our strategic plan; and in general to improve the overall effectiveness of our processes.

For example, an evaluation of Fisheries program processes indicates the following. Projects in fisheries include clear timelines for completion and we require an annual report from each fisheries team to compare the planned work and costs to the actual accomplishments. Fisheries provides an on-line report that compares each project’s planned costs to its actual costs. This monthly report is provided to the responsible fisheries supervisors at the team and regional levels. Performance measures (both outcomes and outputs) are formally reported for key objectives in Fisheries every quarter in an electronic report to the Water Division Administrator. Project accomplishments in fisheries are reported annually by project and their collective contribution to each fisheries objective is formally evaluated every three years (both of these efforts are a federal Sport Fish Restoration grant requirement.)

All approved and authorized Fisheries work plan projects and expenses are automatically linked to the appropriate objectives in the Fish, Wildlife, and Habitat Plan, and then to the Department’s overall Strategic Plan.

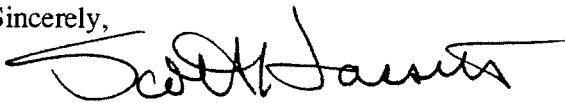
In addition, the Wildlife program reviews projects on an on-going basis to compare staff resources planned and the amount of staff time spent. This involves a review of specific data from both our workplanning system where project plans for the investment of resources are

documented, along with a review of our time reporting system data to determine where there may be significant differences indicating a need to redirect staff efforts.

The Department also operates under a Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management Plan (FWHMP) to guide Department fisheries and wildlife programs funded with federal Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration funding, during 6-year planning horizons. We are currently updating the plan to address goals and objectives for the period 2007 through 2013. The foundation for this plan is the Department's Strategic Plan. The FWHMP is required as a condition for receiving federal grant funds (as part of a "comprehensive management system" grant) under the Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Acts administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). On an annual basis, we implement projects to address strategies in the FWHMP and prepare an annual report to the FWS describing accomplishments related to the use of grant funds in achieving objectives. Based on recommendations contained in the Fish and Wildlife Funding Audit report, we have initiated discussions with the FWS to revise our annual report and will include in the annual report, the information suggested by the Audit Committee. This will become a formal part of our annual grant reporting to the FWS beginning in FY 2008.

Please let us know if you have questions regarding our response, or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Hassett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Scott Hassett, Secretary

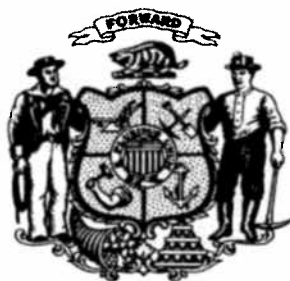


State of Wisconsin
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Representative, State Assembly



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Director

Laura D. Rose
Deputy Director

January 22, 2007

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Audit
Room 314 North
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Representative Jeskewitz:

I have completed the assignment process required to ensure Legislative Council staff assistance for the standing committees. The Council staff members will attend all standing committee meetings and assist in providing background research, parliamentary procedure, and other information for the committee.

Pam Shannon will staff your committee. I have asked Pam to contact you as soon as possible regarding this assignment. This assignment is contingent upon your committee meeting at its assigned day and time. Legislative Council personnel staff several committees. If you change your meeting day, it may create a conflict that would require a staff substitution for that meeting.

In addition to the services mentioned above, Pam, along with others of the Legislative Council staff, will again prepare Amendment and Act Memos explaining the effects of each successful amendment to bills in the process. These memos were well received last biennium and again will be posted on our web site (<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc>) as soon as possible.

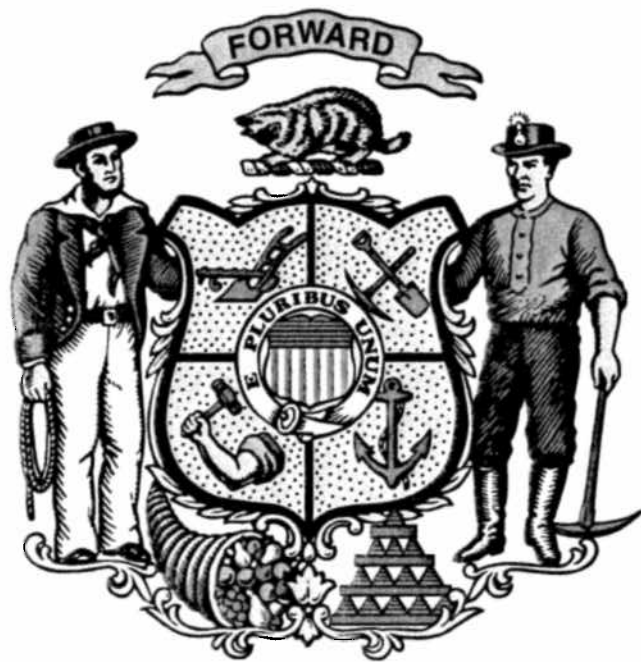
Best of luck with your committee. I know Pam will provide excellent assistance to your committee. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Terry", is written over the typed name.

Terry C. Anderson
Director

TCA:wu





State of Wisconsin • DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

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Jim Doyle
Governor

Roger M. Ervin
Secretary of Revenue

February 1, 2007

Senator Jim Sullivan and
Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz, Co-chairpersons
Joint Legislative Audit Committee
State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Senator Sullivan and Representative Jeskewitz:

At the request of your committee, DOR has prepared the following report to assist your efforts in monitoring county sales and use tax distributions.

January 2007 County/Stadium District Distributions

January sales and use tax distributions totaled \$21.7 million to Wisconsin's 59 counties that impose a county sales and use tax and \$3.3 million to the Professional Football Stadium and Baseball districts tax distributions. Monthly distributions typically demonstrate variances in month to month or year to year collections patterns. While monthly distributions for January 2007 decreased 10.6% compared to January of 2006, a twelve month comparison for the period ending January of 2007 shows that sales tax distributions increased by 29%. Distributions to counties increased 2.0% between the twelve month period ending in January of 2006 compared to January of 2007.

We will continue to update you on a monthly basis. Please feel free to contact us if additional information or clarification is needed.

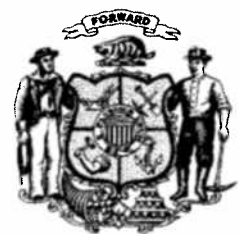
Sincerely,

Laura J. Engan
Deputy Secretary

Cc: Joint Legislative Audit committee members
State Auditor Jan Mueller



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





State of Wisconsin • DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

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Jim Doyle
Governor

Roger M. Ervin
Secretary of Revenue

February 13, 2007

Senator Jim Sullivan and
Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz, Co-chairpersons
Joint Legislative Audit Committee
State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Senator Sullivan and Representative Jeskewitz:

Please accept the following restatement of our February 1, 2007 letter regarding January 2007 County and Stadium District sales tax distributions.

January 2007 County/Stadium District Distributions

The Department of Revenue distributed a total of \$21.7 million in January to local governments and taxing jurisdictions that impose a local sales tax. Of this amount, \$18.4 million was distributed to 59 counties and \$3.3 million was distributed to the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park and Green Bay/Brown County Professional Football Stadium districts.

We continue to see variation in monthly distribution patterns, mainly due to collection timing and audit adjustments. For example, while monthly sales tax distributions for January 2007 decreased 10.6% compared to January of 2006, a twelve month comparison for the period ending January of 2007 shows that distributions increased by 2%. (Please note that this increase does not include one time payments to counties and districts that occurred during 2005 due to system corrections. If these payments are included, the twelve month comparison of distributions shows a decrease of .2%.)

We will continue to update you on a monthly basis. Please feel free to contact us if additional information or clarification is needed.

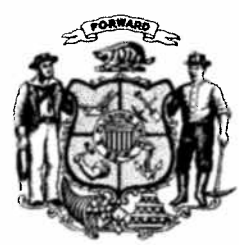
Sincerely,

Laura J. Engan
Deputy Secretary

Cc: Joint Legislative Audit committee members
State Auditor Jan Mueller



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





State of Wisconsin • DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

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Jim Doyle
Governor

Roger M. Ervin
Secretary of Revenue

March 1, 2007

Senator Jim Sullivan and
Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz, Co-chairpersons
Joint Legislative Audit Committee
State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Senator Sullivan and Representative Jeskewitz:

At the request of your committee, DOR has prepared the following report to assist your efforts in monitoring county sales and use tax distributions.

February 2007 County/Stadium District Distributions

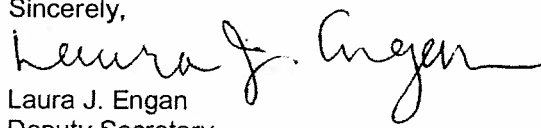
February sales tax distributions to Wisconsin's 59 counties that impose a county sales and use tax totaled \$26.6 million. In addition, \$4.8 million was distributed to the Professional Football Stadium and Baseball districts. Monthly distributions typically demonstrate variances in month to month or year to year collections patterns. Overall, distributions for February 2007 increased 10.3% compared to distributions for February 2006. Additionally, sales tax distributions to counties increased 2.7% between the twelve month period ending February 2007 compared to February 2006. (Please note that this increase does not include one time payments to counties and districts that occurred during 2005 due to system corrections. If these payments are included, the twelve month comparison of distributions shows an increase of .4%).

Conversion Decision

We also wanted to share with you our decision to convert the CGI-AMS system into our current microsoft.net integrated tax platform. On February 1, 2007, the department signed a contract amendment with FAST Enterprises that will enable us to convert the old system's business rules and data to the same industry standard platform as our other tax types. The system improvement and assurance work performed by CGI-AMS will be maintained. Ensuring accurate distributions to counties remains a top priority for the department. This decision was based solely on what course represented the most cost effective approach for the future business direction of the agency. With the contract amendment, the department will be able to convert the CGI-AMS product to our current platform for less money than upgrading the CGI-AMS product to accommodate tax policy changes and effectively integrate with our other tax types. At this point, we envision that the conversion to the FAST system will occur by the end of this calendar year.

We will continue to update you on a monthly basis. Please feel free to contact us if additional information or clarification is needed.

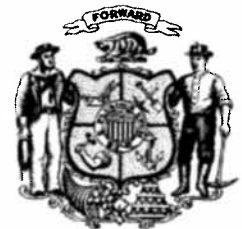
Sincerely,


Laura J. Engan
Deputy Secretary

Cc: Joint Legislative Audit committee members
State Auditor Jan Mueller



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Milwaukee County

SCOTT WALKER • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

April 5, 2007

Senator Jim Sullivan
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Senator Sullivan and Representative Jeskewitz:

There have been widespread problems with sales tax collections since 2003 when the State switched computer programs. Local governments have either received too much money, or they have been shorted. With the State's recent decision to scrap the old program in favor of one cheaper to maintain, it is imperative that we re-examine the collection numbers with a full and complete independent audit, especially for the Miller Park stadium district.

What is particularly illustrative of a potential problem is that from 1997 through 2002, the average annual growth in the stadium district's sales tax collection was 7.9% compared to the state growth of 4.7% during the same period. Since the new software was implemented in 2003 (through the end of 2006), collections decreased to an average of 0.2%. Even in the context of an economic slowdown that is quite a precipitous drop.

With these collections supposedly falling so far behind projections the stadium debt will not be paid off in 2014 as planned. Thus, the economic hub of Wisconsin will be forced to continue with this already heavy tax burden, as evidenced by the non-partisan Tax Foundation study showing Wisconsin as the 7th most heavily taxed state.

We expressed similar and real concerns last year as well with the State's sales tax projections for Milwaukee County.

In light of the large change in sales tax collections, the problematic software the State used, and the responsibility to taxpayers to get things right, I urge you to support a full and independent audit of the State's sales tax collections as they relate to the Miller Park stadium district.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Walker", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Scott Walker
Milwaukee County Executive

SKW/jm





WISCONSIN VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

445 Easterday Lane, Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1253
608-262-5432 Toll free 800-608-8387 Fax 847-574-8085

State Senator Jim Sullivan
Co-Chair
Joint Legislative Audit Committee
15 South, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-Chair
Joint Legislative Audit Committee
314 North, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

April 12, 2007

Dear Senator Sullivan and Representative Jeskewitz,

Last fall several members of your staff visited the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory as they sought information to write An Evaluation: Chronic Wasting Disease (Report 06-13 November 2006). Although the response of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was the major focus of the report, involvement of the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (WVDL) was also evaluated.

The recommendations of the audit team appear on page eight of the report. One recommendation is "For the Diagnostic Laboratory and the DNR to report to the Joint Audit Committee by April 15, 2007, on the time required to notify hunters of CWD test results for the 2006 hunting season (page 73)." This letter is an attempt to comply with that recommendation.

The recommendation that the WVDL address the time required for hunters to receive CWD test results (p.8) implies two related questions. Why must hunters wait so long to receive CWD test results? Why does testing seem to take so long? The table in the text below may be useful in addressing those questions.

The WVDL's involvement in the Wisconsin response to CWD represents substantial effort. Prior to 2002, the WVDL had no capability to test for prion diseases such as CWD. In 2006, the DNR submitted more than 28,000 samples to the WVDL for CWD testing. In addition, WVDL personnel have since developed expertise to test for other prion diseases of animals: scrapie in sheep and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in cattle.

Year	Average Number of Days (1)	Number of Tests (2)	Total Tests
2003	26.6	6,057	14,901
2004	46.6	6,129 (3)	19,188
2005	51.8	11,746	24,827
Average Time in WVDL (4)			
11-28-03 to 03-31-04	9.47 Days	-----	-----
11-28-04 to 03-31-05	5.03 Days	-----	-----
11-28-05 to 03-31-06	8.15 Days	-----	-----
10-01-06 to 03-31-07	5.0 Days	-----	28,711

(1) From time a deer was killed in nine-day gun season until results reported to DNR. Calculations were done by the Legislative Audit Bureau.

(2) Number of tests used to compute average time for nine-day gun season.

(3) In 2004, WVDL started testing Wisconsin cattle for BSE at rate of 300-400 samples per day. Contract with USDA mandated that testing continue daily through CWD testing season.

(4) From sample login at WVDL to result reporting to DNR.

NOTE: All time spans shown above include weekends and holidays.

The table above presents the average number of days from time of deer kill until results are reported to DNR. The increase in days between 2003 and 2004 is due in large part to the start of BSE testing at WVDL. The same staff does both CWD and BSE testing, and the USDA contract for BSE testing mandates that samples be tested on day of arrival. The increase in days between 2004 and 2005 is due in part to increase in sample numbers. Average number of days from time of kill to result reporting to DNR for 2006 is not available. This statistic, calculated by the Legislative Audit Bureau, requires date of sample collection which is not available to the WVDL (nor is it needed for testing purposes). Nonetheless, imposition of BSE testing (2004) and increase in samples tested (2005) go far in explaining increasing turn-around time over years.

One factor that has a major affect on result reporting time is order of sample submission. Sample submission is ordered by DNR based on criteria other than first-in, first out (needs of the DNR for management information, etc.). Nonetheless, sample submission order can markedly increase or decrease the time from harvest to result reporting for animals harvested in the nine-day gun season.

The time from sample log in at WVDL to result reporting to DNR is relatively short (see Table). DNR stores samples and delivers them to the WVDL on a "just-in-time" basis. (Note: DNR storage and delivery of samples does not

impede the rate of testing.) The order for sample testing is established by the DNR. Test results are transferred electronically from the WVDL to the DNR database daily. Interpretation of "sample-time-in-WVDL" is that tests are performed and results reported in a timely fashion. The difficulty is the sheer number of samples collected in a small time window, a feature of the nine-day gun season highly valued by Wisconsin hunters.

Testing of a large number of samples in essentially a three-month season is not a trivial task. The situation is analogous to a small snake eating a large rat: it takes time. Rate of testing is limited by several factors: staff, space, equipment. In addition, other testing demands (contract testing for scrapie and BSE) continue unabated. Equally challenging is the maintenance of laboratory infrastructure on a year-round basis for a three-month season. (Maintaining a staff of microbiologists highly trained in prion testing for a three-month endeavor is an especially acute challenge.) The DNR provided about 200 LTE hours to assist in CWD late in the 2006 testing season (p. 73). This assistance was greatly appreciated as a supplement to WVDL staff dedicated to CWD testing.

Other states face the challenge of CWD in wild cervid populations, but none face the aggregate of complications that challenge this state. Although it may be useful to examine responses of other states, Wisconsin's situation may prevent easy transposition of these alternate responses.

Cost is a recurring theme in the LAB report (p.13). Although fees paid to the WVDL are only 7% of the amount spent on CWD control, WVDL fees deserve mention. WVDL bills DNR for both testing and for tissue disposal by alkaline hydrolysis. Decreasing sample numbers would decrease total cost but might adversely affect per-test cost. Because more than half of the cost of testing rests in purchase of commercial test kits, volume purchasing of kits by the WVDL presents a substantial cost saving. Decreased testing volume may also adversely affect staff infrastructure because CWD testing permits the WVDL to maintain a critical mass of skilled and qualified microbiologists dedicated to prion testing. Although the discussion of number of samples to be tested is in the purview of the DNR, the agency charged with control of CWD, the outcome of the discussion is important to the WVDL. Cost of tissue digestion (alkaline hydrolysis) can be decreased by the use of alternate means of disposal. This avenue of cost reduction has been explored by the DNR. Decreased use of alkaline tissue hydrolysis would not adversely affect WVDL programs.

CWD in Wisconsin is problematic on many levels: scientific, social, political. As the lead agency in Wisconsin's response the DNR was placed in an extremely difficult position (and continues to be there). Almost any decision or action is guaranteed to dissatisfy some constituency. The DNR's position as a trail blazer in state-wide attempts to control CWD in wild cervid populations deserves recognition and appreciation.

Positive aspects of the Wisconsin response to CWD should be noted. Wisconsin had the expertise in many disciplines to be a leader in many facets of CWD. Substantial knowledge about CWD has been generated by Wisconsin's cooperative and interdisciplinary response. Almost since the day of diagnosis Wisconsin's response has been a joint and cooperative effort involving numerous state agencies. This interagency cooperative response has not only served the state well but is an example of how state agencies should interact.

I hope this response meets the expectations of authors of An Evaluation: Chronic Wasting Disease (Report 06-13 November 2006). Please contact me if you want additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Vanderloo DVM". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Peter Vanderloo, DVM
Associate Director





State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor
Scott Hassett, Secretary

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April 13, 2007

State Senator Jim Sullivan
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Audit Committee
15 South, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Audit Committee
314 North, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Sullivan and Representative Jeskewitz:

We are writing today in response to the November 2006 audit on Chronic Wasting Disease (Report 06-13). The audit asked that DNR respond to several questions by April 15, 2007. Since the November audit, we have another year of data on CWD and are pleased that new data finds there has been no spread of CWD to the western areas of the state, and turn around time for CWD test results have been shortened. We appreciate the opportunity to present this follow up information to the Committee, and once again thank the Legislative Audit Bureau for their insightful questions on this extremely important topic.

Time required to notify hunters of CWD test results for the 2006 hunting season. The Department is pleased to report that test turn around times were shortened this year at least in part due to a partnership with Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Lab (WVDL) in which DNR provided staff to trim tissue when volumes were high. As the table below illustrates, test turnaround time is largely a function of sample volume: as sample numbers increase, turn around time increases. Within any given year, as the weekly flow of sample numbers increases, turn around time also increases. This table reflects the test turn around times for samples taken in the Disease Eradication Zone (DEZ) and Herd Reduction Zone (HRZ) each year. The longer turn around time in 2002 was caused in part by the fact that we used Immunohistochemistry (IHC) to test deer (rather than Enzyme-Linked ImmunoSorbent Assay, ELISA, screening which became available in 2003) and that we made a programmatic decision to test all of the out-state deer first in 2002 before moving to the CWD zone samples. See Appendix A for a more complete breakdown of testing results each year.

Year	# Samples	Avg. # of Days
2002	16055	96
2003	12954	33
2004	17421	37
2005	18712	40
2006	18683	29

How recent changes in hunting rules in the CWD zones affected the number of deer taken from these zones during the 2006 hunting season. DNR shortened the CWD hunting seasons and adopted an either-sex regulation in 2006 rather than Earn-a-Buck (EAB), which had been used during all or part of the previous four hunting seasons. The Department shortened seasons in response to hunters' contention that with shortened seasons, hunters' effort would be concentrated, thereby increasing deer kill because of increased hunter activity and subsequent deer movement. Likewise, the removal of the EAB requirement was in response to hunters' contention that they would kill more deer if they weren't told in what order to shoot them.

In CWD zones there have been three years with EAB rules for the entire hunting season, one year with EAB rules in a portion of the hunting season, and one year of either-sex hunting. It is clear that EAB is the most effective tool for increasing antlerless deer harvest. While it is important that the buck harvest rates remain high (because disease prevalence is twice as high in adult bucks as it is in adult does), reducing antlerless deer numbers is critical for reducing the overall deer population.

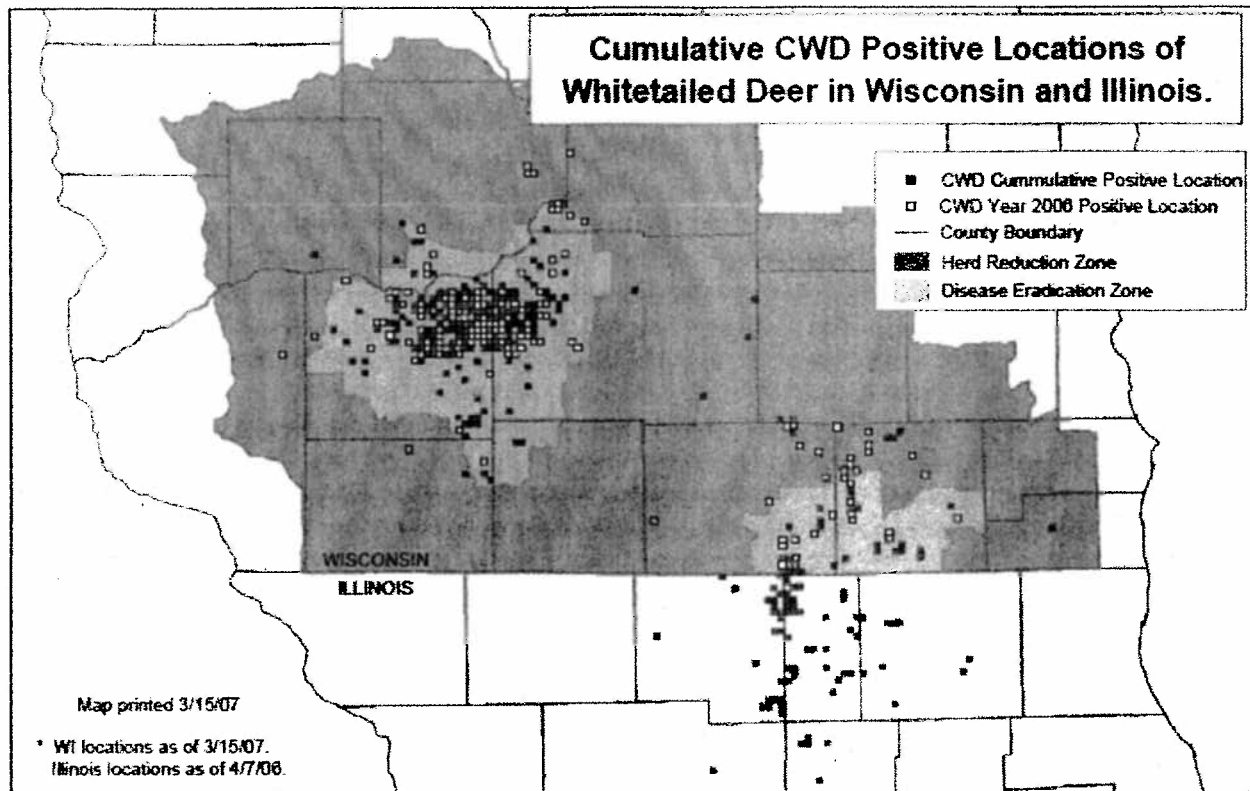
Last year's experience suggests that another either sex season will result in antlerless deer harvest that is inadequate for herd reduction in CWD zones. The total DEZ harvest was down 18%, with no change in the buck kill and a 28% decrease in antlerless deer kill. The HRZ deer harvest was down 5% with no change in the buck kill and a 23% reduction in the antlerless deer kill. Because the either sex season was not effective for herd reduction, the Department is returning to EAB in the DEZ and HRZ in 2007.

The number of CWD-positive deer killed as a result of DNR sharpshooting and trapping efforts during the 2006 hunting season. DNR will not have all the test results back from its agency sharp shooting operations by the April 15 deadline for filing this report. To date, agency sharp shooters have killed 23 positive deer and public hunters have shot 166. This year DNR redirected some of its agency sharp shooting effort to respond to the northern most positives in the HRZ. Here are a few preliminary highlights, which will be subject to change as more data becomes available:

- 987 deer shot
- 124 in Devil's Lake State Park (5 of which were CWD positive – bringing the number of CWD positives in the park to 7)
- 224 in Southeast Wisconsin
- 2.66 hours/deer killed (6.6 hours/deer killed in 2006)
- 1.28 deer/trip (0.88 deer/trip in 2006)
- 20% of deer shot were adult bucks (48% of hunter harvested deer were adult bucks)
- 80% of deer shot were antlerless deer (52% of hunter harvested deer were antlerless)

Whether testing performed on deer from the 2006 hunting season indicates any change in the spread of CWD. DNR is pleased to report that we continue to find no positive deer outside of the CWD Zones. In 2006, we tested more than 7,500 deer in the West Central Region and another 1,800 deer in southern and southeast Wisconsin outside of the CWD Zones. We have sampled more than 38,000 deer outside of the CWD Zones since 2002. The Department will wrap up the second round of statewide testing in 2007 when it completes sampling in the Northern Region. We have tested more than 129,000 deer in Wisconsin since 2002 and have found 789 positives in the Disease Eradication Zone, 53 positives in the Herd Reduction Zone, and no positives throughout the rest of the state.

The map below shows the sections of land where CWD positive deer were found in 2006, overlaid upon the locations where CWD positive deer have been found since 2002. Each square represents one square mile of land in which at least one CWD positive deer has been detected. There have been 169 positives found in Illinois.



Plans to improve communication with hunters – This past September, a core group of DNR staff from multiple disciplines who are intimately involved with the agency’s CWD management efforts, began the process of planning for the next phase of CWD management. Reviews like these are part of the “learn and adapt” strategy that is important to Wisconsin’s approach to managing CWD. Discussions incorporated the latest data on CWD in southern Wisconsin deer, research on prion diseases, human dimension surveys of hunters and landowners in Wisconsin, and first hand experiences of department staff. Staff had a frank discussion about the viability of eradicating CWD and reflected upon progress, opportunities and barriers to CWD management, and our state’s approach to date. The group reviewed Wisconsin’s original goal statement and the assumptions that were made in support of that goal.

An outcome of those discussions was the recommendation that DNR begin a statewide dialogue about where we’ve been and our future CWD management approach in Wisconsin. The goal of the CWD dialogue will be to reach a decision on the following: How does DNR manage Chronic Wasting Disease to minimize the impact of the disease on Wisconsin’s free-ranging deer population, the habitats and biological systems that include deer, the economy, hunters, landowners and others that benefit from a healthy deer herd? Details of the public dialogue are scheduled to be presented to the Natural Resources Board at its April Board meeting. The Department will be happy to forward the details of the plan as an amendment to this report after the Board meeting.

The dialogue will engage the multiple and diverse interests potentially affected by disease and deer herd management decisions. It is imperative that contributors to the dialogue represent the widest possible range of perspectives on important social, economic, health, science and environmental issues.

The next phase of CWD management will require the public, key stakeholders, the DNR, the Natural Resources Board and Wisconsin’s elected leadership to participate in frank and challenging conversations, as well as evaluate complex and difficult options. The future of Wisconsin’s deer

population and the many benefits it provides will be influenced for generations to come by the outcomes of this dialogue.

The dialogue must demonstrate the following:

- It must be timely, if it results in rule change proposals, those can be introduced for the 2008 season.
- It must be inclusive. Diverse and competing perspectives must be heard and considered.
- It must maintain awareness of both today and the future. Challenges and choices made now will impact the Wisconsin deer herd for years to come.
- It must be fiscally responsible.

Strategies that could be employed to reduce CWD-related costs – The audit correctly noted that nearly 50% of the \$32.3 million spent by the State of Wisconsin on CWD management has been associated with testing deer. Therefore reductions in disease surveillance and testing could result in significant savings to the State.

Disease surveillance is the tool to define the geographic extent of the disease in Wisconsin. This fall DNR will conclude a second round of statewide testing when we wrap up the surveillance effort in our Northern Region. Disease surveillance is critical to monitoring the severity and geographic extent of the disease in the CWD Zones, to understanding how deer culling impacts disease spread, and has dovetailed well with a variety of research efforts associated with better understanding disease dynamics.

We also know that hunter service testing in the DEZ (and perhaps to a lesser extent in the HRZ) is important for some families when deciding whether or not to eat venison. In addition, the Department of Health and Family Services is requiring us to test deer from the CWD zones that are going into the food pantry program.

We anticipate significant savings in testing costs in 2008 and 2009 because we will not be doing disease surveillance outside of the CWD zones other than in the vicinity of farmed cervid operations that had or have positive deer (currently the Hall farm in Portage County and the Christenson farm in Crawford County). Our long-term disease surveillance plans currently call for regional sweeps every five years, thus we do not plan to start widespread state surveillance again until at least 2010.

In 2006, DNR also instituted a plan of rotating year surveillance in the Herd Reduction Zone, which should further reduce testing costs beginning in 2007. Sampling in the southeast part of the HRZ will not be mandatory as it has been the past few years and we'll be concentrating our sampling effort in the northern half of the HRZ in southwest Wisconsin. We will continue to rely on cooperator-run stations to sample deer in lieu of DNR-staffed stations as much as possible, but there remains a role for DNR-run stations in some locations. DNR will also be talking about operating fewer stations, which would then require hunters to travel farther to bring deer to us if they are interested in having those deer tested.

A survey conducted this winter by Dr. Bob Holsman of the UW Stevens Point asked DEZ hunters the following question: *If the state were to stop free testing of deer for CWD, select the option that best describes how that decision might influence your participation in hunting.* Preliminarily, 68% of hunters said they would continue to hunt deer if no testing was offered, with 19% saying they would quit deer hunting altogether or at least in areas where CWD was known to occur, and 15% indicating they were unsure what they would do.

Dr. Holsman also asked DEZ hunters: *If the state were to stop free testing of deer for CWD, select the option that best describes how that decision might influence your consumption of venison.* Forty-nine percent said they would eat the venison from an untested deer regardless of where it was harvested,

whereas 24% said they would pay to get the deer tested before eating it. In addition, 17% said they would only eat venison from areas without CWD, and 15% were unsure what they would do.

The audit report also suggested that the Department consider charging for testing as a way to recoup costs. When asked how much DEZ hunters would be willing to pay to have their deer tested, the mean response value to this open-ended question was \$12.78. When asked whether the DNR should continue to offer free testing to hunters who shoot deer in areas where CWD is present, 83% said definitely or probably yes.

Thus, although we already have plans in place to reduce our out-state sample volume over the next three years, which in turn will reduce our costs, hunters appear to be less willing underwrite those costs, and we are reluctant to charge. We intend to generate further discussion of this important topic among the citizens of the State as part of our public dialogue process this year.

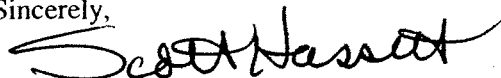
The audit report also correctly noted that developing a lower-cost option for disposing of deer carcasses, butcher waste, road kills, and heads from tissue sampling could provide significant savings. Currently, DNR pays \$600 per ton for chemical digestion and more than \$1,000 per ton to incinerate waste from the DEZ. Despite the passage of Act 286 which allows the state to enter into indemnification agreements with landfills willing to accept untested carcasses, no landfill as yet has been willing to enter into such an agreement. We recently entered into an agreement with Craig Benson and Joel Pedersen of the UW-Madison to do a quantitative assessment of the risk of disposing of untested carcasses in landfills. A qualitative assessment done in 2002 suggested the risk is infinitesimally small, but that risk assessment in consort with the indemnification option has still not been enough to convince landfills and wastewater treatment facilities to participate. We are hopeful the additional expenditure to have this quantitative risk assessment completed will pave the way for large savings in disposing of carcasses in the future.

Whether one lives in Douglas County or Iowa County, CWD challenges impact all Wisconsin citizens. Similarly, deer hunters and non-hunters alike will share the consequences. If the geographic area affected by CWD grows, there will be an even greater desire for testing of hunter-killed deer increasing costs to the state, hunters, or both. The cost of the venison pantry program will also increase as up-front CWD testing would be mandatory across a larger area. CWD deer carcass disposal procedures will need to be applied to larger areas and a larger volume of deer. More of Wisconsin's farms, raising deer and other livestock, will operate with CWD-positive deer as neighbors.

We are committed to seeking and implementing cost-saving measures wherever possible. We'll work hard to deliver a cost-effective CWD management program. We recognize, however, that our ability to drive costs down depends to a large extent upon technological advancements (faster tests and cheaper sampling strategies), hunter willingness to pay for testing, the availability of less expensive ways of disposing of carcasses and perhaps most importantly, on our ability to contain the disease.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this additional information. With the Legislature's and the public's assistance, we will continue to fight CWD. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



Scott Hassett

Secretary

cc: Jan Mueller, Legislative Audit Bureau
Attachments

Appendix A

2003 DEZ/HRZ Deer

Week (Sat - Fri)	Deer Killed with results	Avg. Days from DOK to result in database
9/13/03 - 9/19/03	129	43
9/20/03 - 9/26/03	162	34
9/27/06 - 10/03/03	137	33
10/04/03 - 10/10/03	101	25
10/11/03 - 10/17/03	92	33
10/18/03 - 10/24/03	117	26
10/25/03 - 10/31/03	1403	32
11/01/03 - 11/07/03	2558	38
11/08/03 - 11/14/03	1432	40
11/15/03 - 11/21/03	717	37
11/22/03 - 11/28/03	4273	28
11/29/03 - 12/05/03	566	24
12/06/03 - 12/12/03	275	29
12/13/03 - 12/19/03	347	32
12/20/03 - 12/26/03	275	36
12/27/03 - 1/03/04	370	34
Totals	12954	33

Gun Hunt Oct. 30 - Jan. 3 (IHZ)
 Early Gun Hunt Oct. 30 - Nov. 2 (HRZ)
 Late Gun Hunt Nov. 22 - Jan. 3 (HRZ)

2002 DEZ/HRZ Deer

Week (Sat - Fri)	Deer Killed with results	Avg. Days from DOK to result in database
9/14/02 - 9/20/02	99	169*
9/21/02 - 9/27/02	144	158*
9/28/02 - 10/04/02	94	153
10/05/02 - 10/11/02	118	136
10/12/02 - 10/18/02	128	154
10/19/02 - 10/25/02	1406	103
10/26/02 - 11/01/02	2546	113
11/02/02 - 11/08/02	1665	146
11/09/02 - 11/15/02	1212	140
11/16/02 - 11/22/02	969	137
11/23/02 - 11/29/02	6181	57
11/30/02 - 12/06/02	425	105
12/07/02 - 12/13/02	184	82
12/14/02 - 12/20/02	143	100
12/21/02 - 12/27/02	142	95
12/28/02 - 1/03/03	175	81
1/04/03 - 1/10/03	134	80
1/11/03 - 1/17/03	102	75
1/18/03 - 1/24/03	90	61
1/25/03 - 1/31/03	98	35
Totals	16055	96

Gun Hunt Oct. 24 - Jan. 31 (IHZ)
 Early Gun Hunt Oct. 24-27 (MZ)
 Late Gun Hunt Nov. 23 - Dec. 15 and Dec. 21 - Jan. 3 (MZ)
 * 125 deer with results but no date of when result received.
 All of these deer have a kill date between 9/14 and 9/22
Note - The entire state was sampled this year and outstate

samples were tested first before DEZ/HRZ samples

2004 DEZ/HRZ Deer

Week (Sat - Fri)	Deer Killed with results	Avg. Days from DOK to result in database
9/18/04 - 9/24/04	402	34
9/25/04 - 10/01/04	315	25
10/02/04 - 10/08/04	381	21
10/09/04 - 10/15/04	294	18
10/16/04 - 10/22/04	264	21
10/23/04 - 10/29/04	2327	19
10/30/04 - 11/05/04	2714	30
11/06/04 - 11/12/04	1980	37
11/13/04 - 11/19/04	1218	39
11/20/04 - 11/26/04	5378	47
11/27/04 - 12/03/04	677	55
12/04/04 - 12/10/04	367	51
12/11/04 - 12/17/04	326	48
12/18/04 - 12/24/04	260	45
12/25/04 - 12/31/04	402	38
1/01/05 - 1/03/05	116	34
Totals	17421	37

Early Gun Hunt Oct. 28-31 (HRZ)
 Late Gun Hunt Nov. 20-Jan. 3 (HRZ)
 Gun Hunt Oct. 28 - Jan. 3 (DEZ)

2005 DEZ/HRZ Deer

Week (Sat - Fri)	Deer Killed with results	Avg. Days from DOK to result in database
9/17/05 - 9/23/05	354	28
9/24/05 - 9/30/05	241	23
10/01/05 - 10/07/05	256	24
10/08/05 - 10/14/05	392	24
10/15/05 - 10/21/05	421	26
10/22/05 - 10/28/05	2507	23
10/29/05 - 11/04/05	2364	28
11/05/05 - 11/11/05	1376	31
11/12/05 - 11/18/05	465	37
11/19/05 - 11/25/05	7048	48
11/26/05 - 12/2/05	1162	64
12/3/05 - 12/09/05	551	62
12/10/05 - 12/16/05	507	58
12/17/05 - 12/23/05	438	55
12/24/05 - 12/30/05	386	49
12/31/05 - 1/03/06	244	43
Totals	18712	40

Early Gun Hunt Oct. 27-30 (HRZ)
 Early Gun Hunt Oct. 27 Nov. 13 (DEZ)
 Late Gun Hunt Nov. 19 - Jan. 3

Note - There were some issues with data transfer of the results this year which was corrected.
 Also there were batches of outstate deer sent in at the same time as HRZ/DEZ deer so that slowed the results down for the CWD zone deer.

2006 DEZ/HRZ Deer

Week (Sat - Fri)	Deer Killed with results	Avg. Days from DOK to result in database
9/16/06 - 9/22/06	322	31
9/23/06 - 9/29/06	248	25
9/30/06 - 10/06/06	216	23
10/07/06 - 10/13/06	308	23
10/14/06 - 10/20/06	2512	21
10/21/06 - 10/27/06	1228	27
10/28/06 - 11/03/06	474	23
11/04/06 - 11/10/06	725	23
11/11/06 - 11/17/06	477	26
11/18/06 - 11/24/06	8942	31
11/25/06 - 12/1/06	1173	36
12/2/06 - 12/08/06	879	36
12/09/06 - 12/15/06	905	34
12/16/06 - 12/22/06	59	34
12/23/06 - 12/29/06	82	27
12/30/06 - 1/07/06	133	29
Total Average	18683	29

Early Gun Hunt Oct. 19-22 (HRZ)

Early Gun Hunt Oct. 14-22 (DEZ)

Late Gun Hunt Nov. 18 - Dec. 10

Note - All HRZ/DEZ deer were tested before the outstate deer.

• Also Processing Center LTE's were sent to WVDL to help trim during non-busy times at the center.





June 1, 2007

Senator Jim Sullivan and
Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz, Co-chairpersons
Joint Legislative Audit Committee
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Sullivan and Representative Jeskewitz:

This letter is in response to a December 7, 2006 correspondence requesting an update regarding two outstanding issues related to recommendations found in the June 2006 *Employment of Felons by the Wisconsin Technical College System* letter report by the Legislative Audit Bureau.

The first issue is the recommendation that eight technical college districts develop written policies regarding terminating employment for employees convicted of felonies. As I reported in a December 1, 2006 correspondence, four of the districts had adopted policies by that time. Since that update, three additional districts have adopted a policy and the fourth district is in the final stages of adopting a policy which will be completed by June 30, 2007.

The second issue is the recommendation for the System Office to determine which types of jobs at the technical colleges should have criminal background checks conducted prior to employment and suggested that we require each technical college to promulgate procedures for conducting criminal background checks. I want to reiterate that all 16 technical college districts were conducting background checks of certain candidates for employment for some time. For example, as required by statute, all the colleges are checking candidates for caregiver positions such as those who work in hospitals, nursing homes, and day care facilities.

At its May 2007 meeting, the Wisconsin Technical College System Board adopted a system-wide policy that requires a criminal background check for all new hires. District boards may use discretion to determine whether criminal background checks will be conducted of certain employee groups, such as hourly student employees. As recommended by the Audit Bureau, the policy also requires districts to adopt procedures for implementation of criminal background checks of candidates for employment.

I would like to again thank you for your continued support of the Wisconsin Technical College System. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Clancy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel Clancy
President

DC:JEZ:kss

cc: Janice Mueller, State Auditor





WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Committee Co-Chairs:
State Senator Jim Sullivan
State Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz

July 12, 2007

Mr. Daniel Clancy, President
Wisconsin Technical College System
4622 University Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53705


Dear Mr. Clancy:

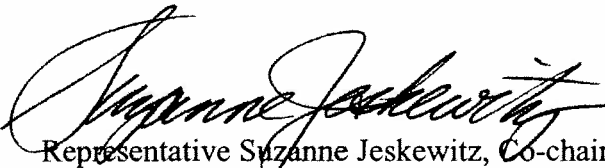
Thank you for your letter, dated June 1, 2007, which responds to a December 2006 request for follow-up information concerning the employment of felons by the Wisconsin Technical College System.

We are pleased by the progress of the technical colleges in responding to the recommendations presented by the Legislative Audit Bureau in its June 2006 letter report. We note that system-wide policies clarifying the use of criminal background checks have recently been implemented. In addition, of the eight technical college districts identified in the report, your letter notes that seven have developed written policies regarding the termination of employment for just cause. Your letter indicates that the remaining district is in the final stages of policy adoption, which will be achieved by June 30, 2007. When you can confirm adoption of written policies by all technical college districts, please send a brief written reply to our offices.

We appreciate your responsiveness to our requests for additional information and thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


Senator Jim Sullivan, Co-chair
Joint Legislative Audit Committee


Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz, Co-chair
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

cc: Janice Mueller
State Auditor



eliminating racism empowering women

ywca

YWCA Greater Milwaukee
1915 North Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53212
414.374.1800 Administrative Offices
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www.ywcamilw.org

December 3, 2007

Secretary Roberta Gassman
Department of Workforce Development
P.O. Box 7946
Madison, WI 53707-7946

Dear Secretary Gassman:

The purpose of this letter is to share my concerns about management of the Wisconsin Works (W-2) program in general and specifically, about the cut in the YWCA of Greater Milwaukee's allocation for said program.

First, let me say that I believe that in spite of protestations to the contrary, the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) has lost sight of the most important part of the W-2 program: job seekers. Why would I opine this? I will pose and answer several questions to make my point. Why does the department have performance standards that promote outcomes from participants that may not be best for them? The drive to place participants in "a job, any job" does not lead to economic self-sufficiency. Why would the department have a taskforce spend months on upfront resources for customers and then fail to implement the majority of its suggestions? The suggested changes would have sped payments to participants, alleviated housing crises, and other problems plaguing participants, all of which would have been of great benefit to those we serve. Why would the department have tried to fix its mismanagement of childcare with a policy that would have adversely impacted participants without ample time to adjust? While I understand that we all make mistakes and often must take drastic steps to correct them, the fire-drill approach the department took could most certainly have been averted had your staff enlisted the help of the agencies to address the problem. It is my understanding that after all the predictable hand-wringing that incident caused, the policy is no longer in effect.

Second, I take umbrage at your persistent criticism of the agencies and our implementation of your program. You have mentioned on several occasions that you "inherited the program," as if that absolves you from responsibility to improve it after what has now been at least four years on your watch. The YWCA—I will not speak for the other agencies—does the best we can with what we have: a deeply flawed program.

Our response to the request for proposal for the 2004-2005 contract was rejected due our "precarious financial position" at the time. That did not, however, prevent the Department from requesting that we assume the second year of the now defunct Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) contract. After an unprecedented 30-day startup, we went on to silence all critics about our ability to effectively manage the program and left \$500,000 "on the table" at the end of the year. We accepted the indignity of having Virchow Krause auditors look over our shoulders to prove our financial worthiness (without knowing the cost to us ahead of time) and passed that test with flying colors.

YWCA of Greater Milwaukee

Page 2 of 2

We responded to the request for proposal for the 2006-2009 contract, and in the spirit of the Department's stated wish to have more providers in the program, we facilitated the submission of proposals from Policy Studies Inc. (PSI). We were told our CMA response was the best proposal presented, resulting in our selection as a Case Management Agency (CMA). Furthermore, the joint effort between the YWCA and PSI resulted in implementation of your new model in the Northeast region and subsequently, in the Northwest region as well. Without the YWCA finding a partner, your new Job Development and Placement Agency (JDPA) model would have looked exactly like the old model you criticized so harshly. Without the YWCA, your desired new model to add additional providers to the program would have been a complete failure. Throughout 2006 and this year, we have continued to be a solid performer, only to learn that we received the largest reduction--nearly 20%--in our allocation because we were the most effective CMA at reducing our caseload. This, too, after nothing but compliments about what a "great job" the YWCA is doing every time I see you.

I am not naïve. If the money isn't there, it isn't there. The State's financial position is a precarious one, but the disparity in the size of our cut as compared to the cuts for other CMAs is appalling and devastating to the YWCA's dedicated and talented staff, especially given our superior performance. We expected the cut in our allocation would have been less in recognition of our performance, as well as the technical support our staff provides yours on a regular and consistent basis to both support the department and help to improve the program for job seekers. Now, we find ourselves in the position of not being able to complete our agency budget because of the Department's inability to finalize the FSET allocation. The implication for the YWCA is that we may have to lay off staff. We would like to let them know before December 28th!

I am left to conclude that, for incomprehensible reason(s), the department is no longer interested in contracting with the YWCA of Greater Milwaukee on future programs. Certainly, if today's program model is in place after the conclusion of the current contract, there will not be enough money in the program for us to participate and provide the level of service we believe is minimally necessary to help people.

Very sincerely yours,



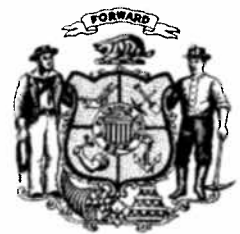
Paula H. Penebaker
Executive Director

Cc: Governor James Doyle
Secretary Michael Morgan
Congresswoman Gwendolyn Moore

Bcc: Rep. Suzanne Jeskewitz



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





STATE OF WISCONSIN
Legislative Audit Bureau

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Janice Mueller
State Auditor

December 14, 2007

Mr. Michael L. Morgan, Secretary
Department of Administration
101 East Wilson Street, 10th Floor
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Mr. Stephen Censky, State Controller
Department of Administration
101 East Wilson Street, 5th Floor
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Mr. Morgan and Mr. Censky:

We have completed a financial audit of the State of Wisconsin as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007. We have issued an unqualified auditor's report on the fair presentation of the basic financial statements. The financial statements and related opinion are included in the State of Wisconsin's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which is published by the Department of Administration.

During the course of our audit, we identified a variety of internal control concerns at various state agencies that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. As provided for in these standards, we are furnishing you with the auditor's report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters. The state agencies' responses to our concerns and recommendations are included in the text of the report so that readers may see the State's intended resolution of the matters discussed. In future audits, we will determine the extent to which findings in the report have been resolved.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by the Department of Administration and other state agencies during the audit.

Sincerely,

Janice Mueller
State Auditor

JM/CS/ss

Enclosure



STATE OF WISCONSIN

Legislative Audit Bureau

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Janice Mueller
State Auditor

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

We have audited the State of Wisconsin's basic financial statements as of and for the year ended June 30, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated December 14, 2007. The basic financial statements and related auditor's opinion have been included in the State of Wisconsin's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for fiscal year 2006-07. We did not audit the following financial statements: the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Revenue Bond Program and Commercial Paper Program, which represent 12 percent of the liabilities of the governmental activities and 3 percent of the expenditures of the aggregate remaining fund information; the Badger Tobacco Asset Securitization Fund, which represents 10 percent of the liabilities of the governmental activities and 1 percent of the expenditures of the aggregate remaining fund information; the Environmental Improvement Fund, which is a major fund and represents 19 percent of the assets and 20 percent of the liabilities of the business-type activities; and the College Savings Program Trust, which represents 2 percent of the assets of the aggregate remaining fund information. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose reports thereon have been furnished to us, and our opinions, insofar as they relate to the amounts audited by others, are based solely upon their reports. In addition, we did not audit the financial statements of the discretely presented component units. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors. Our opinion on the aggregate discretely presented component units, insofar as it relates to the amounts audited by others, is based upon the reports of the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority, the University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority, and the University of Wisconsin Foundation.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The financial statements of the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority, which were audited by other auditors, were also audited in accordance with these standards. The financial statements of the other funds and component units that were audited by other auditors upon whose reports we are relying were audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, but not in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. This report does not include the results of the other auditors' testing of internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters that may have been reported on separately by those auditors.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the State's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the State's basic financial statements but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the State's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the State's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. We believe that none of the significant deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses is a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the State of Wisconsin's basic financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

The State's written responses to findings identified are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. We did not audit the responses and, accordingly, express no opinion on them.

We noted certain additional matters, which we will report or have already reported to the management of certain state agencies in separate communications.

This independent auditor's report is intended for the information and use of the management of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Legislature, federal awarding agencies, and pass-through entities. This report, upon submission to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited. However, because we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the State's internal control or on compliance, this report is not intended to be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

LEGISLATIVE AUDIT BUREAU

December 14, 2007

by



Bryan Naab

Deputy State Auditor for Financial Audit

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

This schedule includes all significant deficiencies related to internal control over financial reporting and compliance and other matters that are required to be reported by auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*. Repeat findings from the prior year are indicated with an asterisk (*).

Finding WI-07-01: Internal Control Weaknesses in Financial Reporting by State Agencies

Criteria:

The Department of Administration (DOA) is responsible for preparing and maintaining the Uniform GAAP Conversion Policies and Procedures Manual, which includes the State's policies and procedures used to prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The management of each state agency is responsible for maintaining effective internal controls to ensure agencies follow the Uniform GAAP Conversion Policies and Procedures Manual and that the information provided to DOA for inclusion in the State's financial statements is fairly presented and that misstatements are prevented or detected in a timely manner.

Condition:

In some instances, state agencies do not have sufficient procedures and controls in place to ensure compliance with the Uniform GAAP Conversion Policies and Procedures Manual. In other instances, agency staff and management do not fully understand the requirements for accurately reporting financial activity or have not taken sufficient steps to obtain information needed to report in compliance with the manual. In addition, some agencies did not appropriately review financial information for significant or material errors prior to submitting the information to DOA for inclusion in the State's financial statements.

Questioned Costs:

None

Context:

The State's financial statements present financial activity for the State as a whole, in accordance with GAAP. Financial reporting for the State is complex, with many technical accounting issues. Each state agency is responsible for submitting accurate information to DOA in a timely manner so it can be included in the financial statements.

Effect and Cause:

Some state agencies did not prevent or detect in a timely manner misstatements in the financial information provided to DOA for inclusion in the State's financial statements. Agencies agreed to make corrections after the auditors brought the errors to their attention. Significant errors identified by auditors and the cause of these errors are presented in the following table:

Agency	Fund	Misstatement	Cause
<i>DOA</i>	<i>Government-wide Statement of Net Assets</i>	The Invested in Capital Assets Net of Related Debt account was overstated by \$431.5 million and Unrestricted Net Assets were understated by \$431.5 million.	Staff did not accurately determine the amount of debt related to capital assets because of database query errors, misclassified projects, and miscommunication between state agencies.
<i>Department of Transportation (DOT)</i>	<i>Government-wide Statement of Activities</i>	Operating Grants and Contributions were overstated by \$152.2 million and Capital Grants and Contributions were understated by \$152.2 million.	Staff did not identify a formula error in a spreadsheet and did not reverse a prior-year entry. The errors were not identified in the agency's review process.
<i>Department of Veterans Affairs</i>	<i>Veterans Mortgage Loan Repayment Fund</i>	Current Loans Receivable were overstated by \$73.6 million and Non-current Loans Receivable were understated by \$73.6 million on the Balance Sheet. Proceeds from Issuance of Debt and Repayment of Bonds and Notes were both understated by \$61.7 million in the Statement of Cash Flows.	Staff made a keying error and inappropriately netted certain cash inflows and outflows on the Statement of Cash Flows. Management's review was not sufficient to detect these errors.
<i>Office of the Commissioner of Insurance</i>	<i>Injured Patients and Families Compensation Fund</i>	Investment sales and purchases were understated by \$69.6 million in the Statement of Cash Flows.	Staff did not obtain information from the Investment Board to appropriately classify activity.
<i>University of Wisconsin (UW) System</i>	<i>UW System</i>	Gifts were overstated by \$44.2 million and Capital Contributions were understated by \$44.2 million in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Equity.	UW-Madison did not verify information in the gift/grant system that is used to classify gifts for capital projects before providing this information to UW System Administration for financial reporting.
<i>Department of Revenue</i>	<i>General Fund and Transportation Fund</i>	A number of Balance Sheet errors were identified by auditors that required corrections by staff, including an understatement of \$39.5 million in both Taxes Receivable and Accounts Payable and Other Accrued Liabilities.	The Department of Revenue did not sufficiently plan and make changes in the financial reporting process that were required because of implementation of a new tax processing system. Management's review was not sufficient to detect these errors.

Recommendation:

We recommend that state agencies with identified control weaknesses improve their internal controls over the financial reporting process.

Management's Response:

Agency management agreed to implement improvements to controls over the financial reporting process.

Finding WI-07-02: Improvement in Security at the State's Data Centers*

Criteria:

The State's computer data centers—one administered by DOA and one by UW-Madison—should establish both data and physical security policies and procedures to ensure that software and data stored and processed by the data centers are protected from accidental or intentional misuse or destruction.

Condition:

While control improvements have been made, continued effort is needed at the data centers to improve both data and physical security policies and procedures. For instance, we found data security policies and procedures need to be developed and implemented for some platforms and locations. Further, we found the environmental controls at some sites should be improved to reduce the risk that computer resources may be damaged.

Questioned Costs:

None

Context:

The data centers provide centralized computer processing facilities in which critical data, including accounting and payroll data, are stored and processed.

Effect:

Data security control weaknesses increase the risk that unauthorized or erroneous changes could be made to accounting, payroll, and other transactions and data. Physical and environmental control weaknesses increase the risk that financial systems or sensitive data may be lost or unavailable to the users due to theft or damage to devices.

Cause:

Efforts to address many of the identified issues are long-term projects. While improvements have been made, because of time constraints some areas of concern remain.

Recommendation:

We recommend the computer data centers continue to review their security and improve controls.

Management Response:

DOA has taken steps and is developing plans to address all the concerns identified.

UW-Madison agrees with this recommendation. The data center strives to keep abreast of new technological developments and to implement available security controls to help reduce risks.

Finding WI-07-03: Programmer Access to the State's Central Accounting System and Central Payroll System Data and Programs*

Criteria:

To provide proper internal control, programmer duties should be separated from production and data control duties.

Condition:

Programmers for the State's central accounting system and central payroll system have access to production data and programs that would allow them to make unauthorized or inadvertent changes to the data. DOA has begun several projects that, when completed, may mitigate risks in some areas. For example, during fiscal year (FY) 2006-07, DOA took steps to limit programmer direct access to several payroll datasets. Changes to those datasets are now made through the use of a new log-on identification, which logs who made changes to accessed files. However, DOA has not yet assigned staff to monitor the log and review the changes made by programmers. In addition, some programmers also have access to modify the production programs, which could allow them to change the programs or output in order to avoid detection of unauthorized program changes. Although DOA has taken limited steps to improve controls, payroll and accounting data remained at risk during FY 2006-07.

Questioned Costs:

None

Context:

The State's central accounting system maintains the State's official accounting records. The system processes financial data for all state agencies and is the main source of information for financial schedules and statements, including the State of Wisconsin's financial statements. The State's central payroll system processes the biweekly payroll for most state employees. Both of these systems generate checks.

Effect:

Programmers with access to and extensive knowledge of the computer programs in the systems could make unauthorized changes to data and conceal those changes. This risk is increased because these programmers also have access to the production programs for these systems.

Cause:

DOA requires computer programmers to perform production and data control duties and does not believe the benefits of separating these duties outweigh the related costs. As of the end of FY 2006-07, DOA has not implemented compensating controls in this area but believes it would be difficult for a programmer to conceal inappropriate transactions without detection. However, DOA plans to continue moving forward to limit programmers' access.

Recommendation:

We recommend DOA continue to implement changes to limit programmers' access to production data and programs to reduce the risk of unauthorized transactions.

Management's Response:

DOA agrees with the tenor of the recommendation to limit programmer access to data. DOA has begun to expand the number of datasets and files that programmers have controlled access to in both the payroll system and WiSMART. In addition, DOA has started a preliminary procedure for the security officer for the two systems to notify the data owner in the State Controller's Office any time a programmer finds it necessary to access a file to complete a processing cycle.

Finding WI-07-04: Programmer Access to Critical Production Programs and Data at the Department of Transportation*

Criteria:

To provide proper internal control, computer programmers should not have the ability to access or update production data and programs.

Condition:

Computer programmers at DOT have access to programs in production, and some are allowed to move programs from the test environment to production. In addition, some computer programmers have access to production data through access to the Control-M job scheduling program.

Questioned Costs:

None

Context:

DOT maintains accounting and other systems critical to agency operations. These systems enable DOT to collect and expend \$2 billion annually; to issue driver licenses and vehicle titles and registrations; to track drivers' records and traffic violations; and to oversee the State's construction of roads and bridges.

Effect:

Programmers with extensive knowledge of the computer programs and data sets could make unauthorized changes to the programs or data and conceal those changes, resulting in undetected erroneous or fraudulent changes.

Cause:

DOT believes it can more efficiently complete program changes and job scheduling by allowing programmers access to the production environment and to Control-M. To control production system security, it uses a combination of Changeman staging controls, user verification procedures, periodic access reviews, and supervisory oversight. However, we believe these controls would not prevent or detect unauthorized changes.

Recommendation:

In prior audits, we have expressed our concerns regarding programmers' ability to access or update production data and programs and have recommended removal of programmers' access to critical production programs and to the Control-M job scheduling program. We continue to believe programmers should not have access to production data and programs. DOT is aware of our concerns but accepts the risks in this area. Therefore, we do not repeat our recommendation.

Management's Response:

DOT recognizes the risk of allowing computer programmer access to production programs and data and has implemented numerous processes and checkpoints to reduce this risk. In the absence of other workable alternatives, DOT believes this risk is minor and manageable given its operational business requirements and needs. DOT further believes a greater overall risk is created if authorized IT staff are not provided access to systems and data necessary to develop, maintain, and support IT systems, applications, data, and infrastructure.

Finding WI-07-05: Program Change Controls at the University of Wisconsin*

Criteria:

To provide proper internal control, procedures should be established to prevent computer programs from being altered and/or put into production without proper oversight, review, and documentation.

Condition:

While UW-Madison has made some improvements in its procedures for making computer program changes, an independent review of program changes is not performed to assess the reasonableness of the changes for some applications. Further, for some applications, programmers have the ability to move programs into production. Thus, even if such reviews were performed, programmers could circumvent these procedures and make changes without oversight, review, or documentation.

Questioned Costs:

None

Context:

UW-Madison maintains critical financial systems, including the UW System accounting and payroll systems.

Effect:

Programmers with extensive knowledge of the computer programs could make unauthorized changes to the programs and conceal those changes, resulting in undetected erroneous or fraudulent information.

Cause:

Controls were not originally developed to ensure proper oversight before programs are moved to production. Limited resources are available to change the current procedures for the mainframe programs because the UW System is moving its critical financial applications from the mainframe computers to computer servers. For those that have been moved to the server environment, UW-Madison is reviewing its procedures and making improvements.

Recommendation:

We recommend UW-Madison continue to improve its internal controls related to changes to production programs to ensure only authorized programs changes are made and implemented.

Agency Response:

UW-Madison notes that several improvements have been implemented and additional procedures are being considered.

Finding WI-07-06: Integrity of the Injured Patients and Families Compensation Fund Provider System*

Criteria:

The Injured Patients and Families Compensation Fund should ensure that its provider system, which is used to bill health care providers who participate in the Fund and to maintain the Fund's medical malpractice claims history, is able to accurately and efficiently process information. Further, this system should be properly secured to ensure data stored and processed by the system are protected from accidental or intentional misuse or destruction.

Condition:

The provider system was developed in the early 1990s and has not been able to easily accommodate changes that have occurred over time, which has resulted in errors occurring within the system. Fund staff estimate approximately 15 to 20 hours per week have been needed to address the problems that have developed. Further, these system issues have limited the Fund's ability to address system access control weaknesses.

Questioned Costs:

None

Context:

During our prior audit, we provided a separate audit communication to the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance identifying in detail our concerns related to the integrity of the provider system and various system access control weaknesses that could compromise data integrity. The Fund is focusing its efforts on developing a new system rather than making major changes to the current system. Therefore, the conditions noted during the prior audit remained concerns throughout FY 2006-07. Additional funding to complete work on the new provider system was approved as part of the State's 2007-09 biennial budget.

Effect:

The aging provider system presents an increased risk to the integrity of the Fund's financial operations. Access control weaknesses increase the risk that unauthorized or erroneous changes could be made to provider system data without being detected. In addition, increased time spent to correct processing problems that arise with the current provider system results in less time available for more productive tasks for the Fund.

Cause:

The Fund was delayed in developing a new provider system because of past denials of its requests for budget authority. As a result, additional time was needed to implement an increased number of program changes to fix problems that arose with the old system. Further, because of the difficulties in making program changes in the old system, the Fund opted not to address access control weaknesses with the old system, but instead to address them as part of the new system.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the Fund continue its efforts to develop a new provider system that appropriately processes and secures system data.

Management Response:

The Office of the Commissioner of Insurance will continue to focus its efforts on developing a new system that will appropriately address the system data integrity and control concerns noted. Significant planning for the improved provider system has already occurred and, with the approval of the additional budget authority in the 2007-09 biennial budget, the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance expects to complete the new system by November 2008.

Finding WI-07-07: Lack of Adequate Planning for New Accounting Standard by the Department of Employee Trust Funds

Criteria:

The Department of Employee Trust Funds' (ETF's) management is responsible for ensuring that it adequately plans for the appropriate and timely implementation of new accounting standards. It is also responsible for ensuring that ETF's financial statements included in the State's basic financial statements are fairly presented and that misstatements are prevented or detected in a timely manner.

Condition:

ETF did not adequately plan for the implementation of the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 43, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*, issued in April 2004, and it had not fully understood or considered the implications of the new standard on its programs.

Questioned Costs:

None

Context:

GASB Statement 43 was implemented in April 2004 to establish financial reporting requirements for other postemployment benefit plans (OPEBs) that are comparable to pension plan reporting. It was required to be implemented for periods beginning after December 31, 2005, which should have provided sufficient time for ETF to plan and implement the new standard.

Effect:

ETF was late in submitting its financial information for the State's financial statements. We also identified several audit adjustments that were necessary to make ETF's OPEB statements acceptable. Further, we identified errors in the financial statements for other programs because of the workload and time pressures resulting from the delays in planning for the implementation of the new standard.

Cause:

ETF had not placed sufficient priority in planning for the timely implementation of the new standard. ETF also experienced staffing absences during a critical stage of the implementation of the standard but did not have back-up procedures to proceed until the key accounting staff person returned to work.

Recommendation:

We recommend that ETF take steps to resolve outstanding issues associated with financial reporting under GASB Statement 43 and recognize the importance of adequately planning for future accounting standards to implement them in a timely manner and minimize the extent of audit adjustments needed.

Management's Response:

We agree with the recommendation and will implement steps to resolve outstanding issues associated with implementing GASB Statement 43 and will improve our planning process for implementing future accounting standard changes. Among other things, in the future the Secretary's Office and Division management will be engaged from the outset in planning for and providing oversight of the implementation of new accounting standards and in working with Legislative Audit Bureau staff early in the process to make sure we meet our obligations. We are committed to pursuing and providing the necessary personnel, resources, and training to appropriately implement current and future accounting standards. Further, we will work to improve our interactions with Legislative Audit Bureau staff to ensure that expectations and understandings of new accounting standards are clearly, timely, and professionally communicated. Finally, we will continue to assess how we can make further improvements to meet our financial reporting obligations, now and in the future.

Finding WI-07-08: Cash Reconciliations at the Department of Employee Trust Funds*

Criteria:

As required under s. 16.41, Wis. Stats., ETF is responsible for ensuring its information on the State's central accounting system is complete and accurate. Regular reconciliations between the State's central accounting system and ETF's internal system are an important step to help ensure that information reported is complete and accurate on both systems.

Condition:

ETF has not fully reconciled its cash balances between the State's central accounting system and ETF's internal system.

Questioned Costs:

None

Context:

The State's central accounting system maintains the State's official accounting records, while ETF uses its internal system for developing its separately issued financial report. Although ETF has made some attempts to reconcile cash balances, varying amounts of unreconciled differences exist at the end of each year.

Effect:

The cash balances could be misstated on the State's central accounting system and/or ETF's internal system, which could also result in misstatements in the financial reports.

Cause:

Cash balances were not properly allocated at the program level when the State's central accounting system was implemented. Further, ETF has not identified all reconciling items that should be considered in the reconciliation process.

Recommendation:

We recommend ETF develop a plan to fully reconcile the cash balances for each program and take steps to correct any inaccuracies identified in the beginning cash balances on the State's central accounting system or ETF's internal system through the reconciliation process.

Management's Response:

We agree with your recommendation and share your concern regarding the incorrect cash balances on the State's central accounting system. We intend to assist the State Controller's Office in correcting these balances as part of the Integrated Business Information System implementation plan.

Finding WI-07-09: Business Resumption Planning*

Criteria:

To minimize disruption that may occur in an emergency, the State of Wisconsin should have effective business resumption plans in place.

Condition:

DOA is coordinating a project to develop a statewide business resumption plan. However, although state agencies have made progress, some do not have complete and tested business resumption plans and, therefore, a statewide plan is not available.

Questioned Costs:

None

Context:

The State provides a variety of critical services to citizens, local governments, and others in Wisconsin.

Effect:

Without effective business resumption plans in place, an emergency could disrupt the State's ability to provide critical services.

Cause:

Because of budget restrictions and the limited availability of staff, the State has not been able to devote sufficient resources to complete development of its business resumption plans and to test its ability to use the plans.

Recommendation:

We recommend the State continue to move forward to complete and test its business resumption plan.

Management's Response:

The Continuity of Government project, led by the DOA, has made substantial progress in developing and testing Continuity of Operations (COOP) plans for state agencies with time-sensitive business services. Twenty-eight agencies have completed COOP plans covering a total of 235 time-sensitive business services. Since mid-2006, agencies have held 26 agency command center exercises and 208 service plan COOP exercises. DOA will continue to work with agencies toward the goal of testing all state agency COOP plans on an annual basis.
