



STATE ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION

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Dear Honorable Elected Officials:

What is going on in state government? DOT completes a report in April and refuses to release it. Before it is finally released in November, DOA attaches its own report, discrediting the DOT report. Then DOT reviewed that DOA report and found it to be “seriously flawed” and “dramatically inaccurate.” Now the DOT attorney that released DOT’s rebuttal has been demoted. What kind of game are they playing with taxpayers’ money?

The bottom line – and the reason for all of this upheaval – is that state agencies find again and again that contracting out work is much more expensive than using their own in-house staff. DOT, for example, found that consultants are 18 percent more expensive than state engineers. Because this doesn’t align with the administration’s promise to cut 10,000 state employees, administrators held the report until they could put together something to discredit it. When a 30-year veteran attorney releases a DOT report that points out that “the emperor has no clothes,” he is suddenly demoted.

This is not a game. This is not a fairy tale. These are taxpayer dollars being wasted and state employees being demoted and laid off, regardless of the cost to this state. Taxpayers could have saved \$27.6 million if consultant-led projects had been delivered by state engineers.

I have attached a copy of an article that appeared in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel entitled, “DOT Lawyer Demoted After Report Released.” I have also included a copy of the “DOT Response to DOA Analysis of DOT Engineering Cost Analysis.”

This is a shameful example of bad government. It is an example of covering up the facts and burying the bodies because they don’t agree with someone’s faulty view of state affairs.

Can nothing be done to stop this appalling behavior? Please look into this case and the hundreds like it in state government. Support legislation to **stop continued contracting out of engineering services** as state agencies are instructed to eliminate employees. In this time of budget crisis, why would the state expand contracting out regardless of the fact that study after study shows that contracting out costs more?

I am a taxpayer, a state employee, and the president of the State Engineering Association. If you have questions about this information or would like to meet with me to discuss this case and others like it, please contact me at (414) 750-1496 or MVKlipstein@aol.com.

Sincerely,

Mark Klipstein
SEA President