



Architect of the Capitol
U.S. Capitol, Room SB-16
Washington, DC 20515
202.228.1793
www.aoc.gov

June 21, 2019

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith, Chairwoman
The Honorable Christopher Murphy, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman and Senator Murphy:

On April 9, 2019, the Architect of the Capitol's (AOC) Office of Inspector General (OIG) received a congressional inquiry into the AOC's Fiscal Year 2020 budget request of \$48.8 million for two emergency generators for the Library of Congress, James Madison Memorial Building. In response to the request, the OIG contracted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to perform an Independent Cost Review of the AOC's \$48.8 million budget request. The Independent Cost Review was performed by USACE's professional costs estimators in accordance with USACE cost engineering regulations.

The AOC's cost estimate for the two emergency generators included the costs from two AOC projects combined in the Cost Assessment (CA) memorandum dated November 1, 2018. The CA combined costs from the Probable Construction Cost for the Emergency Generator project and the Upper Floors Roof Replacement project of the Library of Congress, James Madison Memorial Building. The scope of work for both projects consists of replacing four existing emergency generators with two new diesel generators, paralleling switchgear to support current and future loads, and two new emergency switchboards including transformer and load bank. Additionally this project includes replacement of approximately 49,000 square foot of roofing, roof drains, and modifications to the lightning protection system required to support the generator installation.

USACE reviewed the project from a best practices standpoint from both USACE cost engineering regulations and the AOC Architect/Engineer Design Manual – December 2013. USACE determined that overall, while USACE could not validate all aspects of the estimate, the AOC’s estimate is appropriate for budgetary purposes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Failla". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

Christopher P. Failla, CIG
Inspector General

cc: Christine A. Merdon, P.E., Acting Architect of the Capitol