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September 20, 2006

Honorable Emily Stover DeRocco  
Assistant Secretary  
Employment and Training Administration  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Room S-2307  
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Emily:

On September 5, 2006, the Board of Directors of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) decided to terminate its involvement in the Wage Record Interchange System (WRIS) as a party to the *Consolidated WRIS Data Sharing Agreement* signed by NASWA and individual states. Effective September 30, 2006, NASWA's withdrawal as a party will terminate the *Agreement*. This decision was made because lack of federal funding rendered it impracticable for NASWA to fulfill its duties under the *Agreement*.

Effectively terminating the *Agreement* reflects NASWA's concern that the inability to fulfill its responsibilities poses a serious risk not only to NASWA, but also WRIS states. NASWA understands effectively terminating the *Agreement* means some states likely will cease sharing data in the WRIS until they sign new data sharing agreements. Upon receipt of federal transition funding, NASWA will work with states and the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) to develop a new structure that we hope will restore full WRIS operations.

Finally, thank you for your prompt reply to a letter sent to you in August from JoAnn Hammill, then President of NASWA, expressing concern about the ETA assuming responsibility for governing and administering the WRIS. NASWA still has many concerns, but hopes it can resolve them with ETA during the transition. We look forward to working with you to make a quick and efficient transition of the governance and administration of the WRIS.

Sincerely,

Roosevelt (Ted) Halley  
President

cc. State Administrators  
State Unemployment Insurance Agencies (SUIAs)  
Performance Accountability and Customer Information Agencies (PACIAs)