Questions for the Record – Kim N. Wallace

Questions from Senator Grassley:

1. What will you do to ensure that, as Ranking Member of the Finance Committee, my staff and I are kept up to date on activities at the Treasury department?

I believe that the success of this Congress and of the Administration in addressing crucial issues facing our nation requires a seamless communication between Committee members, staff and Treasury. If confirmed, I am committed to ensuring that the Treasury Department has regular and open contact with you and your staff, as well as with all members of the Finance Committee and their staff. I am open to suggestions from you as to the most efficient method to fulfill his request, and I am committed to ensuring that Treasury's legislative affairs staff have a regular dialogue with the Ranking Member's staff on Treasury department activities pertinent to the broad jurisdiction of the Finance Committee. A process convenient to your staff and the staff of all members of the Finance Committee that keeps you well abreast of the Treasury Department's activities would serve both of our interests.

2. In the past few months there have been several instances, particular involving high profile presidential nominees, where the Finance Committee has reached a deal concerning the release of information, only to find that the information was leaked ahead of time in violation of the deal. Do you promise that you and your staff will uphold any agreements made with me or my staff?

Should I be confirmed, I promise that I and the Treasury legislative affairs staff will work arduously to protect agreements made with the Ranking Members or his staff.

3. Do you commit to respond quickly and completely to any requests made by myself or my staff for information?

Yes, I believe that the success of the priorities of this Congress and of the Administration require a seamless communication between Committee members, staff and the Treasury Department. Congressional requests play an important role in our communication, and therefore, should I be confirmed, I commit to timely and complete responses to requests from the Ranking Member or his staff.

Question from Senator Crapo:

1. Can I have your assurances that you will look into making sure that the Federal Home Loan Banks are sufficiently strong to continue to achieve their core mission of providing liquidity and supporting community banks and thrifts?

The Federal Home Loan Banks have played an important role of providing a stable source of funds to their member institutions throughout the recent disruptions in credit markets. The Federal Home Loan Banks have access to a credit facility that the Treasury Department established under the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008. The Treasury Department works closely with the Federal Housing Finance Administration in evaluating the financial condition of the Federal Home Loan Banks. If confirmed, I will look forward to working with you and Treasury Department staff on this matter.