



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL SERVICES
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SERVING THE PUBLIC AND DELIVERING ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO STATE GOVERNMENT

PAUL R. LePAGE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD W. ROSEN
COMMISSIONER

January 22, 2016

Beth Ashcroft, Director
Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability
82 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0082

Dear Ms. Ashcroft:

Thank you for your email dated January 14, 2016, regarding a follow-up to our correspondence from last April. In your email, you inquired whether or not the planned changes to DAFS Rule Chapter 110 and the DAFS/BGS/Division of Purchases Policy on "Contract Renewals and Amendments" have been completed. Responses to those questions, and other follow-up information from our previous correspondence, is provided below.

With regard to DAFS Rule Chapter 110, the previously discussed changes have not yet been made. This is not due to any change of opinion on the importance of these changes, but rather, a matter of priority. DAFS currently seeks to make changes to the statutes governing the State of Maine's purchasing process, and if those changes are supported and accepted, then they will necessitate additional changes to DAFS Rule Chapter 110. Once the statutory changes are made, then one comprehensive revision of DAFS Rule Chapter 110 is anticipated thereafter.

With regard to the DAFS/BGS/Division of Purchases Policy on "Contract Renewals and Amendments", I can confirm that the changes were made last year. That said, the aforementioned Policy document has been temporarily removed from the Division's website, as of last fall. A review of the Division's policy documents is currently underway, in order to provide additional clarity and consistency to State agencies. The substance of this Policy document, and others, will return to the website later in 2016.

Also in our last correspondence on this topic, there was discussion of the Division of Purchases' "electronic procurement system" budget request. I am happy to report that since the budget request was approved, the Division has swiftly moved forward. It is currently in the design stage for the creation of a web-based application, whereby State agencies will be able to submit all procurement documents electronically for review (as opposed to the paper process that currently exists), receive automated guidance on the process and forms required, and be better able to track the status of their submittals. This should equate to efficiencies across State government, regarding how contracts and grants are handled.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard W. Rosen".

Richard W. Rosen, Commissioner
Department of Administrative and Financial Services