



COMMISSIONER

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20224

March 20, 2018

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Finance  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Wyden:

I am writing to supplement our March 13, 2018, response regarding information reported to the IRS related to Notice 2017-10, Syndicated Conservation Easement Transactions.

As we noted in that response, we are validating and analyzing the data we captured after electronically scanning the more than 39,000 forms we have received. While we are early in that process, we found several processing errors where our system incorrectly captured data from the forms submitted by taxpayers. As a result, the aggregate contribution deduction amount was significantly skewed. We wanted to call these errors to your immediate attention. The reported contribution deduction amount is not approximately \$230 billion as we reported, but closer to \$20 billion.

The other information provided in our response is unaffected by those errors. We are continuing to validate the data and if we find any additional problems, we will promptly notify you.

I apologize for this error. The IRS staff would be glad to brief you or your staff to explain in more detail how this occurred. If you have additional questions or would like a briefing, please contact me or Leonard Oursler, Director, Legislative Affairs, at 202-317-6985.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Kautter".

David J. Kautter  
Acting Commissioner

cc: The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch