



UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548



OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

IN REPLY
REFER TO:

B-203788

July 7, 1981

John G. Gaine, Esquire
General Counsel
Commodity Futures Trading
Commission
2033 K St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20581

Dear Mr. Gaine:

This will acknowledge your letter of June 18, 1981, concerning the Commodity Futures Trading Commission's leasing authority under the Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1981, Pub. L. No. 96-528 (December 15, 1980), 94 Stat. 3095. The Act appropriates to the Commission--

"For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended * * * including * * * the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere * * * \$17,966,000 to be available as authorized by law * * *." 94 Stat. 3116 (Emphasis supplied).

Based on the above-quoted language and the legislative history discussed in your letter, I agree that the Act grants the Commission multiple year leasing authority during fiscal year 1981. Of course, this authority will expire with the appropriation at the end of the current fiscal year.

I express no view as to the scope or application of this authority in any particular circumstances. As noted in your letter, the Senate Appropriations Committee report states in part:

"* * * It is the intent of the Committee that multiple year leases should be entered into by the Commission whenever a cost savings may be reasonably expected. However, the Commission must comply with all of the applicable statutory requirements

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associated with the leasing of Federal
office space." S. Rep. No. 96-1030,
at 101 (1980).

I trust that the foregoing is responsive to your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Harry R. Van Cleve

Harry R. Van Cleve
Acting General Counsel

Under appropriation act provision in Pub. L. No. 96-528 Commodity Futures Trading Commission has authority to enter into multiple year leases during fiscal year 1981. However, this authority expires with appropriation at end of fiscal year 1981.