



G A O

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**Comptroller General
of the United States**

**United States General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20548**

**GAO Press Statement on NEPDG
August 25, 2003**

“Today, GAO released its report on the National Energy Policy Development Group (NEPDG) detailing, to the extent possible, the process and costs associated with the group’s development of a proposed national energy policy. The Office of the Vice President’s persistent denial of access to certain NEPDG records, which led us to take the unprecedented step of filing suit to enforce our access rights against a federal official, precluded GAO from fully achieving our objectives and substantially limited our analysis. However, in the spirit of government transparency and accountability, we gathered and analyzed information made available from other sources to provide as robust an account of the NEPDG effort as possible under the circumstances,” said David M. Walker, Comptroller General of the United States and the head of GAO.