

Minister
of National Defence



Ministre
de la Défense nationale

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Ottawa, Canada K1A 0K2

CERRID # 995751

To: Chief, Communications Security Establishment

Ministerial Directive
Communications Security Establishment
Program

This Directive is issued under my authority and replaces the [REDACTED] *Program* Ministerial Directive issued 15 March 2004. The purpose of this Ministerial Directive is to set out my expectations for how the Communications Security Establishment (CSE) is to manage this sensitive program for [REDACTED]

CSE's ability to fulfill its legislated mandate is impeded by ongoing changes in the volume, speed and complexity of global communications. These changes have made it much more difficult to collect communications from the global information infrastructure and extract those of interest. Success in foreign intelligence collection requires that CSE use more [REDACTED] methods to facilitate the acquisition of specific, high-interest data and communications.

The [REDACTED] program [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] program.

Assessment Framework

In this context, I want to be clear about my expectations of CSE regarding how it should conduct its [REDACTED] program:

• [REDACTED]

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- [REDACTED]

- the uniqueness and value of the communications and data expected to result;
- the resource implications of the activity; and

- [REDACTED]

- CSE will follow a stringent risk management regime when dealing with [REDACTED] that includes:

- strict need-to-know arrangements;
- [REDACTED]
- exit strategies; and
- contingency plans, including a communications plan, to minimize the impact of any potential disclosure.

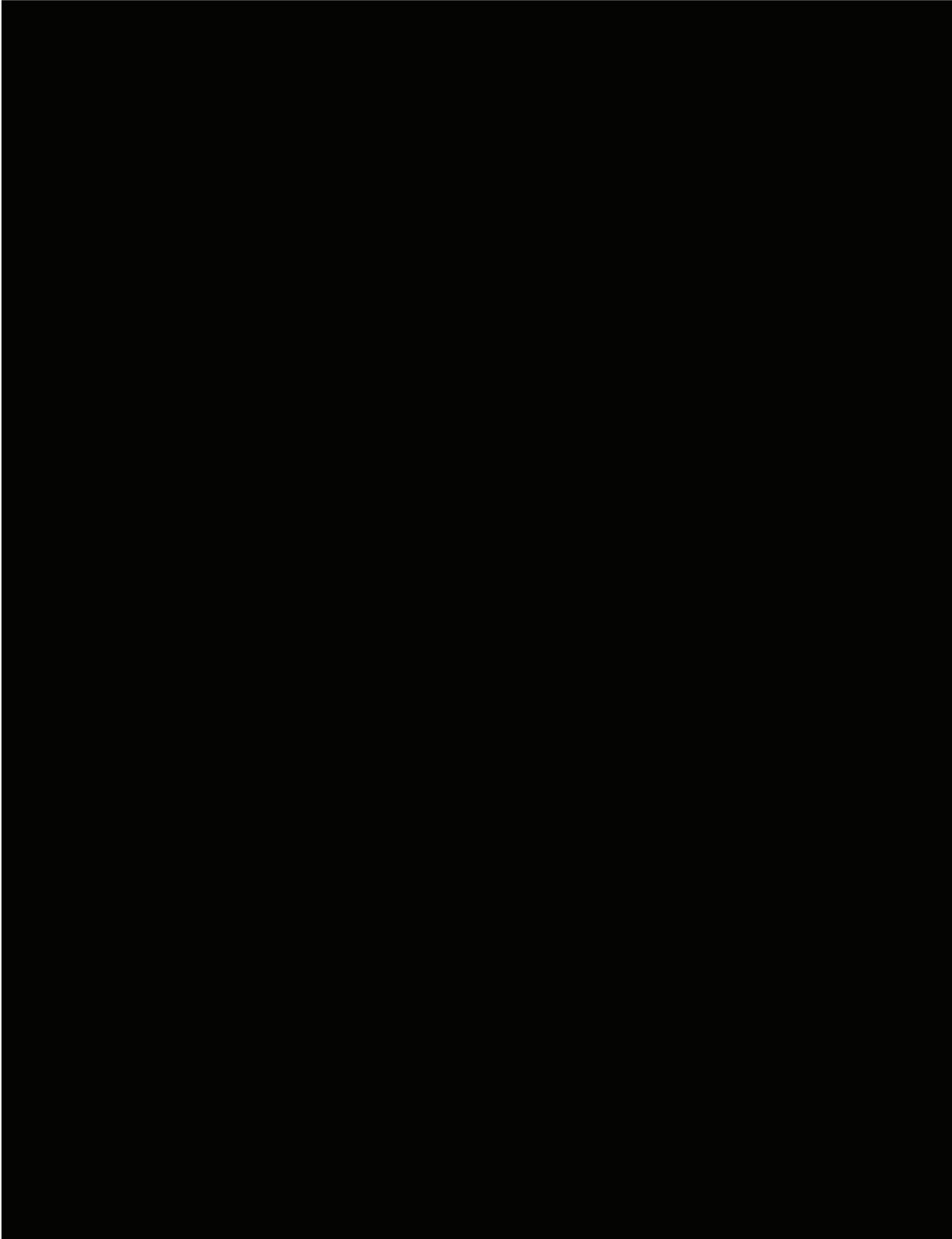
Approval Framework

The approval framework governing CSE's [REDACTED] program will be based on a progressive scale, with approval sought at one of three levels depending on the assessment of risks. Approvals must include attention to potential costs and associated cost-related risks. Approval authorities identified under this Directive will be consistent with delegated spending authorities and limits under the *Financial Administration Act*.

- Deputy Chief SIGINT will approve [REDACTED]

- The Chief, CSE will approve [REDACTED]

- Chief, CSE will seek my approval [REDACTED]



CSE may seek my approval for operations [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Operational Activities

Where necessary, CSE will work with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) and with other federal departments and agencies to coordinate operational activities across the Government.

CSE will collect and use metadata under the [REDACTED] program according to the principles enunciated in the *Collection and Use of Metadata* Ministerial Directive¹.

CSE will not direct program activities at Canadians anywhere or at any person in Canada and will apply procedures for the use and retention of communications and data acquired through this program consistent with CSE's existing procedures under other programs to protect the privacy of Canadians.

CSE will conduct its [REDACTED] program in compliance with all relevant legislative and policy instruments, including the Ministerial Directives on *Accountability Framework* and *Privacy of Canadians*.

CSE is authorized to share information, including metadata, acquired through this program with international allies to maximize its SIGINT and ITS activities, and strengthen Canada's partnerships abroad. Such sharing will be consistent with the direction provided in the Ministerial Directive on *Collection and Use of Metadata* and *Framework for Addressing Risks in Sharing Information with Foreign Entities*.

CSE will ensure that its [REDACTED] program proceeds with due regard to the
[REDACTED]

CSE will operate in a manner consistent with the Government's intent to limit its risks
[REDACTED]

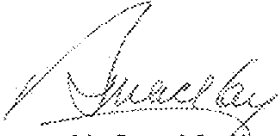
I expect CSE to conduct its [REDACTED] program in accordance with an explicit authority framework. In this regard, Chief CSE will ensure strict management monitoring and control of this program.

Activities undertaken pursuant to this Ministerial Directive will be subject to review by the CSE Commissioner as part of his mandate.

¹ In all cases, references to Ministerial Directives within the document refer to the most recently issued Ministerial Directives.

Finally, I expect that you will report to me regarding the status of this program on a yearly basis as part of CSE's Annual Report.

Dated at Ottawa, Ont this 26th day of November, 2012.


The Honourable Peter MacKay, P.C., M.P.
Minister of National Defence