



Office of the Chief  
Records Officer for the  
U.S. Government

***Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.***

April 14, 2023

Cecilia Wiker  
Defense Logistics Agency  
74 Washington Ave N  
Battle Creek, MI, 49037

Dear Cecilia Wiker,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) acknowledges receipt of the Defense Logistics Agency's (DLA) report regarding the loss of over 445 million records relating to Procurement, Tech Quality, and Real Property management.

According to the report and subsequent email conversations with NARA staff, the records were accidentally deleted due to improperly configured records retention rules. The majority of the records were routine financial documents with retention periods of less than 10 years. We understand that efforts were made to retrieve or reconstruct the records but were unsuccessful. We further understand that to prevent future loss of records DLA is developing procedures to confirm that valid backups and/or replication of data are being taken for all production databases and file systems. DLA is also reviewing its change management processes to ensure that DLA leadership is notified and approves of any changes to infrastructure or systems.

Based on this information, NARA is satisfied with the actions DLA has taken and considers this matter closed. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at [laurence.brewer@nara.gov](mailto:laurence.brewer@nara.gov).

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER  
Chief Records Officer

for the U.S. Government