

WASHINGTON—Earlier today, the Government Accountability Office announced its findings with regard to the protest of the KC-45A aerial refueling tanker competition. The KC-45A contract is for the development and procurement of up to 179 tanker aircraft, for approximately 35 billion dollars.

The Air Force is currently reviewing the GAO's decision that sustained portions of Boeing's protest. Once the review is complete, the Air Force will be in a position to determine the best course of action.

"The Air Force will do everything we can to rapidly move forward so America receives this urgently needed capability," said Sue C. Payton, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition). "The Air Force will select the best value tanker for our nation's defense, while being good stewards of the taxpayer dollar," said Payton.

"As soon as possible, we will provide the Air Force's way ahead. We appreciate the GAO's professionalism and thoroughness in its assessment of the protest of the KC-45A source selection," Payton said.