Reviewer's report

Title: Addressing conflicts of interest in Public Private Partnerships

Version: 2 Date: 21 June 2010

Reviewer: Joel Lexchin

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have answered most of my initial concerns but there are still a few issues that I feel need to be addressed.

Minor Essential Revisions:

If the authors feel that COIs in PPPs cannot be avoided then they should remove the word “avoided” from the Abstract.

In discussing an external monitor it is important to make the point that the external monitor should not be doing other work for the organization that might seem to be dependent on the outcome of the monitoring.

It's not clear to me why the authors chose to focus most of their conclusion on one issue, external monitoring and did not discuss things such as public disclosure of COIs, having a whistle blower policy, etc.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests