The chairman of the House Judiciary Committee demanded Tuesday that the attorney general provide an "immediate explanation" for a Justice Department decision that could have cost taxpayers up to \$40 million in royalties from a major oil company.

Michigan Democratic Rep. John Conyers' cited a McClatchy story Sept. 12 that detailed the department's rejection of the Colorado U.S. attorney's recommendation to intervene in a whistleblower's suit against the Kerr-McGee Corp.

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