From: Thomas Berard
To: USOGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Friday, June 17, 2022 5:55:45 PM

> I oppose OGE's proposed legal expense fund regulation as drafted. OGE should:
> - remove the exception that makes compliance with the regulation optional; - replace the proposed recusal requirement with a broader 5-year recusal requirement that prevents donors of cash gifts from influencing decisions, policies, or regulations affecting them or the industries in which they have substantial interests; - remove the offensive example involving an accused sexual harasser; and
> - place nonprofit charities (501(c)(3) organizations) on an equal footing with large law firms by allowing them to hire legal counsel for whistleblowers.

Tom Berard