From: Jennifer Johnston
To: USOGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 6:36:18 PM

To whom it may concern:
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.

As a United States Citizen living with disabilities, I have seen my voice in government diminished by wealthy special interest group's PACs and SuperPACs. If I require legal counsel, I must pay for it myself – no group fundraises on my behalf to pay my legal bills. As a citizen of this Country I comply with laws, rules and regulations, none of which are OPTIONAL. Compliance must be made mandatory.

This country is being destroyed by wealthy special interest groups that can hire expensive legal counsel for their defense of their offenses whistleblowers must be protected. Please make these changes and level the playing field for democracy.

Sincerely,
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