From: Matthew Baggott
To: USOGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Sunday, June 19, 2022 12:04:37 PM

I oppose OGE's proposed legal expense fund regulation as drafted. OGE should:
- Place nonprofit charities (501(c)(3) organizations) on an equal footing with large law firms by allowing them to hire legal counsel for whistleblowers;
- Remove the exception that makes compliance with the regulation optional as this tenders the regulation meaningless;
- 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; and
- Remove the example involving an accused sexual harasser, which is offensive.

Sincerely,
Matthew J. Baggott