From: Michele Matthews
To: USOGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Saturday, June 18, 2022 1:51:18 PM

I oppose OGE's proposed legal expense fund regulation as drafted.

OGE should

1. remove the exception that makes compliance with the regulation optional;
2. 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;
3. remove the offensive example involving an accused sexual harasser; and
4. place nonprofit charities (501(c)(3) organizations) on an equal footing with large law firms by allowing them to hire legal counsel for whistleblowers.

-- Michele Matthews, Massachusetts