From: Laura Tripp
To: Contact OGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Thursday, June 16, 2022 11:33:47 PM

To the OGE:

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.

It is high time to strengthen Ethics Requirements in Government, given the travesties that have occurred in recent years. Our high level Government officials must be held to the strongest of ethics rules.

There should be no Optional Ethics Rules for Government Officials. I urge you to make these changes to strengthen this regulation.

Thank you,

Laura Tripp
Williamsburg, VA