From: Mark Noel
To: Contact OGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Thursday, June 16, 2022 4:37:09 PM

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

- remove the exception that makes compliance with the regulation optional (as if optional compliance would have had even the SLIGHTEST effect on the previous administration, where we MOST needed strong, enforceable ethics rules);

- 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 (I mean, seriously?!?); and

- place nonprofit charities, including 501(c)(3) organizations, on an equal footing with large law firms by allowing them to hire legal counsel for whistleblowers.

Mark Noel
c: 603.387.7731