From: Linda Jordan Platt
To: Contact OGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Friday, June 17, 2022 10:02:36 AM

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As the Office of Government Ethics, your job is to "prevent financial conflicts of interest to help ensure government decisions are made free from personal financial bias" (Our Mission, Role and History.) The OGE legal expense fund regulation falls short of your stated mission.

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.

Thank you for considering my objection to this proposed rule and the suggested remedies.

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