From: Kim Carpenter
To: Contact OGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209–AA50)
Date: Friday, June 17, 2022 10:58:48 AM

ETHICS RULES SHOULD NOT BE OPTIONAL.

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.

Kim Carpenter
kimcarpenter@verizon.net
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https://kimcarpenterphotos.smugmug.com/
908-568-1169