**From:** Emily
**To:** Contact OGE
**Subject:** Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
**Date:** Thursday, June 16, 2022 3:47:37 PM

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Dear Office of Government Ethics,

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

I urge you to:

- 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.

Without these changes the rule contains giant loopholes that will allow for massive corruption. We need to strengthen ethics standards and accountability -- not weaken them! Please rewrite and improve this rule.

Thank you,

Emily Hardt

Somerville, MA