From: kathryn@westhillenergy.com
To: USOGE
Subject: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 11:28:08 AM

Ethics in government is critical for a functioning democracy. I oppose OGE's proposed legal expense fund regulation as drafted. OGE should do the following:

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

These are necessary steps to curbing the influence of money and large corporations on legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathryn Parlin
19 Thayer Ridge Rd.
Brattleboro, VT 05301
802-490-0172