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UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS



February 14, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

John Greenewald, Jr.

Owner/Founder

The Black Vault

<http://www.theblackvault.com>

Tracking No: OGE FOIA FY 17/109

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) is granting in part and denying in part your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, which was received by the OGE FOIA Office on January 17, 2017. In your request, you asked for “a copy of records, electronic or otherwise, of documents relating to the OGE website going down on January 13, 2017.”

As a response to your request, we are enclosing 10 pages, subject to deletions made in accordance with FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), as information the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The deletions are each marked with a reference “(b)(6)” in the enclosed copies.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact me by telephone at 202-482-9267. As OGE’s FOIA Public Liaison, I am available for assisting in reducing delays, increasing transparency and understanding of the status of requests, and assisting in the resolution of disputes. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

The OGE official responsible for this FOIA determination is the undersigned. In accordance with the FOIA, as codified at 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A), and OGE’s updated FOIA regulations, at 5 C.F.R. § 2604.304, you may administratively appeal this determination to the Program Counsel, U.S. Office of Government Ethics, 1201 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005-3917. Any such appeal must be in



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writing and must be sent within 90 days of the date you receive this response letter. If you do appeal, you should include copies of your request and this response, together with a statement of why you believe this initial determination is in error. Also, if you appeal, you should clearly indicate on the envelope and in the letter that it is a "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

Rachel K. Dowell
OGE FOIA Officer

Enclosures

From: [Uptime Robot](#)
To: [Timothy Mallon](#)
Subject: Monitor is DOWN: OGE Public Web site
Date: Friday, January 13, 2017 2:23:02 PM

Hi,

The monitor OGE Public Web site (<https://www.oge.gov>) is currently DOWN (Connection Timeout).

Uptime Robot will alert you when it is back up.

Sincerely,

Uptime Robot
<http://uptimerobot.com>
<http://twitter.com/uptimerobot>
<http://facebook.com/uptimerobot>

P.S. Get notified of downtime faster (1-minute checks) with the Pro Plan for only \$4.5/month (for details: <http://uptimerobot.com/pricing>).

From: [Uptime Robot](#)
To: [Timothy Mallon](#)
Subject: Monitor is DOWN: OGE Public Web site
Date: Friday, January 13, 2017 3:54:23 PM

Hi,

The monitor OGE Public Web site (<https://www.oge.gov>) is currently DOWN (Connection Timeout).

Uptime Robot will alert you when it is back up.

Sincerely,

Uptime Robot
<http://uptimerobot.com>
<http://twitter.com/uptimerobot>
<http://facebook.com/uptimerobot>

P.S. Get notified of downtime faster (1-minute checks) with the Pro Plan for only \$4.5/month (for details: <http://uptimerobot.com/pricing>).

From: [Uptime Robot](#)
To: [Timothy Mallon](#)
Subject: Monitor is DOWN: OGE Public Web site
Date: Friday, January 13, 2017 3:48:22 PM

Hi,

The monitor OGE Public Web site (<https://www.oge.gov>) is currently DOWN (Connection Timeout).

Uptime Robot will alert you when it is back up.

Sincerely,

Uptime Robot
<http://uptimerobot.com>
<http://twitter.com/uptimerobot>
<http://facebook.com/uptimerobot>

P.S. Get notified of downtime faster (1-minute checks) with the Pro Plan for only \$4.5/month (for details: <http://uptimerobot.com/pricing>).

From: [Uptime Robot](#)
To: [Timothy Mallon](#)
Subject: Monitor is UP: OGE Public Web site
Date: Friday, January 13, 2017 3:43:25 PM

Hi,

The monitor OGE Public Web site (<https://www.oge.gov>) is back UP (HTTP 200 - OK) (It was down for 1 hour, 20 minutes and 19 seconds).

Have a great day,

Uptime Robot
<http://uptimerobot.com>
<http://twitter.com/uptimerobot>
<http://facebook.com/uptimerobot>

P.S. Get notified of downtime faster (1-minute checks) with the Pro Plan for only \$4.5/month (for details: <http://uptimerobot.com/pricing>).

From: [Uptime Robot](#)
To: [Timothy Mallon](#)
Subject: Monitor is UP: OGE Public Web site
Date: Friday, January 13, 2017 3:55:36 PM

Hi,

The monitor OGE Public Web site (<https://www.oge.gov>) is back UP (HTTP 200 - OK) (It was down for 1 minutes and 12 seconds).

Have a great day,

Uptime Robot
<http://uptimerobot.com>
<http://twitter.com/uptimerobot>
<http://facebook.com/uptimerobot>

P.S. Get notified of downtime faster (1-minute checks) with the Pro Plan for only \$4.5/month (for details: <http://uptimerobot.com/pricing>).

From: [Uptime Robot](#)
To: [Timothy Mallon](#)
Subject: Monitor is UP: OGE Public Web site
Date: Friday, January 13, 2017 3:49:46 PM

Hi,

The monitor OGE Public Web site (<https://www.oge.gov>) is back UP (HTTP 200 - OK) (It was down for 1 minutes and 8 seconds).

Have a great day,

Uptime Robot
<http://uptimerobot.com>
<http://twitter.com/uptimerobot>
<http://facebook.com/uptimerobot>

P.S. Get notified of downtime faster (1-minute checks) with the Pro Plan for only \$4.5/month (for details: <http://uptimerobot.com/pricing>).

From: [Ty Cooper](#)
To: [Kehli Cage](#)
Subject: OGE FOIA FY 17/109-110
Date: Thursday, February 02, 2017 3:53:30 PM

Kelly...

From: Ty Cooper
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 4:57 PM
To: Contact OGE
Cc: Vincent Salamone; Leigh J. Francis
Subject: OGE Website

OGE is experiencing an enormous increase in traffic to our website. We don't have enough connections for everyone who wants to connect. (The line of visitors waiting to get in extends out the door and around the block.) New visitors cannot enter the site until someone leaves.

Best regards,

Ty Cooper, CISSP, CSCP
Chief Information Officer
US Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue NW, Suite 500
Washington DC 20005
(202) 482-9226 (desk)
(202) 905-3402 (cell)
ty.cooper@oge.gov

Keep calm and carry on.

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov
Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics

From: [Ty Cooper](#)
To: [Kehli Cage](#)
Subject: OGE FOIA FY 17/109-110
Date: Thursday, February 02, 2017 3:55:21 PM
Importance: High

Kehli...

From: Ty Cooper
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 2:41 PM
To: Vincent Salamone
Subject: FW: ABC News Inquiry
Importance: High

Vincent,

I'm forwarding this to you for response...High traffic has created a queue of connections to our website waiting to be processed.

Thanks.

Ty

From: Mallin, Alexander W. (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 2:24 PM
To: Ty Cooper
Subject: ABC News Inquiry

Hi Ty,

Can you comment on why the OGE.gov site is down? It appeared to go down right after the OGE Director posted a blog post titled "A Refresher on Misuse of Position."

Was this directly or indirectly meant for President-elect Donald Trump? Was it a reaction to a tweet he sent out yesterday appearing to endorse L.L. Bean?

And just revisiting my comment request earlier today, has there been any response yet to Chairman Chaffetz?

Thanks,

Alex

(b) (6)



From: [Ty Cooper](#)
To: [Kehli Cage](#)
Subject: OGE FOIA FY 17/109-110
Date: Thursday, February 02, 2017 3:55:58 PM

Kehli...

From: Mallin, Alexander W. (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 2:24 PM
To: Ty Cooper
Subject: ABC News Inquiry

Hi Ty,

Can you comment on why the OGE.gov site is down? It appeared to go down right after the OGE Director posted a blog post titled "A Refresher on Misuse of Position."

Was this directly or indirectly meant for President-elect Donald Trump? Was it a reaction to a tweet he sent out yesterday appearing to endorse L.L. Bean?

And just revisiting my comment request earlier today, has there been any response yet to Chairman Chaffetz?

Thanks,

Alex

(b) (6)