United States
Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW., Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917

February 15, 2011

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Issa:

This is in response to your January 25, 2011, request for information regarding the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) program at the U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE). Specifically, you requested the following information, records, and explanations.

1. Provide your agency's FOIA log(s) for the five years preceding the date of this letter, in Microsoft Excel or a similar format that allows sorting by column or information category, including at least the following information: (a) the name of the requester; (b) the date of the request; (c) a brief description of the documents or records sought by the request; (d) any tracking number assigned to the request by your agency pursuant to Section 7 of the OPEN Government Act of 2007; (e) the date the request was closed, if it is not still outstanding; (f) whether any records were provided in response to the request; and (g) any additional identification number or code assigned to the request by your agency for internal use.

> OGE has placed its FOIA logs for Fiscal Years 2006 through 2011 on the enclosed flashdrive. These logs were created in a Microsoft Word format and contain the six categories of information that you requested. On January 31, 2011, I spoke with Tegan Millspaw of your staff and she indicated that the Microsoft Word format was acceptable.

2. On each log provided in response to Request No. 1, identify each FOIA request to your agency that was submitted more than 45 days prior to the date of this letter and to which your agency has not yet issued a complete and final response.

> As of February 15, 2011, OGE does not have any pending FOIA requests that were received more than 45 days prior to the date of your letter. However, at the time we received your request, OGE did have one pending FOIA request, FOIA Number 11/17, which was more than 45 days old. We completed our work on this FOIA request and sent the requester a final response on February 1, 2011. If you would like additional information or documents regarding FOIA Number 11/17, which is listed on the FY 2011 OGE FOIA Log, please let me know.

3. For each FOIA request identified in response to Request No. 2, provide all communications between your agency and the requester.

> Because OGE does not currently have any pending FOIA requests that were received more than 45 days prior to the date of your letter, no documents are being provided in response to this question.

4. Identify any federal judicial action in which your agency, within the five years preceding the date of this letter, has been ordered by the court to pay any attorneys' fees or other litigation costs incurred by a FOIA requester under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(E) or under any similar law or regulation.

> OGE has not been ordered to pay any attorney's fees or other litigation costs incurred by a FOIA requester under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(E) or under any similar law or regulation in the five years preceding the date of your letter.

5. For each federal action identified in response to Request No. 4, provide a copy of the court order requiring your agency to pay attorney fees or other litigation costs.

> Because OGE has not been ordered to pay any attorney's fees or other litigation costs incurred by a FOIA requester under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(E) or under any similar law or regulation in the five years preceding the date of your letter, no documents are being provided in response to this question.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information regarding OGE's FOIA program.

Sincerely,

Elaine Newton

Elaine Newton
OGE FOIA Officer

Enclosure