

**ETHICS PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT**

Agency: Railroad Retirement Board (RRB)

Report No.: 21-431

Date: September 16, 2021

Period Covered by Review: January 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF  
**GOVERNMENT ETHICS**Preventing Conflicts of Interest  
in the Executive Branch

1.0 AGENCY DATA		
<b>EMPLOYEES</b>		
1.1	Number of full-time agency employees.	833
1.2	Number of Presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed (PAS) public financial disclosure reports required to be filed.	4
1.3	Number of non-PAS public financial disclosure reports required to be filed.	15
1.4	Number of confidential financial disclosure reports required to be filed.	2
<b>ETHICS PROGRAM</b>		
1.5	Title of Designated Agency Ethics Official (DAEO).	General Counsel
1.6	Grade level of DAEO.	SES
1.7	Title of Alternate DAEO (ADAEO).	Assistant General Counsel
1.8	Grade level of ADAEO.	GS-15
1.9	Title of the primary, day-to-day ethics program administrator.	Assistant General Counsel
1.10	Grade level of the primary, day-to-day ethics program administrator.	GS-15
1.11	Current number of full-time ethics officials.	0
1.12	Current number of part-time ethics officials.	4
1.13	Number of reporting levels between the DAEO and the agency head.	1
<b>COMMENTS</b>		
None.		

2.0 LEADERSHIP					
<b>COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS</b>			<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
2.1	OGE has received an up-to-date designation from the agency head naming the DAEO. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.107(a).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.2	OGE has received an up-to-date designation from the agency head naming the ADAEO. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.107(a).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>COMMENTS</b>					
None.					

3.0 PUBLIC FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE (OGE Form 278e, OGE Form 278-T)						
<b>COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS</b>				<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
The agency has written policies and procedures in place governing: <i>See</i> 5 U.S.C. app. IV, § 402(d)(1).						
3.1	• Collection of public financial disclosure reports.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3.2	• Review/evaluation of public financial disclosure reports.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3.3	• Public availability of public financial disclosure reports.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3.4	The agency can demonstrate that late filing fees are collected or, where appropriate, waivers are issued when public filers do not timely file financial disclosure reports.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3.5	Public financial disclosure reports are securely maintained. <i>See</i> OGE/GOVT-1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

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3.6	Public financial disclosure reports are retained in accordance with the retention requirements. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.603(g)(1).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.7	There is reasonable assurance that the lead human resources official or designee promptly (no later than 15 days after appointment) notifies the DAEO of all appointments to positions that require incumbents to file public financial disclosure reports. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.105(a)(1).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.8	There is reasonable assurance that the lead human resources official or designee promptly (no later than 15 days after termination) notified the DAEO of terminations of employees in positions that require incumbents to file public financial disclosure reports. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.105(a)(2).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>DATA ANALYSIS</b>		<b>%</b>		
3.9	Percentage of sampled non-PAS new entrant reports filed timely. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(b).	100%		
3.10	Percentage of sampled non-PAS annual reports filed timely. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(a).	100%		
3.11	Percentage of sampled non-PAS termination reports filed timely. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(e).	100%		
3.12	Percentage of sampled non-PAS public financial disclosure reports reviewed within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).	100%		
3.13	Percentage of sampled non-PAS public financial disclosure reports certified within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).	100%		
3.14	Percentage of sampled PAS annual reports filed timely. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(a).	100%		
3.15	Percentage of sampled PAS termination reports filed timely. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(e).	N/A		
3.16	Percentage of sampled PAS annual and termination reports reviewed within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).	100%		
3.17	Percentage of sampled PAS annual and termination reports certified within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).	100%		
<b>COMMENTS</b>				
<p><b>3.4:</b> All of the reports required to be filed during the period covered by the inspection were filed timely.</p> <p><b>3.15:</b> No PAS terminations reports were required to be filed during the period covered by the inspection.</p>				

<b>4.0</b>	<b>CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE</b>			
	<b>COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	The agency has written policies and procedures in place governing: <i>See</i> 5 U.S.C app. IV, § 402(d)(1).			
4.1	• Collection of confidential financial disclosure reports.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.2	• Review/evaluation of confidential financial disclosure reports.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.3	Confidential financial disclosure reports are securely maintained. <i>See</i> OGE/GOVT-2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4	Confidential financial disclosure reports are retained in accordance with the retention requirements. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.604.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.5	The agency's OGE-approved alternative confidential financial disclosure system complies with plans approved by OGE. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.905(a).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.6	There is reasonable assurance that the lead human resources official or designee promptly (no later than 15 days after appointment) notifies the DAEO of all appointments to positions that require incumbents to file confidential financial disclosure reports. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.105(a)(1).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>DATA ANALYSIS</b>		<b>%</b>		
4.7	Percentage of sampled confidential new entrant reports filed timely. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.903(b).	N/A		
4.8	Percentage of sampled confidential annual reports filed timely. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.903(a).	100%		

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4.9	Percentage of sampled reports reviewed within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).	100%
4.10	Percentage of sampled confidential financial disclosure reports certified within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2634.605(a) and 2634.909(a).	100%
<b>COMMENTS</b>		
<p><b>4.1:</b> RRB's written procedures for administering the confidential financial disclosure system did not address the collection of new entrant reports when OGE began its inspection. Ethics officials amended the procedures after the issue was noted and the procedures are now in compliance with applicable requirements.</p> <p><b>4.5:</b> RRB does not have an OGE-approved alternative financial disclosure system.</p> <p><b>4.7:</b> No new entrant reports were required to be filed during the period covered by the inspection.</p>		

5.0 NOTICES TO PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES						
COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS				Yes	No	N/A
Written offers of employment for positions covered by the Standards of Conduct provide: <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.303.						
5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A statement regarding the agency's commitment to government ethics.</li> </ul>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notice that the individual will be subject to the Standards of Conduct and the criminal conflict of interest statutes as an employee.</li> </ul>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact information for an appropriate agency ethics office or an explanation of how to obtain additional information on applicable ethics requirements.</li> </ul>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where applicable, notice of the time frame for completing initial ethics training.</li> </ul>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where applicable, a statement regarding financial disclosure requirements and an explanation that new entrant reports must be filed within 30 days of appointment.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5.6	The agency has established written procedures for issuing the notice to prospective employees. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.303(c).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5.7	The agency's written procedures are reviewed by the DAEO each year. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.303(c).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5.8	The agency can demonstrate that there is an effective process for ensuring all covered employees receive the required information with their written offer of employment. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.303.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>COMMENTS</b>						
<p><b>5.1, 5.8:</b> RRB's written offers of employment did not include the required agency statement regarding its commitment to government ethics nor the required statement regarding financial disclosure requirements at the time OGE began its inspection. After OGE raised these issues, RRB revised written procedures and templates to include the required information. RRB provided examples of notices sent to prospective employees while OGE was conducting its inspection. OGE examined the notices and determined that they included all required information.</p> <p><b>5.5:</b> None of the notices to prospective employees available for examination involved a position whose incumbent would be required to file a financial disclosure report.</p>						

6.0 NOTICES TO NEW SUPERVISORS						
COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS				Yes	No	N/A
The agency must provide each employee upon initial appointment to a supervisory position with: <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.306.						
6.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact information for the agency's ethics office.</li> </ul>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The text of 5 C.F.R. § 2638.103.</li> </ul>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A copy of, a hyperlink to, or the address of a Web site containing the Principles of Ethical Conduct.</li> </ul>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other information the DAEO deems necessary.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

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6.5	The agency has established written procedures for supervisory ethics notices. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.306(d).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.6	The agency's written procedures are reviewed by the DAEO each year. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.306(d).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.7	The agency can demonstrate that there is an effective process for ensuring that new supervisors receive the required information within one year of appointment. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.306(b).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>COMMENTS</b>				
<p><b>6.1, 6.3, 6.7:</b> RRB's written offers of employment did not include all required information at the time OGE began its inspection. However, RRB apparently realized this while preparing for the inspection and acted proactively by creating a new template for the notice to new supervisors, which does include all required content. Further, RRB later provided the newly revised template as a sample notice after recently issuing it to all supervisors appointed in the last year. Moving forward, RRB explains that this notice will be both issued when new supervisors are hired and again during ethics training. OGE's examination determined that this notice included all required information.</p> <p><b>6.4:</b> The DAEO did not deem any other information necessary.</p> <p><b>6.6:</b> The DAEO did not review the written procedures for notices to prospective employees annually. However, RRB provided updated written procedures that now cover this requirement during OGE's review. OGE will conduct a follow-up review to verify that the DAEO annually reviews all ethics-related written procedures that require an annual review.</p>				

7.0 INITIAL ETHICS TRAINING						
COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS				Yes	No	N/A
Each new employee of the agency subject to the Standards of Conduct must complete initial ethics training. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304.						
7.1	The training presentation(s) addressed concepts related to conflicts of interest, impartiality, misuse of position and gifts. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(e)(1).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
7.2	The agency provided new employees with either the following written materials or written instruction for accessing them: The summary of the Standards of Conduct distributed by the Office of Government Ethics or an equivalent summary prepared by the agency; provisions of any supplemental agency regulation that the DAEO determines to be relevant or a summary of those provisions; such other written materials as the DAEO determines should be included; instructions for contacting the agency's ethics officials. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(e)(2).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
7.3	The agency has established written procedures for initial ethics training. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(f).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
7.4	The agency's written procedures are reviewed by the DAEO each year. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(f).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>DATA ANALYSIS</b>				<b>%</b>		
7.5	Percentage of new employees who received initial ethics training. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304.				100%	
7.6	Percentage of new employees who received initial ethics training within three months of appointment. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(b).				100%	
<b>COMMENTS</b>						
<p><b>7.4:</b> The DAEO did not review the written procedures for initial ethics training annually. However, RRB provided updated written procedures that now cover this requirement during OGE's review. OGE will conduct a follow-up review to verify that the DAEO annually reviews all ethics-related written procedures that require an annual review.</p>						

8.0 ANNUAL ETHICS TRAINING						
COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS				Yes	No	N/A
Each calendar year, public filers, confidential filers, and certain other employees must complete ethics training which meets specified requirements. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.307 and 2638.308.						
8.1	The training presentation(s) addressed concepts related to financial conflicts of interest, impartiality, misuse of position and gifts. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.307(e)(1) and 2638.308(f)(1).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

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8.2	The agency provided employees with either the following written materials or written instruction for accessing them: The summary of the Standards of Conduct distributed by the Office of Government Ethics or an equivalent summary prepared by the agency; provisions of any supplemental agency regulation that the DAEO determines to be relevant or a summary of those provisions; such other written materials as the DAEO determines should be included; instructions for contacting the agency's ethics officials. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(e)(2).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.3	The agency's annual ethics training complies with the formatting requirements for public filers, confidential filers, and certain other employees. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.307(d) and 2638.308(e).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.4	The agency's program for annual ethics training complies with the tracking requirements for public filers, confidential filers, and certain other employees. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.307(f) and 2638.308(g).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.5	The agency can demonstrate it has an effective process for ensuring covered public filers, other than those whose pay is set at Level I or Level II of the Executive Schedule, complete live annual ethics training at least once every two years. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.308(e)(2).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>DATA ANALYSIS</b>		<b>Training Format</b>		
		<b>Live</b>	<b>Interactive</b>	
Percentage of public filers who completed annual ethics training before the end of the calendar year. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.308(a).				
8.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Schedule Level I and Level II. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.308(e)(1).</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	
8.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other PAS and Equivalent. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.308(e)(2).</li> </ul>	100%	0%	
8.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SES and Equivalent. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.308(e)(3).</li> </ul>	100%	0%	
Percentage of confidential filers and certain other employees who completed annual ethics training before the end of the calendar year. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(d).				
8.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees required to file an annual confidential financial disclosure report. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(1).</li> </ul>	100%	0%	
8.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees appointed by the President. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(2).</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	
8.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees of the Executive Office of the President. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(2).</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	
8.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contracting officers described in 41 U.S.C. § 2101. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(3).</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	
8.13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other employees designated by the head of the agency. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(4).</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	
<b>COMMENTS</b>				
<p><b>8.6:</b> RRB does not have any Schedule I or II positions.  <b>8.10 - 8.11, 8.13:</b> RRB does not have any employees in these categories.  <b>8.12:</b> RRB does have 1, but they are a 450 filer and are included in 8.9.</p>				

### 9.0 ETHICS ADVICE AND COUNSELING

<b>COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
9.1	Based on a sample collected by OGE, guidance provided by agency ethics officials to employees appears to be consistent with applicable laws and regulations. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.104(c)(4).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>COMMENTS</b>				
None.				

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### 10.0 SPECIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES (SGE) SERVING ON ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

#### Confidential Financial Disclosure

10.1	Number of SGEs serving on Advisory Committees and Boards.	N/A
	<b>DATA ANALYSIS</b>	<b>%</b>
10.2	Percentage of sampled confidential new entrant reports filed timely. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.903(b).	N/A
10.3	Percentage of sampled reports reviewed within 60 days of receipt but not later than the SGE's first meeting. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).	N/A
10.4	Percentage of sampled reports certified within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).	N/A

#### Ethics Training

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS		Yes	No	N/A
	Required ethics training must be provided to each SGE. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.304 and 2638.307.			
10.5	The training presentation(s) addressed concepts related to conflicts of interest, impartiality, misuse of position and gifts. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(e)(1).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10.6	The agency provided employees with either the following written materials or written instruction for accessing them: The summary of the Standards of Conduct distributed by the Office of Government Ethics or an equivalent summary prepared by the agency; provisions of any supplemental agency regulation that the DAEO determines to be relevant or a summary of those provisions; such other written materials as the DAEO determines should be included; instructions for contacting the agency's ethics officials. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(e)(2).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<b>DATA ANALYSIS</b>	<b>%</b>		
10.7	Percentage of SGEs who received initial ethics training. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304.	N/A		
10.8	Percentage of SGEs who received initial ethics training timely. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(b)(2).	N/A		
10.9	Percentage of SGEs who received annual ethics training. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(d)(2).	N/A		
	<b>COMMENTS</b>			
	<b>10.1-10.9:</b> RRB has no SGE positions.			

### ISSUES IDENTIFIED AND RESOLVED DURING THE INSPECTION

Element	ISSUE
4.1	<u>ISSUE:</u> RRB's written procedures for administering the confidential financial disclosure system did not address the collection of new entrant reports when OGE began its inspection. Ethics officials amended the procedures after the issue was noted and the procedures are now in compliance with applicable requirements.
5.1, 5.8	<u>ISSUE:</u> (This issue was initially included as a recommendation; however, after having received OGE's draft report for comment RRB initiated corrective action that resolved the issue.) RRB's written offers of employment did not include the required agency statement regarding its commitment to government ethics nor the required statement regarding financial disclosure requirements at the time OGE began its inspection. After OGE raised these issues, RRB revised written procedures and templates to include the required information. RRB provided examples of notices sent to prospective employees while OGE was conducting its inspection. OGE examined the notices and determined that they included all required information.

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AGENCY RESPONSE:

(This issue was initially drafted as a recommendation, as noted above. It is within that context that RRB responded.)

The RRB concurs with this recommendation. We have revised our procedures and templates for written offers of employment to include all required information. We have provided samples of post-revision offers of employment for employees not required to file financial disclosures. The RRB has not extended any offers of employment for positions with a financial disclosure requirement since the inspection.

ISSUE:

(This issue was initially included as a recommendation; however, after having received OGE's draft report for comment RRB initiated corrective action that resolved the issue.)

RRB's written offers of employment did not include all required information at the time OGE began its inspection. However, RRB apparently realized this while preparing for the inspection and acted proactively by creating a new template for the notice to new supervisors, which does include all required information. Further, RRB later provided the newly revised template as a sample notice after recently issuing it to all supervisors appointed in the last year. Moving forward, RRB explains that this notice will be both issued when new supervisors are hired and again during ethics training. OGE's examination determined that this notice included all required information.

6.1, 6.3,  
6.7

AGENCY RESPONSE:

(This issue was initially drafted as a recommendation, as noted above. It is within that context that RRB responded.)

The RRB concurs with this recommendation. We have revised the initial notice to new supervisors to include all required information. The ethics staff conducted live real-time training for all new supervisors appointed within the past year in early September 2021 and provided the revised notice to all attendees for the training. We intend to continue to provide the revised notice to new supervisors at the time of appointment and again at the annual live training. We have also updated our procedures and our ethics calendar to ensure the DAEO reviews these written procedures at least annually.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

#	Element	RECOMMENDATION	Compliance Due
1	6.3, 7.4	<p><u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Ensure the DAEO annually reviews all ethics-related written procedures as required.</p> <p><u>AGENCY RESPONSE:</u> The RRB concurs with this recommendation. We have updated our procedures and our ethics calendar to ensure the DAEO reviews all written procedures at least annually.</p>	