

REQUEST UNDER NEVADA PUBLIC RECORDS LAW

April 9, 2019

Public Records Coordinator
Office of the Attorney General
100 N. Carson St.
Carson City, NV 89701

By Electronic Mail: agrecordsreq@ag.nv.gov

Re: Certain Correspondence

Dear Sir or Madam:

On behalf of the public policy group Energy Policy Advocates (EPA), recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit public policy institute under § 501(c)(3) the Internal Revenue Code, and pursuant to the Nevada Public Records Act, please provide copies of all correspondence connected with the transaction of public business that a) was sent to or from or copies (whether as cc: or bcc:) any non-official email account(s) for the following officials, be it Gmail or other, i) Christine Brady, ii) Caroline Bateman, iii) Jessica Adair, iv) Heidi Parry Stern, and/or v) Rachel Anderson that b) is also sent to or from or copies (again whether as cc: or bcc:), i) djh466@nyu.edu, ii) davidjhayes01@gmail.com, iii) david.hayes@nyu.edu, iv) ek3041@nyu.edu, and/or v) elizabeth.klein@nyu.edu, and is c) dated between January 1, 2019 and the date you process this request, inclusive.

We request entire threads of which any responsive correspondence is a part, regardless whether any portion falls outside of the above time parameter.

Any records meeting this description are presumptively work-related by virtue of the parties involved. Specifically, Mr. David Hayes and Ms. Elizabeth (Liz) Klein are employees of an organization created for the purpose of working with state attorneys general offices. Further, these parties have a documented pattern of corresponding with office of attorneys general officials (including with attorneys general) on this specific, inherently work-related project of theirs by using AGs' and other officials' non-official email accounts. Communications made on personal cellphones or personal email addresses related to the provision of a public service are public records under the Nevada Public Records Act. *Comstock Residents Association v. Lyon County Board of Commissioners*, 134 Nev. Adv. Op. 19, 414 P.3d 318 (2018).

We understand that a public body may charge a fee for the cost of the search, examination, review, copying, separation of confidential from nonconfidential information, and mailing costs. If your Office expects to seek a charge associated with the searching, copying or production of these records, please provide an estimate of anticipated costs. Given EPA's non-profit and public interest nature and intention to broadly disseminate relevant findings, EPA requests a waiver or reduction of any applicable fees.

We do not demand your Office produce requested information in any particular form, instead **we request records in their native form, with specific reference to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Data Delivery Standards.**¹ The covered information we seek is electronic information, this includes electronic *records*, and other public *information*.

To quote the SEC Data Delivery Standards, "Electronic files must be produced in their native format, i.e. the format in which they are ordinarily used and maintained during the normal

¹ <https://www.sec.gov/divisions/enforce/datadeliverystandards.pdf>.

course of business. For example, an MS Excel file must be produced as an MS Excel file rather than an image of a spreadsheet. *(Note: An Adobe PDF file is not considered a native file unless the document was initially created as a PDF.)*” (emphases in original).

In many native-format productions, certain public information remains contained in the record (e.g., metadata). Under the same standards, to ensure production of all information requested, if your production will be de-duplicated it is vital that you 1) preserve any unique metadata associated with the duplicate files, for example, custodian name, and, 2) make that unique metadata part of your production.

Native file productions may be produced without load files. However, native file productions must maintain the integrity of the original meta data, and must be produced as they are maintained in the normal course of business and organized by custodian-named file folders. A separate folder should be provided for each custodian.

In the event that necessity requires your Office to produce a PDF file, due to your normal program for redacting certain information and such that native files cannot be produced as they are maintained in the normal course of business, in order to provide all requested information each PDF file should be produced in separate folders named by the custodian, *and* accompanied by a load file to ensure the requested information appropriate for that discrete record is associated with that record. The required fields and format of the data to be provided within the load file can be found in Addendum A of the above-cited SEC Data Standards. All produced PDFs must be text searchable.

In responding to this request, please consider that Nev. Rev. Stat § 239.010 (3) does not permit a government entity to deny access to a request on the basis that information is

confidential if the entity can redact, delete, conceal, or separate confidential information from information that is otherwise not confidential.

We look forward to your response and should you have any questions, feel free to reach me at ncornettlaw@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neal Cornett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Neal Cornett
Government Accountability and Oversight