



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

September 10, 2021

Abraham Payton
Due Diligence Group, LLC
20711 Holt Avenue, # 982
Suite 1401
Lakeville, MN 55044

Via email: records@duediligencegroupllc.com

RE: HQ-2021-00727-F

Dear Mr. Payton:

This is the final response to the request for information that you sent to the Department of Energy (DOE) under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. You requested the following:

Perry's Emails Referencing Glenn Youngkin: I am requesting releasable incoming-and-outgoing email correspondence of Secretary Rick Perry's that reference "Youngkin" or "Glenn Youngkin" between March 2, 2017, and December 1, 2019.

Records of a Meeting Between Perry and Youngkin: I am requesting records of a meeting (e.g. calendars, notes, agendas, photos, promotional materials, etc.) between Secretary Rick Perry and Glenn Youngkin on August 23, 2017.

Brouillette's Emails Referencing Glenn Youngkin: I am requesting releasable incoming-and-outgoing email correspondence of Dan Brouillette's that reference "Youngkin" or "Glenn Youngkin" between August 8, 2017, and January 20, 2021. Brouillette served as United States Secretary of Energy and the United States Deputy Secretary of Energy.

Menezes' Emails Referencing Glenn Youngkin: I am requesting releasable incoming-and-outgoing email correspondence of Mark Menezes' that reference "Youngkin" or "Glenn Youngkin" between November 6, 2017, and January 20, 2021. Menezes served United States Deputy Secretary of Energy and Under Secretary of Energy for Energy and Environment.

Your request was assigned to DOE's Office of the Secretary (ES) to search for responsive documents to the request. The search started on July 14, 2021 which is the cutoff date for responsive records. ES has completed its search and identified two (2) documents responsive to your request. The document is being released to you in the accompanying



index.

Upon review, DOE has determined that certain information should be withheld from the document pursuant to Exemption 6 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6).

Exemption 6 is generally referred to as the “personal privacy” exemption; it provides that the disclosure requirements of FOIA do not apply to “personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). In applying Exemption 6, the DOE considered: 1) whether a significant privacy interest would be invaded; 2) whether the release of the information would further the public interest by shedding light on the operations or activities of the Government; and 3) whether in balancing the privacy interests against the public interest, disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy.

The information withheld under Exemption 6 consists of a cell phone number. This information qualifies as “similar files” because it is information in which an individual has a privacy interest. Moreover, releasing the information could subject the individuals to unwarranted or unsolicited communications. Since no public interest would be served by disclosing this information, and since there is a viable privacy interest that would be threatened by such disclosure, Exemption 6 authorizes withholding the information. Therefore, we have determined that the public interest in the information’s release does not outweigh the overriding privacy interests in keeping it confidential.

This satisfies the standard set forth at 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(8)(A) that agencies shall withhold information under FOIA “only if (I) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption...; or (II) disclosure is prohibited by law...” 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(8)(A) also provides that whenever full disclosure of a record is not possible, agencies shall “consider whether partial disclosure of information is possible...and (II) take reasonable steps necessary to segregate and release nonexempt information.” Therefore, we have determined that, in certain instances, a partial disclosure is proper.

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7(b)(2), I am the individual responsible for the determination to withhold the information described above. The FOIA requires that “any reasonably segregable portion of a record shall be provided to any person requesting such record after deletion of the portions which are exempt,” 5 U.S.C. § 552(b). As a result, a redacted version of the documents is being released to you in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7(b)(3).

This determination, as well as the adequacy of the search, may be appealed within 90 calendar days from your receipt of this letter pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8. Appeals should be addressed to Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals, HG-1, L’Enfant Plaza, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585-1615. The written appeal, including the envelope, must clearly indicate that a FOIA appeal is being made. You may also submit your appeal to OHA.filings@hq.doe.gov, including the phrase “Freedom of Information Appeal” in the subject line (this is the

preferred method by the Office of Hearings and Appeals). The appeal must contain all of the elements required by 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8, including a copy of the determination letter. Thereafter, judicial review will be available to you in the Federal District Court either: 1) in the district where you reside; 2) where you have your principal place of business; 3) where DOE's records are situated; or 4) in the District of Columbia.

You may contact DOE's FOIA Public Liaison, Alexander Morris, FOIA Officer, Office of Public Information, at 202-586-5955, or by mail at MA-46/Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. 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 FOIA provides for the assessment of fees for the processing of requests. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(i); *see also* 10 C.F.R. § 1004.9(a). In our May 20, 2021 letter, you were advised that your request was placed in the "commercial" category for fee purposes. Requesters in this category are charged for search, review, and duplication costs associated with the processing of your request. Because DOE did not meet the statutory 20-day limit to respond, all costs for search time is waived. However, you will be charged \$88.95 for review of this case. This amount is based on one (1) hour of FOIA analyst review time at \$34.34 per hour and 1 hour of legal review time at \$42.34, and 16% overhead costs. You will receive a separate bill for this amount.

If you have any questions about the processing of the request or this letter, you may contact Ms. Chidinma Nwosu or me at:

MA-46/ Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585
(202) 586-5955.

I appreciate the opportunity to assist you with this matter.

Sincerely,

Alexander C. Morris
Morris

Digitally signed by
Alexander C. Morris
Date: 2021.09.10
09:26:59 -04'00'

Alexander C. Morris
FOIA Officer
Office of Public Information

Enclosures

INDEX

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Final Response for request from Mr. Abraham Payton (Due Diligence Group, LLC) for:

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DOE's Office of the Secretary (ES) has identified two (2) documents responsive to your request.

- One (1) document *is released in its entirety*.
- One (1) document *is released pursuant to Exemption 6*.

From: [Meridian International Center](#)
To: [Brouillette, Dan](#)
Subject: Attend the Meridian Global Leadership Summit | 10.20.2017
Date: Tuesday, September 26, 2017 2:42:45 PM



Meridian International Center is pleased to extend this invitation to the

MERIDIAN GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

ADVANCING NATIONAL INTERESTS IN A GLOBALIZED SOCIETY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2017 | 8:00 am Registration | 8:30 – 11:00 am Program

The Pavilion | Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW | Washington, DC 20004

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

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Meridian International Center

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CBS News

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For sponsorship and additional
information, please contact Frank Justice
at (202) 939-5583 or
forums@meridian.org

MERIDIAN.ORG/SUMMIT2017

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

A premise exists in the United States and around the world that there is a binary choice between globalization and nationalism, and that our nation must choose one path or the other. A reluctance to acknowledge the economic stagnation of a large segment of the American population and a failure to articulate the benefits of global alliances has forged the country down a divergent road. This need not be the case. U.S. businesses, governments and civil society possess the resilience and ingenuity to adapt to evolving economic and societal landscapes. Likewise, American principles remain valued and sought after on a world stage. Through collaboration among these sectors, the United States can and should continue to serve as a global leader, while concurrently elevating the security and economic prosperity of all Americans from the country's heartland to her coastlines.

The 6th Annual Meridian Global Leadership Summit will explore the importance of international engagement and how the United States can more effectively utilize its global leadership position to benefit the entire nation. In particular, the Summit will examine:

- Balancing domestic and international priorities;
- Opportunities and challenges of global commerce, technology and security;
- Key drivers of stability and instability; and
- Business leadership.

Meridian Global Leadership Summit



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(202) 292-2288
1630 Crescent Place, NW
Washington, DC | 20009 US

This email was sent to dan.brouillette@hq.doe.gov.
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From: [Meridian Development](#)
To: [Brouillette, Dan](#)
Subject: AN INVITATION for Deputy Secretary, Mr. Dan R. Brouillette: The 49th Annual Meridian Ball | October 20, 2017
Date: Monday, October 2, 2017 3:59:27 PM
Attachments: [image010.png](#)
[image016.png](#)
[49th Annual Meridian Ball Complimentary Invitation - October 20, 2017.pdf](#)

Dear Mr. Brouillette,

On behalf of Ambassador Stuart Holliday and the 2017 Meridian Ball Chairs, please find below an invitation for the 49th Annual Meridian Ball & Global Leadership Summit on **Friday, October 20**. I understand there are many demands on your time, but we would be delighted to have you attend as our guest.

[Meridian International Center](#) is a non-profit, non-partisan global leadership and public diplomacy center that prepares U.S. and international leaders to meet global challenges and opportunities. The annual Meridian Ball brings together guests from the diplomatic, business and public sectors for intimate Ambassador-hosted dinners around Washington followed by dancing, dessert and conversation at Meridian House. **Please see electronic invitation attached to this email with information on registration and event details.**

If you have any questions, please contact Olivia Dorieux at 202-939-5982 or odorieux@meridian.org.

Sincerely,
Lizzy



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House Speaker Paul Ryan and Mrs. Janna Ryan

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The Honorable James A. Baker, III

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The Honorable Tom C. Korologos
and The Honorable Ann McLaughlin Korologos

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Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Florance
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request the pleasure of your company at the

forty-ninth annual
MERIDIAN BALL

Meridian International Center
District of Columbia
Complimentary Valet Parking | Black Tie

Friday
OCTOBER 20
2017

For additional information
Call 202.939.5892 or
Visit www.meridian.org/ball



BE OUR GUEST



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friday
OCTOBER 20
2017

For additional information
Call 202.939.5892 or
Visit www.meridian.org/ball

MERIDIAN BALL & DINNER DETAILS

AMBASSADOR-HOSTED DINNER

7:00 PM

You will receive your dinner invitation from your
designated embassy host via email

49TH ANNUAL MERIDIAN BALL

9:30 PM | Dessert & Dancing

Meridian House | 1630 Crescent Place, NW
Washington, District of Columbia

 **RSVP TO BALL** 

This complimentary invitation admits two and is non-transferable. The favor of your reply is requested by October 10, 2017.
To RSVP or for additional information, please contact: Olivia Dorieux | (t) 202-939-5892 | odorieux@meridian.org

INCLUDES PARTICIPATION IN THE

MERIDIAN GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
RESTORING CONFIDENCE IN LEADERS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2017

8:00 AM REGISTRATION | 8:30 – 11:00 AM PROGRAM

The Pavilion | Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW | Washington, District of Columbia
Continental Breakfast | Business Attire

 **RSVP TO SUMMIT** 

For additional information, visit www.meridian.org/summit or contact: Frank Justice | (t) 202-939-5583 | fjustice@meridian.org

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Meridian relies on public, private, individual, and foundation support to sustain its programs and activities. It occupies a four-acre campus that includes the historic Meridian and White-Meyer Houses, both of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the District of Columbia's Inventory of Historic Sites.

MERIDIAN INTERNATIONAL CENTER IS A 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION. PROCEEDS FROM THIS YEAR'S BALL AND SUMMIT WILL SUPPORT MERIDIAN'S ONGOING EFFORTS TO ADVANCE EFFECTIVE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP THROUGH EXCHANGE, FORUMS, CULTURAL DIPLOMACY, AND TRAINING PROGRAMS.

ABOUT THE MERIDIAN GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

The Meridian Global Leadership Summit brings together top policy makers, subject matter experts, diplomats, business leaders, and members of the media to explore more efficient, effective ways to address global economic and societal challenges. The 2017 Summit will examine "Advancing National Interests in a Globalized Society."

A premise exists in the United States and around the world that there is a binary choice between globalization and nationalism, and that our nation must choose one path or the other. A reluctance to acknowledge the economic stagnation of a large segment of the American population and a failure to articulate the benefits of global alliances has forged the country down a divergent road. This need not be the case. U.S. businesses, governments and civil society possess the resilience and ingenuity to adapt to evolving economic and societal landscapes. Likewise, American principles remain valued and sought after on a world stage. Through collaboration among these sectors, the United States can and should continue to serve as a global leader, while concurrently elevating the security and economic prosperity of all Americans from the country's heartland to her coastlines.

The 6th Annual Meridian Global Leadership Summit will explore the importance of international engagement and how the United States can more effectively utilize its global leadership position to benefit the entire nation. Government, business and civil society visionaries from across the political spectrum and around the world will clarify and address growing domestic and worldwide concerns with globalization. In particular, the Summit will explore: balancing domestic priorities with global issues; protecting borders while strengthening international commerce; and maintaining a tech advantage in an age of increasing cyber threats and opportunities.

MERIDIAN GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT ADVANCING NATIONAL INTERESTS IN A GLOBALIZED SOCIETY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2017

8:00 AM REGISTRATION | 8:30 – 11:00 AM PROGRAM

The Pavilion | Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center | 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW | Washington, DC 20004

TO RSVP OR FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, VISIT MERIDIAN.ORG OR CONTACT:
FRANK JUSTICE | (T) 202-939-5583 | FJUSTICE@MERIDIAN.ORG



Lizzy Ramey

Development Coordinator

Meridian International Center

1630 Crescent Place, NW, Washington, DC 20009

T. (202) 939-5560 | C. (b) (6) | F. (202) 667-8980 | www.meridian.org

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