



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 31, 2017

The Honorable Trey Gowdy
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Gowdy and Ranking Member Cummings:

I write in response to your October 17, 2017, letter to the Department of Energy (DOE) regarding the use of government-owned or private non-commercial aircraft by DOE non-career officials. This is a follow-up request to your September 26, 2017 letter on the same topic.

For the time period identified in your October 17, 2017 letter, January 1, 2016 to January 19, 2017, the Department has identified one instance when a DOE non-career official used private non-commercial aircraft and has identified three instances when DOE non-career officials used government-owned aircraft or chartered aircraft. The enclosed documents contain the requested information for each of the identified trips. During the time period in question, senior DOE non-career officials may have also traveled with the President and the Vice President on government-owned aircraft and with senior officials from other agencies. This response does not address this travel as such travel arrangements would not have been made by DOE. This response also does not address any personal travel that may have occurred on private non-commercial aircraft for which there was no taxpayer or DOE involvement.

I hope this information will be helpful to you and to the Committee. If you have any additional questions, please contact Mr. Marty Dannenfelser, Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs in DOE's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 586-5450.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Fygi".

Eric J. Fygi
Deputy General Counsel

Enclosures





Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

February 24, 2016

Office of the Deputy Secretary

MEMORANDUM FOR: ERIC J. FYCH
DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

THROUGH: GLEN F. WATTMAN *GFW*
SENIOR AVIATION OFFICIAL
OFFICE OF AVIATION MANAGEMENT

FROM: TIMOTHY MCCLBES *TMM*
CHIEF OF STAFF
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

SUBJECT: Request for Official Travel on Learjet Model 75,
Deputy Secretary Sherwood-Randall and Staff, March 8, 2016

Deputy Secretary of Energy Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall and staff are scheduled to use a Learjet Model 75, operated by Southern Company, for official travel originating from Augusta, GA (AGS) to Meridian, MS (MBI), and from Meridian, MS to Atlanta Hartsfield Airport (ATL) on March 8, 2016. The Deputy Secretary is scheduled to visit Southern Company and attend a tour and briefing of projects at their Vogtle and Kemper Plants on that date.

Travel on the Southern Company aircraft is most time effective because it will save over 10 hours time in route and will preclude the need for travel and lodging for one day for the Deputy Secretary and her accompanying staff. Moreover, if the delegation were to fly commercial, it would require multiple connections, and a missed connecting flight might result in additional lodging and time based on limited flight availability.

The following individuals are to be manifested:

Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall, Deputy Secretary of Energy, U.S. DOE
Katie Clarkin, U.S. DOE
Wayne Smith, U.S. DOE

As travel-approving authority, I have determined other modes of transportation will not meet the Deputy Secretary's schedule requirements as she has meeting commitments the next day in Arizona. The additional travel, lodging, and per diem expenses, are cost comparative.

The costs associated with use of the Southern Company aircraft are ~~\$4,770~~ ^{2,385 (1/3 3/2/16)}. DOE will reimburse Southern Company for use of its aircraft.



RECOMMENDATION: Senior Aviation Official and General Counsel sign memo to approve travel on Southern Company aircraft for this visit.

ERIC J. FYGI
Deputy General Counsel

APPROVE: [Signature] DISAPPROVE: _____

DATE: 2-26-16

Attachments
Agenda

cc: MA-10
MA-30
MA-40
GC-77

A's of March 2, Steven Croley is being added to the flight manifest, and Kathryn Grant, Special Advisor for Communications, will replace Katie Clarkin.

Concern.

[Signature]

3-3-16

The cost of the Southern company aircraft originally approved was \$2,385. Southern Company submitted an invoice on April 4, 2016, for us of the aircraft. The cost is \$3,093.21. This is a \$708.21 increase from what was originally approved. Please authorize this additional expense.

[Signature] 4-22-16

30 Allen Plaza
Atlanta, GA 30308

404-506-5053



Date: 4/4/2016

INVOICE

Invoice Number: 1

Customer:
U.S. Department of Energy

Travel Date:
March 8, 2016

SCHEDULE

Augusta, GA (AGS) to Meridian, MS (MEI):
Depart: 16:09 ZULU Arrive: 17:12 ZULU
Flight Time: 1 hr 3 min
Total Leg Cost: \$1,821.24

Meridian, MS (MEI) to Atlanta Hartsfield Jackson International Airport (ATL):
Depart: 22:59 ZULU Arrive: 23:43 ZULU
Flight Time: 44 min
Total Leg Cost: \$1,271.97

Please Pay This Amount: \$3,093.21

Remit To:
Southern Company Services, Inc.
3188 Corsair Drive
Chamblee, GA 30341



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

Office of the Deputy Secretary

February 4, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: ERIC J. FYGI
DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

THROUGH: GLEN WATTMAN
SENIOR AVIATION OFFICIAL
OFFICE OF AVIATION MANAGEMENT

FROM: TIMOTHY MCCLEES *TM*
CHIEF OF STAFF
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

SUBJECT: Request for Official Travel on Government Aircraft,
Deputy Secretary Sherwood-Randall and Staff, February 9, 2016

Deputy Secretary of Energy Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall is tentatively scheduled to use a Bonneville Power Administration Beechcraft King Air turbo-prop airplane for official travel to Grand Coulee Dam, Grand Coulee, Washington. She will attend a tour and briefing of projects at the Dam and then travel by the same aircraft to Boeing Field/King County International Airport, Seattle, Washington.

The BPA airplane is the most cost-effective aircraft for traveling to this project. Other modes of transportation are unsuitable because the site is 300 miles from Portland and not accessible by commercial flights and time prohibitive by ground vehicle.

The following individuals are to be manifested:

- Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall, Deputy Secretary of Energy, U.S. DOE
- Timothy McClees, U.S. DOE
- Robert Gibbs, U.S. DOE
- Janet Herrin, U.S. DOE
- Katie Clarkin, U.S. DOE
- Elliot Mainzer, Administrator and Chief Executive Officer, Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. DOE
- Lydia Grimm, Senior Policy Advisory, Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. DOE
- Rick Pendergrass, Manager, Power and Operations Planning, Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. DOE
- Crystal Ball, Constituent Account Executive, Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. DOE

These travelers being sent by BPA and not etc.



As travel-approving authority, I have determined that other modes of transportation, including scheduled airline and chartered aircraft flights, are less cost-effective, or are not suitable for the Secretary's requirements.

RECOMMENDATION: Senior Aviation Official and General Counsel sign memo to approve travel on Government aircraft for this event.

ERIC J. FYGI
Deputy General Counsel

APPROVE: ES DISAPPROVE: _____ DATE: 2-8-16

Attachments
Agenda
Flight Manifest

cc: MA-10
MA-30
MA-40
GC-77



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

August 8, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: ERIC J. FYGI
DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

THROUGH: GLEN WATTMAN
SENIOR AVIATION OFFICIAL
OFFICE OF AVIATION MANAGEMENT

FROM: CHRISTOPHER E. DAVIS
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

AUG - 9 2016

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR OFFICIAL TRAVEL ON GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT,
SECRETARY MONIZ AND STAFF, AUGUST 16, 2016

Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz is tentatively scheduled to use a Bonneville Power Administration B-350 for official travel, from Seattle-Tacoma (SEA) ~~Frederickson Airport (PSE)~~ on August 16, 2016. *to Richland " (RLD)*

8/10/16

Secretary Moniz will be visiting the Hanford Site in Southwest Washington State and meeting with Governor Jay Inslee and participating in a Senate field hearing in Seattle, WA. The Secretary will then be touring DOE facilities in Richland, Washington. En route he will view the Shepard's Flats Wind project from the air.


The following individuals are to be manifested:

- Ernest Moniz, Secretary of Energy, U.S. DOE
- Christopher Davis, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary, U.S. DOE
- Jed D'Ercole, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. DOE
- Andrew Gumbiner, Press Secretary, Office of Public Affairs, U.S. DOE
- Ryan Robinson, Special Assistant, Office of the Secretary, U.S. DOE
- [REDACTED]
- Steve Clemons, Editor at Large, The Atlantic

As travel-approving authority, I have determined that other modes of transportation, including scheduled airline flights, and will not meet the Secretary's schedule and travel requirements. Therefore, I authorize travel funds to reimburse the Bonneville Power Administration for a total trip cost not to exceed \$3,550.

RECOMMENDATION: Senior Aviation Official and General Counsel sign memo to approve travel on Government aircraft for this event.

ERIC J. FYGI
Deputy General Counsel

APPROVE:  DISAPPROVE: _____ DATE: 8-12-16

Attachment
Cost Comparison
Itinerary

cc: MA-10
MA-30
MA-40
GC-77



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

Department of Energy
Washington, D.C.
January 4, 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR: ERIC J. FYGI
DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

THROUGH: GLEN WATTMAN
SENIOR AVIATION OFFICIAL
OFFICE OF AVIATION MANAGEMENT

FROM: CHRISTOPHER DAVIS
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SUBJECT: Request for Official Travel on Government Aircraft,
Secretary Moniz and Staff, January 7, 2017- January 9, 2017

Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz is tentatively scheduled to use An FAA G-IV aircraft for official travel from Regan National Airport (DCA), to Mexico City International Airport (MEX) on January 7, 2017. The Secretary will continue from Mexico City on January 8, 2017 to Cavern City Air Terminal (CNM) and then returning to Regan National on January 9, 2017

Secretary Moniz will be participating in the signing of the statement of US-Mexico Bilateral Reliability Principles in Mexico City. In New Mexico the Secretary will be participating in the opening ceremony of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

The following individuals are to be manifested for the trip to Mexico City:

Ernest Moniz, Secretary of Energy, U.S. DOE
Norman Bay, Chairman, U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Jamie L. Sinclair, Chief of Staff, U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Melanie Kenderdine, Director of the Office of Energy Policy and Systems Analysis, U.S. DOE
Jeannette Pablo, BPSA, U.S. DOE
Jonathan Elkind, Assistant Secretary for International Affairs U.S. DOE
Kevin Fitzmaurice, Special Advisor, Office of the Secretary, U.S. DOE
Bridget Bartol, Deputy Press Secretary, Office of Public Affairs, U.S. DOE



The following individuals are to be manifested for the trip from Mexico City to Cavern City:

Ernest Moniz, Secretary of Energy, U.S. DOE
Kevin Fitzmaurice, Special Advisor, Office of the Secretary, U.S. DOE
Bridget Bartol, Deputy Press Secretary, Office of Public Affairs, U.S. DOE

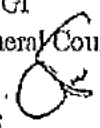
The following individuals are to be manifested for the trip from Cavern City to Washington DC:

Ernest Moniz, Secretary of Energy, U.S. DOE
Martin Heinrich, U.S. Senator
Steve Pearce, U.S. Congressman
Kevin Knobloch, Chief of Staff, U.S. DOE
David Klaus, Under Secretary of Management and Performance, U.S. DOE
Monica Regalbuto, Assistant Secretary of Environmental Management, U.S. DOE
Mary Louise Wagner, Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, U.S. DOE
Jed D'Ercole, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. DOE

As travel-approving authority, I have determined that other modes of transportation, including scheduled airline flights, will not meet the Secretary's schedule requirements. Therefore, I authorize travel funds to reimburse FAA for a total trip cost not to exceed \$65,000.

RECOMMENDATION: Senior Aviation Official and General Counsel sign memo to approve travel on Government aircraft for this event.

ERIC J. FYGI
Deputy General Counsel

APPROVE:  DISAPPROVE: _____ DATE: 1-5-17

Attachment
Cost Comparison
Itinerary

cc: MA-10
MA-30
MA-40
GC-77

Recommendation: Deputy General Counsel approve the Government Aircraft travel request of Secretary Moniz and others on 5 January, 2017 as modified to reflect additional costs that were incurred.

Eric J. Fygi
Deputy General Counsel

APPROVE:  _____ DISAPPROVE: _____

DATE: 3-13-17