



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN - 5 2019

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Honorable Tom Udall
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ranking Member Udall:

Thank you for your June 7, 2018, letter requesting that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Office of Inspector General (OIG) review whether former EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt used his position to pursue business opportunities to benefit himself and his family. You specifically noted reports that Mr. Pruitt discussed business opportunities for his wife with Chick-Fil-A and Concordia executives.

Relating to your request, the OIG opened an investigation into whether Mr. Pruitt used his official position and staff to seek business opportunities for his wife with Chick-fil-A and Concordia. The OIG investigation included interviewing witnesses, collecting and reviewing records, and coordinating with the U.S. Office of Government Ethics.

However, Mr. Pruitt's resignation on July 6, 2018, before the investigation concluded, precluded his ever being subject to disciplinary action. The EPA OIG's Semiannual Report to Congress published on November 30, 2018, explained that, for this reason, the investigation was deemed inconclusive and would be closed. The case now officially has been closed, and my office is taking no further action related to the matter.

We appreciate your interest in the work of the OIG. Similar letters are being sent to Committee Ranking Member Carper and Senator Whitehouse. If you have any questions about this or any other matter, please contact Jennifer Kaplan, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Congressional and Public Affairs, at (202) 566-0918.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Charles J. Sheehan", is written over a faint, larger signature that reads "Edward J. Shultz".

for Charles J. Sheehan
Deputy Inspector General