

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503
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TESTIMONY OF TAMARA L. FUCILE
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 7, 2016

Chairman Chaffetz, Ranking Member Cummings, and Members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to testify before you today.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is committed to working with Congress and this Committee. OMB believes strongly in the importance of Congressional oversight and the value that Congress provides in ensuring that OMB and the Administration are working in the most effective and efficient way on behalf of the American people. OMB regularly receives requests for information, briefings, and documents and we strive to provide transparent responses to those Congressional inquiries in a timely manner. In addition to producing documents to Congress and this Committee, OMB works with Congressional offices every day to provide information and analysis and to help respond to contingencies and unforeseen circumstances. Given OMB's broad jurisdiction, we coordinate and respond to requests from over a dozen House and Senate Full Committees, despite being a small agency of approximately 550 employees. In addition, given OMB's extensive role in working with Congress to reach agreement on the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, enacted in November, and on the Consolidated Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2016, enacted just a few weeks ago, we received and responded to nearly 1,650 Budget requests from Congress over this last year, with more than 600 of these requests coming in the last few months.

OMB's mission is to execute the President's budget, management, regulatory, and legislative agenda and ensure that the Federal government works at its best on behalf of those it serves. OMB works with and across Federal agencies to improve management and create a government that is more effective, efficient and supports continued economic growth. OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), is responsible for coordination and review of all significant Federal regulations by executive agencies to ensure that regulations are based on sound analysis and serve the purposes of the statutes that authorize them and the interests of the public. OIRA also seeks to ensure, to the extent permitted by law, that the benefits of a rule justify its costs. OIRA works under long established principles that have been implemented across several Administrations of both parties.

The Committee has asked me to testify today about document requests relating to review of the proposed Clean Water Rule, which was conducted by OIRA between September 17, 2013 and March 24, 2014. Since this Committee's initial request and subsequent subpoena, OMB has

acted in good faith to address the Committee's interest in the rule and to accommodate the Committee's requests. In OMB's responses to this Committee, we have provided five sets of responsive documents for the period in which the proposed Clean Water Rule was under review at OIRA. We have made these productions to the Committee without any redactions, with the exception of email addresses and phone numbers. OMB continues to review records that are potentially responsive to the Committee's requests, and OMB remains committed to working with your staff to discuss how we can best produce materials of greatest interest to the Committee.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify today. I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Tamara L. Fucile
Associate Director of Legislative Affairs
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Tamara L. Fucile is currently the Associate Director of Legislative Affairs at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Previously, she served as Vice President for Government Affairs at the Center for American Progress (CAP), a position held from 2011 to 2014. Prior to her experience at CAP, Ms. Fucile served in Congress for almost a decade – as Legislative Director for Senator Jeff Merkley, Deputy Staff Director for Policy for the Joint Economic Committee under Chairman Charles Schumer, and Legislative Assistant for Senator Amy Klobuchar and then U.S. Representative Ed Markey. Additionally, Ms. Fucile served as a Senior Analyst at the U.S. Government Accountability Office on its Education, Workforce and Income Security Team. Ms. Fucile received a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Connecticut and an M.B.A. from Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business.