

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

August 19, 2009

Ms. Jenny Small Judicial Watch 501 School Street, SW Suite 725 Washington, DC 20024

RE: Van Jones Freedom of Information Request

Dear Ms. Small,

On July 29, 2009, you sent the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) a Freedom of Information Request in which you ask for all records regarding mission statements, office staffing, and budget for operations and administration "as an Obama Administration 'czar,'" referring to Anthony (Van) Jones. We received your request on August 12, 2009.

CEQ conducted a search of its records and it has none that are responsive to your request, because Van Jones was not appointed as a "czar." Mr. Jones was appointed as Special Advisor for Green Jobs. Mr. Jones is supported by a staff of seven.

A copy of CEQ's current budget is attached for your information.

This completes our response to your request. If you are dissatisfied with our action, you may appeal it by writing to the CEQ FOIA Appeals Officer, 722 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20503, within 45 days of the date of this letter. Because of problems with mail transmittal, we suggest that you also fax any such appeal to the Appeals Officer at (202) 456-0753.

Sincerely,

Dianne Shawley

Deputy General Counsel

Freedom of Information Officer

Part IV. Budget Activity Justification Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations

Executive Office of the President



Council on Environmental Quality

Fiscal Year 2010 Budget

Mission Statement and Background

Congress established the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) with the passage of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in 1969 (42 U.S.C. § 4342; see Public Law 108-447, Division I; see also Title III of Public Law 109-54). CEQ is charged with a number of responsibilities including:

- Developing and recommending to the President national policies to foster and promote the improvement of environmental quality to meet the conservation, social, economic, health, and other requirements and goals of the Nation;
- Identifying and assessing trends in environmental quality and recommending appropriate response strategies;
- Overseeing Federal agency implementation of the requirements of NEPA through promulgation and interpretation of Government-wide regulations; and
- Conducting environmental investigations, studies, surveys, research, and analyses with respect to matters of policy and legislation as requested by the President.

The CEQ has numerous other statutory responsibilities under a number of Federal laws, including the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7609; the Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act, 16 U.S.C. § 4751; the Department of Energy Organization Act of 1997, 42 U.S.C. § 7265; the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1536; the Global Change Research Act of 1990, 15 U.S.C. § 2932; the Marine Mammal Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1401-03; the National Climate Program Act of 1978, 15 U.S.C. § 2904; the National Environmental Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 5506-8; the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 10132, 10134, 10193; and the Toxic Substances Control Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2603(e)(2)(A)(iii).

The Chairman of CEQ, a Senate-confirmed Presidential appointee, serves as Director of the Office. The Office provides the professional and administrative staff support for CEQ and is also charged with substantive responsibilities complementary to those of CEQ. For example, CEQ is to assist in coordinating environmental programs among the Federal agencies in the Executive Branch, assist in developing environmental quality criteria and standards, and review the adequacy of existing systems for monitoring and predicting environmental change.

Finally, CEQ is vested with the responsibility of ensuring that Federal agencies meet their obligations under the NEPA. NEPA established the Federal Government's policy direction to "create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans" (42 U.S.C. § 4331). To proceed under NEPA, the Federal Government, in cooperation with State and local governments, and other concerned public and private

organizations, must consider the effects of its actions on the quality of the human environment before making decisions.

CEQ's coordinating function helps to avoid redundancy and conflict while fostering efficiency and policy innovation. CEQ's location within the Executive Office of the President (EOP) places CEQ in an ideal position to chair interagency groups, balance agency positions, and encourage Government-wide and intergovernmental cooperation.

Overview

The estimated FY 2010 funding requirement for the CEQ is \$3,159,000 and a full-time equivalent (FTE) level of 24. This represents an increase of \$456,000 from the FY 2009 requested level. The number of FTEs remains the same.

FY 2010 Estimate

The FY 2010 estimate reflects a net increase of \$456,000 consisting of \$56,000 for inflation adjustments and \$400,000 to meet the President's environmental agenda and objectives (to include major ecosystems restoration, environmental justice initiatives, and supporting the White House Office of Energy and Climate Change).

Summary Change to Object Class (\$ in thousands)

	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
	Actual	Enacted	Estimated
Total, Direct Obligations	2,450	2,703	3,159
Full-Time Equivalent Level	18	24	24
The increases and/or decreases for FY 2010 are as fo	ollows:		
FY 2009 enacted level.			2,703
Net increases to FY 2009 enacted level:			
Personnel Compensation & Benefits		426	
Travel & Transportation of Persons		26	
Comm., Utilities & Misc. Charges		1	
Printing and Reproduction		1	
Other Contractual Services		1	
Supplies and Materials		1	
Subtotal, increases to FY 2009 enacted level			456
Net decreases to FY 2009 enacted level:			
Subtotal, decreases to FY 2009 enacted level			0
FY 2010 estimated level			3,159

Object Class (\$ in thousands)

Object Class and Title		FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY09/FY10
		Actual	Enacted	Estimated	Difference
10	Personnel Compensation & Benefits	2,190	2,477	2,903	426
21	Travel & Transportation of Persons	84	85	111	26
22	Transportation of Things	1	2	2	0
23.3	Comm., Utilities & Misc. Charges	35	40	41	1
24	Printing and Reproduction	23	25	26	1
25	Other Contractual Services	26	34	35	1
26	Supplies and Materials	76	29	30	1
26	Official Entertainment	0	1	1	0
31	Equipment	15	10	10	0
	Total, Direct Obligations	2,450	2,703	3,159	456
99	Reimbursement	2	5	5	
	Total	2,452	2,708	3,164	

Personnel Summary

	FY 2008 Actual	1 1 2007		FY09/FY10 Difference
Full-Time Equivalent Level	18	24	24	0

Explanation of Changes by Object Class

(\$ in thousands)

FY 2009	FY 2010		Net
Enacted	Estimate	_	Change
2,477	2,903	Personnel Compensation and Benefits (10) This object class includes salaries, terminal leave, premium pay, reimbursable detailees, assignments under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act, and all employee benefits.	426
		The increase in this object class represents \$51 for payroll inflation and \$375 to meet the President's environmental agenda and objectives (to include major ecosystems restoration, environmental justice initiatives, and supporting the White House Office of Energy and Climate Change). There are no increases in full-time equivalent levels for FY 2010.	
85	111	Travel and Transportation of Persons (21) This object class includes official travel, such as per diem, hotel and transportation, auto rental, and local transportation.	26
		The increase in this object class represents \$1 for inflation adjustments and \$25 to fund travel supporting the President's environmental objectives and attendance at international climate change conferences.	
2	2	Transportation of Things (22) This object class includes commercial express delivery as well as freight and other shipping charges.	0
		There is no net change in this object class.	
40	41	Communications, Utilities & Miscellaneous Charges (23.3) This object class includes data, voice, and wireless communications from Federal and commercial sources, as well as utilities, postage, and miscellaneous rental charges.	1

The increase in this object class represents inflation adjustments.

FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2010 Estimate		Net
25	26	Printing and Reproduction (24) This object class includes printing and reproduction obtained from the private sector or from other Federal entities. The increase in this object class represents inflation adjustments.	Change 1
34	35	Other Contractual Services (25) This object class includes advisory and assistance services, other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts, operations and maintenance of facilities, research and development contracts, medical care, operations and maintenance of equipment, or subsistence and support of persons.	1
		The increase in this object class represents inflation adjustments.	
29	30	Supplies and Materials (26) This object class includes general supplies, information technology (IT), supplies, newspaper and magazine subscriptions, and Government publications. The increase in this object class represents inflation adjustments.	1
1	1	Official Entertainment (26) This object class includes expenses for official representation by CEQ staff, generally when the President is not directly involved.	0
		There is no net change in this object class.	
10	10	Equipment (31) This object class includes IT hardware and software, customized software programming, peripheral equipment (e.g., printers and network devices), office furniture and equipment, such as photocopiers, facsimile machines, and telephones.	0
		There is no net change in this object class.	
2,703	3,159	Total for all Object Classes	456