



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

October 20, 2009

Cliff Kincaid

Dear Mr. Kincaid,

This is an interim response to your Freedom of Information Act request dated September 6, 2009, and received by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) on September 8, 2009, for records pertaining to Van Jones' resignation. Please be aware that the cut-off date for this records search is September 6, 2009.

We have located nine (9) documents totaling twelve (12) pages that are responsive to your request. At this time, we are releasing four (4) documents totaling four (4) pages in their entirety. We are releasing two (2) documents totaling three (3) pages with redactions pursuant to title 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5) and withholding three (3) documents totaling five (5) pages in full under that same exemption.

The documents released today may be subject to an available exemption under FOIA. CEQ's release of these documents may be an exercise of agency discretion, despite the availability of an exemption under the FOIA. CEQ's determination to release these documents does not constitute a waiver of any privilege or exemption which may apply, in whole or in part. Release of these documents does not foreclose CEQ from later claiming an exemption or privilege with regard to any similar documents in response to a subsequent FOIA request.

If you are not satisfied with our action on this request, you may administratively appeal the decision within 45 days of the date of this letter by writing to the FOIA Appeals Officer, Council on Environmental Quality, 722 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20503. Heightened security measures in force may delay mail delivery; therefore, we suggest that you also submit your appeal via facsimile to (202) 456-0753.

Sincerely,


Dianne Shawley

Deputy General Counsel
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President

Cc: FOIA Coordinator
Records Technician

CEQ 4

Moss, Elizabeth

From: Carson, Jonathan K.
Sent: Saturday, September 05, 2009 11:12 PM
To: Glunz, Christine M.; Maher, Jessica A.; Salzman, Arnella S.; Buffa, Nicole; Shah, Tarak N.; Boots, Michael J.; Bordoff, Jason E.; Boiling, Edward A.; Greczmiel, Horst; Moore, Michelle
Cc: Sutley, Nancy H.
Subject: Van

We wanted you all to hear first from us that Van will be leaving CEQ and will be greatly missed.

This statement will be put out:

"I am resigning my post at the Council on Environmental Quality, effective today.

On the eve of historic fights for health care and clean energy, opponents of reform have mounted a vicious smear campaign against me. They are using lies and distortions to distract and divide.

I have been inundated with calls - from across the political spectrum - urging me to "stay and fight."

But I came here to fight for others, not for myself. I cannot in good conscience ask my colleagues to expend precious time and energy defending or explaining my past. We need all hands on deck, fighting for the future.

It has been a great honor to serve my country and my President in this capacity. I thank everyone who has offered support and encouragement. I am proud to have been able to make a contribution to the clean energy future. I will continue to do so, in the months and years ahead."

it will be followed by this statement from Nancy:

Nancy Sutley, Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality issued the following statement:

"I have accepted the resignation of Van Jones and would like to thank him for his valuable contributions to the Council on Environmental Quality. Over the last six months he has been a strong voice for creating 21st century jobs that improve energy efficiency and utilize renewable resources. We appreciate his hard work and wish him the best moving forward."

Moss, Elizabeth

C.EQ 6

From: Glunz, Christine M.
Sent: Sunday, September 06, 2009 12:15 AM
To: Glunz, Christine M.
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Nancy Sutley, Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality issued a statement regarding the resignation of Van Jones
Attachments: 09 06 09 NS VJ.pdf

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COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 6, 2009

**Contact: Christine Glunz
202-456-3469**

Nancy Sutley, Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality issued a statement regarding the resignation of Van Jones

WASHINGTON, DC – Nancy Sutley, Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality issued the following statement regarding the resignation of Van Jones:

"I have accepted the resignation of Van Jones and would like to thank him for his valuable contributions to the Council on Environmental Quality. Over the last six months he has been a strong voice for creating 21st century jobs that improve energy efficiency and utilize renewable resources. We appreciate his hard work and wish him the best moving forward."

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From: Glunz, Christine M.
Sent: Sunday, September 06, 2009 12:01 AM
To: Glunz, Christine M.
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Van Jones Resigns as Special Advisor for Green Jobs at the Council on Environmental Quality
Attachments: 09 05 09 Van Jones.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 5, 2009**

**Contact: Christine Glunz
202-456-3469**

Van Jones Resigns as Special Advisor for Green Jobs at the Council on Environmental Quality

WASHINGTON, DC – Van Jones, Special Advisor for Green Jobs at the Council on Environmental Quality resigned today. Below is the text of his resignation letter, sent to Chair Nancy Sutley:

"I am resigning my post at the Council on Environmental Quality, effective today.

On the eve of historic fights for health care and clean energy, opponents of reform have mounted a vicious smear campaign against me. They are using lies and distortions to distract and divide.

I have been inundated with calls - from across the political spectrum - urging me to "stay and fight."

But I came here to fight for others, not for myself. I cannot in good conscience ask my colleagues to expend precious time and energy defending or explaining my past. We need all hands on deck, fighting for the future.

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Moss, Elizabeth

CEQ 7

CEQ 4

Moss, Elizabeth

From: Sutley, Nancy H.
Sent: Saturday, September 05, 2009 10:42 PM
To: Browner, Carol M.
Subject: Fw: Resignation of Van Jones

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

----- Original Message -----

From: Carson, Jonathan K.
To: Pfeiffer, Dan; Dunn, Anita B.; Glunz, Christine M.; LaBolt, Benjamin; Gibbs, Robert L.
Cc: Sutley, Nancy H.; Gaspard, Patrick
Sent: Sat Sep 05 22:41:03 2009
Subject: Resignation of Van Jones

This is Van's statement. He understands that it will be sent out tonight.

"I am resigning my post at the Council on Environmental Quality, effective today.

On the eve of historic fights for health care and clean energy, opponents of reform have mounted a vicious smear campaign against me. They are using lies and distortions to distract and divide.

I have been inundated with calls - from across the political spectrum - urging me to "stay and fight."

But I came here to fight for others, not for myself. I cannot in good conscience ask my colleagues to expend precious time and energy defending or explaining my past. We need all hands on deck, fighting for the future.

It has been a great honor to serve my country and my President in this capacity. I thank everyone who has offered support and encouragement. I am proud to have been able to make a contribution to the clean energy future. I will continue to do so, in the months and years ahead."

Moss, Elizabeth

CEQ 8

From: Dunn, Anita B.
Sent: Saturday, September 05, 2009 11:05 PM
To: LaBolt, Benjamin; Carson, Jonathan K.; Glunz, Christine M.; Gibbs, Robert L.; Pfeiffer, Dan
Cc: Sutley, Nancy H.; Gaspard, Patrick
Subject: Re: Statement from Nancy Sutley

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

(b)(5)

----- Original Message -----

From: LaBolt, Benjamin
To: Carson, Jonathan K.; Glunz, Christine M.; Dunn, Anita B.; Gibbs, Robert L.; Pfeiffer, Dan
Cc: Sutley, Nancy H.; Gaspard, Patrick
Sent: Sat Sep 05 22:50:38 2009
Subject: Re: Statement from Nancy Sutley

Thx

Christine has the list of the white house reporters for both of the statements to be sent to

(b)(5)

----- Original Message -----

From: Carson, Jonathan K.
To: Glunz, Christine M.; Dunn, Anita B.; Gibbs, Robert L.; LaBolt, Benjamin; Pfeiffer, Dan
Cc: Sutley, Nancy H.; Gaspard, Patrick
Sent: Sat Sep 05 22:44:19 2009
Subject: Statement from Nancy Sutley

Here's the statement from Nancy that will follow.

Nancy Sutley, Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality issued the following statement:

"I have accepted the resignation of Van Jones and would like to thank him for his valuable contributions to the Council on Environmental Quality. Over the last six months he has been a strong voice for creating 21st century jobs that improve energy efficiency and utilize renewable resources. We appreciate his hard work and wish him the best moving forward."

CEQ #3

Moss, Elizabeth

From: Maher, Jessica A.
Sent: Sunday, September 06, 2009 12:35 AM
To: Carson, Jonathan K.
Subject: Fw: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Van Jones Resigns as Special Advisor for Green Jobs at the Council on Environmental Quality

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Just so you know, I alerted Jay, Jim, and Denise (below is Jim's reply). And, I reached out to Reid, Pelosi, Durbin and Hoyer offices.

Sent by my Blackberry Wireless

From: Papa, Jim
To: Maher, Jessica A.; Heimbach, James T.; Wilson, Denise R.
Sent: Sun Sep 06 00:15:51 2009
Subject: Re: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Van Jones Resigns as Special Advisor for Green Jobs at the Council on Environmental Quality

Ty for letting us know. I really appreciate the heads-up.

(b)(5)

From: Maher, Jessica A.
To: Heimbach, James T.; Papa, Jim; Wilson, Denise R.
Sent: Sun Sep 06 00:02:29 2009
Subject: Fw: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Van Jones Resigns as Special Advisor for Green Jobs at the Council on Environmental Quality

Below just went out.

Sent by my Blackberry Wireless

From: Glunz, Christine M.
To: Glunz, Christine M.
Sent: Sun Sep 06 00:01:12 2009
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Van Jones Resigns as Special Advisor for Green Jobs at the Council on Environmental Quality

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COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Christine Glunz

September 5, 2009

202-456-3469

Van Jones Resigns as Special Advisor for Green Jobs at the Council on Environmental Quality

WASHINGTON, DC -- Van Jones, Special Advisor for Green Jobs at the Council on Environmental Quality, resigned today. Below is the text of his resignation letter, sent to Chair Nancy Sutley:

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