June 20, 2023

Maria Levesque  
Departmental Records Officer  
Department of Energy  
Office of the Chief Information Officer IM-41  
Washington DC, 20024

Dear Maria Levesque,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) acknowledges receipt of the Department of Energy’s (DOE) report regarding the loss of email from Google Mail accounts of twenty-eight (28) employees of the DOE Office of Science (SC). The accounts were part of a 2013 pilot project set up to test cloud mail.

We understand the accounts were set up to forward a copy of the emails to the user’s official email account. Unfortunately, over time, some of the settings failed and due to a 30 GB storage limit some of the emails were not retained. We understand that efforts were made to recover the records but DOE’s Gmail subscription (basic) did not include restoral functionality. To prevent future loss of records, all available emails have been transferred to the individuals’ official email accounts and all twenty-eight google email accounts have been removed.

Based on this information, NARA is satisfied with the actions DOE has taken and considers this matter closed. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER  
Chief Records Officer  
for the U.S. Government