



Office of the Chief  
Records Officer for the  
U.S. Government

***Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.***

July 21, 2023

David Alspach  
Department Records Officer  
Department of the Interior  
MS 7145A  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear David Alspach,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) received an allegation of unauthorized disposition of agency records from the Department of Interior's (DOI) Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC).

The allegation indicates that three OEPC employees willfully and knowingly discarded historical federal records after being advised that the records should be transferred to NARA. Some of the historical records related to legislation implementation dating back to the 1970s and other records to ongoing litigation pertaining to natural and manmade disasters, such as Deep Water Horizon and Gold King Mine.

NARA requests that the DOI investigate this allegation and provide the required report within 30 days of this letter. In accordance with 36 CFR 1230.14, the report should include a complete description of the records relevant to this allegation, including volume and dates of the records, applicable disposition authority numbers, and specific details describing the unauthorized disposition incident. Additionally, please include any salvage, recovery, or restoration efforts, and safeguards that will be implemented to prevent the future unauthorized disposition of agency records.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you wish to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Laurence.Brewer@nara.gov](mailto:Laurence.Brewer@nara.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurence N. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

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

Enclosure