

MAINE PUBLIC RECORDS LAW REQUEST

November 15, 2024

Jonathan Bolton
[Freedom of Access Officer](#)
Maine Attorney General's Office
6 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

By Electronic Mail: Jonathan.bolton@maine.gov

Re: Certain described 2024 correspondence

Dear Sir or Madam:

On behalf of Government Accountability & Oversight (GAO) — a non-profit public policy organization dedicated to transparency in government and with an active public dissemination and media program — pursuant to the Maine Freedom of Access Act, Maine Rev. Stat., Title 1, Ch. 13, I hereby request copies of:

all electronic correspondence (email, text messages (including SMS, MMS, DMs, WhatsApp, Signal, Telegram, Slack/Teams/Zoom messages and or Twitter or Facebook direct messages) and any accompanying information, including also any attachments, sent to or from or which copies (including cc: and bcc:) **i) Aaron Frey, ii) Christina Moylan, iii) Tom Knowlton, and/or iv) Scott Boak**, which is dated at any time from **June 1, 2024 through November 15, 2024**, inclusive, that also includes, anywhere, whether in an email's to/from/cc/bcc or Subject fields, or the body of an email or any attachment, **i) Edling, ii) @climateintegrity.org, iii) Enck, iv) Shornstein, v) Zeballos, and/or vi) Johl**.

Electronic correspondence includes **emails and text messages**, the latter which *also* includes as Telegram, WhatsApp, Signal or Twitter or Facebook direct messages. They include described records on any account used at any time for work purpose; any records meeting this request's search parameters are inherently related to the employee's work at this public institution.

These search terms are not case sensitive.

We request that the Office conduct a non-conflicted search, as necessary to fulfill its obligation to conduct a reasonable search. A non-conflicted and therefore proper processing of this request does not merely entail asking the employee named in the request if they possess responsive information. We request that the Office assert in its response whether that response is based on a search conducted by the staff identified in the request, or by another party.

In the event that the Office's custodian of public records determines that a release of a given record would contain confidential or private information or otherwise seek to withhold information, we request to state the reasons for any such withholdings.

We request entire "threads" of which any responsive correspondence is a part, regardless of whether any portion falls outside of the above time parameter.

We understand that in some instances a public body may charge a fee for the cost of the search, examination, review, copying, separation of confidential from nonconfidential information, and mailing costs. If your Office expects to seek a charge associated with the searching, copying or production of these records, please provide an estimate of anticipated costs.

As noted earlier in this request, GAO is a non-profit public policy organization dedicated to informing the public of developments in the area of energy and environmental issues and relationships between governmental and non-governmental entities as they relate to those issues. GAO's ability to obtain fee waivers is essential to this work. GAO intends to use any responsive information to continue its work highlighting the nexus between interested non-governmental entities and government agency decision-making. The public is both interested in and entitled to know how regulatory, policy and enforcement decisions are reached. GAO ensures the public is made aware of its work and findings via media, its websites govoversight.org and climatelitigationwatch.org dedicated to broadly disseminating energy and environmental policy news and developments. The public information obtained by GAO have been relied upon by established media outlets, including the Washington Times and Wall Street Journal editorial page.

GAO requests records on your system, e.g., its backend logs, and does not seek only those records which survive on an employee's own machine or account. We do not demand your office produce requested information in any particular form, instead **we request records in their native form**, with specific reference to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Data Delivery Standard. The covered information we seek is electronic information, this includes electronic *records*, and other public *information*.

GAO looks forward to your response. In the event you have any questions, please feel free contact me at the below email address. Thank you for your prompt attention, time and consideration to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Thomas
Joe@govoversight.org