

September 25, 2017

Mr. Noah Bookbinder
Executive Director
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW)
455 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Sixth Floor
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Bookbinder:

On behalf of the Archivist of the United States, David S. Ferriero, thank you for your September 12, 2017 letter regarding recent recordkeeping practices at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Within your letter, CREW indicates concern that Scott Pruitt, EPA Administrator, appears to be in violation of the Federal Records Act (FRA), particularly in his role as an agency head and his responsibility to maintain an active records management program that provides for effective controls over the creation and use of federal records as described in 44 U.S.C. § 3101.

NARA takes its oversight of federal records management responsibilities very seriously and appreciates the issues being raised. As a result of the concerns raised by CREW, I sent a letter on September 25, 2017, to Steven Fine, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Environmental Information, and Senior Agency Official for Records Management (SAORM), requesting a meeting within 30 days to discuss the concerns you have raised and the agency's proposed actions.

My office provides oversight of federal agency records management programs through on-site inspections, required reporting and other activities ensuring that records are created and maintained as required by federal statutes and regulations. In addition to the steps outlined above, I will consider the information you have provided as we conduct our future oversight activities.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES and RECORDS ADMINISTRATION 8601 ADELPHI ROAD COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740-6001 www.archives.gov If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 837-1539 or by email at Laurence.Brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER

Chief Records Officer

for the U.S. Government