

Message

From: Vizian.Donna@epa.gov [Vizian.Donna@epa.gov]
Sent: Federal law prohibits disclosure / Ex. 3
To:
Subject: Fwd: Seeking your help regarding the proposed new employee contract

Begin forwarded message:

From: Personal Security Detail / Ex. 6 @epa.gov
Date: July 3, 2019 at 3:53:53 PM EDT
To: "Vizian, Donna" <Vizian.Donna@epa.gov>
Subject: Seeking your help regarding the proposed new employee contract

Dear Ms. Vizian,

I am an EPA employee with 26 years of federal service, committed to the mission of the Agency and to serving our great country. As a civil servant I have also benefited from and have deep appreciation for the fair labor conditions that I have experienced in my career to date.

I am writing to share my concern with EPA management's intention to impose an employee contract that was developed without input from or negotiation with the EPA unions. I am hopeful that you will intervene on behalf of employees to help find a better path forward.

I am sure you agree that EPA employees are dedicated, hardworking, and committed to our mission of protecting human health and the environment. This imposed contract is un-fair and another blow to employee morale. The government has limited options for retaining employees at higher GS levels due to limits in allowable pay raises. Telework is one benefit that the government can offer to its employees, of great value to those living in high traffic metropolitan areas. Reduction in the ability to telework seems counter to the trend in many large organizations, especially those with space challenges like EPA may be facing soon when Potomac Yard is closed and we will need to consolidate space at Federal Triangle. It is also disconcerting that this imposed contract includes provisions that will dramatically limit the ability of union representatives to represent their members effectively on all staff related matters.

It would be helpful to understand what standard practice is for updating federal labor bargaining agreements, how this contract came about, and why variances in the standard approaches are being taken at this time. Staff would also benefit from learning what current labor agreements across the federal government include, and the reasons that these specific changes are being suggested at this time.

Ms. Vizian, we deserve better and I reach out to you to stand up for us. Please halt this imposed contract and help us find a better way forward together.

Sincerely,

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