

July 2, 2018
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about transparency. Democracy requires that people know what their government is up to - exactly why the Freedom of Information Act with its nine specific redaction criteria is needed. The Interior Department (among others) posts lots of information, but much more must be requested. Its scientific postings began being politicized as soon as you took office with references to climate change disappearing. Actions have also been kept hidden with both you and Secretary Zinke barring notes, stenographers and recordings. Finally this week a great deal of information was briefly posted and then withdrawn. This leak details a complete lack of good faith in reviews of National Monument protections and an apparently illegal attempt to cover up the records. Such bad faith calls into question other Interior actions such as reviews of endangered species - threatening irreparable losses.

Please assure me that you will keep and publish records of your actions.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our democratic institutions.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson