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**From:** POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard  
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**Subject:** Pruitt won't cover costs for private flights

By Emily Holden

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EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt doesn't plan to pay out of pocket for the \$58,000 worth of non-commercial flights he and his staff have taken on four occasions, according to an agency spokeswoman.

Pruitt has taken three private government flights and one chartered plane. EPA has said those flights represented the only travel options for reaching scheduled events in time, including taking an Air Force plane to New York at a cost of \$36,068.50 to travel to events ahead of an international energy ministers' meeting in Italy. The agency received [ethics approvals](#) from EPA's acting general counsel for three of the four trips.

"If a reimbursement was necessary, we would have been told during the approval process and acted accordingly," agency spokeswoman Liz Bowman said.

HHS Secretary Tom Price today said he would [write a personal check](#) to the federal government to cover the cost of his seat on private jet flights that cost more than \$400,000 since May.

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