

Fri Jun 16 17:40:20 EDT 2017

Hope.Brian@epamail.epa.gov

FW: Pruitt wins IRE Golden Padlock Award

To: CMS.OEX@epamail.epa.gov; Bowman.Liz@epamail.epa.gov; Graham.Amy@epamail.epa.gov; Wilcox.Jahan@epamail.epa.gov

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OPA

**From:** Cribb, Robert [mailto:rcribb@thestar.ca]

**Sent:** Friday, June 16, 2017 5:36 PM

**To:** Press <Press@epa.gov>; Pruitt, Scott <Pruitt.Scott@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Sarah Hutchins <sarah@ire.org>; doug@ire.org

**Subject:** Pruitt wins IRE Golden Padlock Award

Dear Mr. Pruitt:

Attached is a letter announcing that you have won this year's Golden Padlock Award from Investigative Reporters & Editors, which is given to a secretive government agency, or one that has taken especially troublesome action to avoid public disclosure of information that's in the public interest. Details are included in the letter, and I'm happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Cribb

Chair, Golden Padlock Committee

Investigative Reporters and Editors

416-579-0289

June 16, 2017

Scott Pruitt  
United States Environmental Protection Agency

Dear Mr. Pruitt,

Congratulations to you, the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for being chosen as the winner of the annual Golden Padlock Award given by Investigative Reporters and Editors to honor the most secretive public bodies in the United States. IRE, a grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of investigative reporting, will announce you as winner of this year's award at its national conference next week in Phoenix. Nominations were solicited from journalists and the public. A committee of IRE members researched the finalists and chose the winner.

You and your agencies were nominated for steadfastly refusing to provide emails in the public interest and removing information from public websites about key environmental programs.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact our executive director, Doug Haddix, at 573-882-1984 or [doug@ire.org](mailto:doug@ire.org). We will be publicly announcing the award on June 24, and would be happy to incorporate any comments you have. Also, we'd be grateful to welcome a member of your organization to the lunch award ceremony being held at the JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge at noon on June 24. If you can attend, please let us know and tickets for the lunch will be provided to you at the event.

Thanks,

Rob Cribb  
Chair, IRE Golden Padlock Award Committee