

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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April 15, 2025

Mr. Luiz A. Santos
Acting Inspector General
Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20210

The Honorable Ruth Blevins
Inspector General
National Labor Relations Board
1015 Half Street, SE
Washington, DC 20570

Dear Mr. Santos and Inspector General Blevins,

I write regarding developments that Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) employees may be engaged in technological malfeasance and illegal activity at the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and the Department of Labor (DOL). According to NPR and whistleblower disclosures obtained by Committee Democrats, individuals associated with DOGE have attempted to exfiltrate and alter data while also using high-level systems access to remove sensitive information—quite possibly including corporate secrets and details of union activities. I also understand that these individuals have attempted to conceal their activities, obstruct oversight, and shield themselves from accountability.¹ President Trump has repeatedly stated that DOGE is led by Elon Musk, and that Mr. Musk’s power at DOGE is expansive.² Mr. Musk’s companies face a series of enforcement actions from NLRB and DOL, creating an inherent conflict of interest for him to direct any work at either agency—let alone benefit from stolen nonpublic information.³ As ranking member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I ask that you report to Congress the nature of the work the DOGE team has performed at NLRB and DOL, including any and all attempts to exfiltrate data and any attempts to cover up their activities.

¹ *A Whistleblower's Disclosure Details How DOGE May Have Taken Sensitive Labor Data*, NPR (Apr. 15, 2025) (online at www.npr.org/2025/04/15/nx-s1-5355896/doge-nlr-elon-musk-spacex-security).

² *Trump Contradicts Own Administration, Says DOGE Is “Headed” By Elon Musk*, Newsweek (Mar. 4, 2025) (online at www.newsweek.com/trump-contradicts-own-administration-after-saying-elon-musk-runs-doge-2039703).

³ See e.g., *At SpaceX, Worker Injuries Soar in Elon Musk’s Rush to Mars*, Reuters (Nov. 10, 2023) (online at www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/spacex-musk-safety/); *Exclusive: Musk’s SpaceX Fined After ‘Near Amputation’ Suffered by Worker, Records Show*, Reuters (Feb. 13, 2024) (online at www.reuters.com/technology/space/musks-spacex-fined-near-amputation-suffered-by-worker-records-show-2024-02-13/); *SpaceX Illegally Fired Workers Critical of Elon Musk, US Labor Agency Says*, Reuters (Jan. 3, 2024) (online at www.reuters.com/technology/space/spacex-illegally-fired-workers-critical-elon-musk-us-labor-agency-says-2024-01-03/); *I.R.S. Agrees to Share Migrants’ Tax Information with ICE*, New York Times (Apr. 8, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/04/08/us/politics/irs-ice-tax-data-deal.html).

NLRB and DOL play critical roles in holding companies accountable for unfair management practices and unsafe working conditions. NLRB is an independent federal agency tasked with safeguarding employees' rights to organize and preventing unfair labor practices, including through investigations and enforcement actions.⁴ DOL includes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), which oversees workplace safety standards, and several enforcement entities tasked with protecting workers from workplace hazards and mistreatment.⁵

Mr. Musk's business ventures have repeatedly raised labor concerns, endangering employees and retaliating against anyone who has voiced dissent.⁶ Worker safety and labor violations across Mr. Musk's companies SpaceX, Tesla, and X have proliferated as federal enforcement bodies struggle to keep up.⁷ A Reuters investigation into SpaceX found over 600 unreported cases of workplace injuries including "crushed limbs, amputations, electrocutions, head and eye wounds and one death."⁸

NLRB has taken action against Tesla for the car company's attempts to discourage unionizing efforts, part of Musk's ongoing anti-union actions.⁹ Mr. Musk's social media company, X, also faced a complaint from NLRB after an employee was terminated following a tweet challenging the company's return to office mandate.¹⁰ When President Trump took office, DOL's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), which is now led by one of Mr. Musk's lawyers, was auditing a Tesla plant that had previously been sued for alleged "widespread and ongoing racial harassment of its Black employees." That investigation was halted when President Trump effectively shut down OFCCP.¹¹ These cases raise serious

⁴ National Labor Relations Board, *What We Do* (online at www.nlr.gov/about-nlr/what-we-do) (accessed Apr. 11, 2025).

⁵ Department of Labor, *Agencies and Programs* (online at www.dol.gov/general/dol-agencies) (accessed Apr. 11, 2024).

⁶ See e.g., *The Musk Industrial Complex*, Reuters (Jan. 3, 2024) (online at www.reuters.com/investigates/section/musk-inc/); e.g. *At SpaceX, Worker Injuries Soar in Elon Musk's Rush to Mars*, Reuters (Nov. 10, 2023) (online at www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/spacex-musk-safety/); *Exclusive: Musk's SpaceX Fined After 'Near Amputation' Suffered by Worker, Records Show*, Reuters (Feb. 13, 2024) (online at www.reuters.com/technology/space/musks-spacex-fined-near-amputation-suffered-by-worker-records-show-2024-02-13/).

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *At SpaceX, Worker Injuries Soar in Elon Musk's Rush to Mars*, Reuters (Nov. 10, 2023) (online at www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/spacex-musk-safety/).

⁹ *Tesla Accused by NLRB of Creating Policies to Chill Workers' Unionizing Efforts in Buffalo*, CNBC (May 10, 2024) (online at www.cnbc.com/2024/05/09/tesla-accused-by-nlr-of-chilling-worker-unionizing-efforts-in-buffalo.html).

¹⁰ *X Illegally Fired Worker Who Opposed Musk's Return-To-Office Order: NLRB*, Axios (Oct. 12, 2023) (online at www.axios.com/2023/10/13/labor-relations-board-twitter-x-musk).

¹¹ *Tesla Discrimination Probe Killed as Trump Axes Watchdog Agency*, San Francisco Standard (Feb. 6, 2025) (online at <https://sfstandard.com/2025/02/06/trump-order-stops-tesla-discrimination-investigation/>); *A Lawyer Who Represented SpaceX Looks to Downsize Federal Contracting Watchdog*, NPR (Mar. 27, 2025) (www.npr.org/2025/03/27/nx-s1-5341559/lawyer-represented-musk-spacex-downsize-federal-contractors).

concerns about Mr. Musk or anyone associated with DOGE having access to NLRB or DOL, as any such access poses serious conflicts of interest.

These are not hypothetical concerns. Recent public reporting indicates DOGE engineers have accessed sensitive information that may relate to NLRB or DOL actions against Musk companies and his competitors, and that these DOGE engineers have sent that information to external sources.¹² Those engineers reportedly then used administrative access to information technology (IT) systems in an attempt to eliminate any trace of their actions—the kind of “evasive behavior” that “criminal or state-sponsored hackers might do.”¹³ Willfully and unlawfully removing or destroying federal records is a criminal offense, as is receiving stolen government property.¹⁴

Inspectors general play a critical role in safeguarding Americans’ data and overseeing agency operations. To address my concerns regarding the potential violation of federal law, I request that you respond to the following questions and information requests by April 29, 2025:

1. To what specific networks at NLRB or DOL have any individuals associated with DOGE gained access, and what is the nature of the information contained within those networks?
2. What is the stated justification for granting these individuals such access, and what legal authority permits this access?
3. What information related to prior and current NLRB or DOL enforcement actions have individuals associated with DOGE accessed, and under what authority did those individuals access this data?
4. What datasets, databases, or systems of records owned by NLRB or DOL have any individual associated with DOGE altered in any way?
5. What system controls are in place at NLRB or DOL to prevent unauthorized deletion of data by any individual, including but not limited to individuals associated with DOGE?
6. Which individuals associated with DOGE have edited, deleted, or exfiltrated data from NLRB or DOL systems?

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¹² *A Whistleblower's Disclosure Details How DOGE May Have Taken Sensitive Labor Data*, NPR (Apr. 15, 2025) (online at www.npr.org/2025/04/15/nx-s1-5355896/doge-nlr-elon-musk-spacex-security).

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *See, e.g.*, 44 U.S.C. § 2901; 18 U.S.C. § 2071; 18 U.S.C. 641.

7. Which individuals associated with DOGE have taken any actions that could conceal their access to NLRB or DOL systems, their alteration, manipulation, or exfiltration of data on those systems?
8. What code was the intended use of the repository titled "NxGenBdoorExtract"? Was this code used to access or extract any files from NLRB? If so, which files were extracted and to what source? Were any external entry points to NLRB created via code in this repository?
9. Was a DNS tunnel used to access or extract any data from NLRB? If so, what data was extracted and to what source?
10. What was the origin of the email account "DogeSA_2d5c3e0446f9@nlrb.microsoft.com"? What emails were sent or received by this email account? When was this email account deleted, and by whom?
11. How many "containers" were provisioned inside of NLRB's network? For each instance, what was NLRB's reason for provisioning such a container and what security and deployment measures were taken as part of provisioning said containers?
12. What logs did NLRB retain for any server, container, or other network appliance accessed or installed by an individual associated with DOGE? Were these logs maintained in accordance with federal records requirements?

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Gerald E. Connolly
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman