Message

From: Aldy, Joseph Edgar [joseph_aldy@hks.harvard.edu]
Sent: 4/1/2021 10:35:00 PM
To: Goffman, Joseph [Goffman.Joseph@epa.gov]
CC: McGartland, Al [McGartland.Al@epa.gov]; Marten, Alex [Marten.Alex@epa.gov]; Nagarajan, Shruti [shruti_nagarajan@hks.harvard.edu]
Subject: Re: AI and public comment on regulatory proposals

Thanks Joe!

Shruti, let me suggest that you follow up with Al and Alex on this. Al and Alex, thanks in advance for any assistance you can offer. And I'd be happy to discuss further if you'd like.

Best,

Joe

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 30, 2021, at 8:32 PM, Goffman, Joseph <goffman.joseph@epa.gov> wrote:

Al and Alex, copied here, are the people to connect with on this.

Best,
Joe

Joseph Goffman
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

From: Aldy, Joseph Edgar <joseph_aldy@hks.harvard.edu>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 10:43 AM
To: Goffman, Joseph <Goffman.Joseph@epa.gov>
Cc: Nagarajan, Shruti <shruti_nagarajan@hks.harvard.edu>
Subject: Al and public comment on regulatory proposals

Hi Joe,

I hope you are doing well. I suspect that you are very busy trying to save the planet, so let me cut to the chase. I have a favor to ask.

Shruti Nagarajan, cc'd, is one of my HKS MPP students working on a policy analysis of natural language processing and broadly artificial intelligence in rulemaking. Through Ignite, an internal innovation program run out of the HHS IDEA Lab, teams at the Department of Health and Human Services and the Environmental Protection Agency tackled the comment review process by beta testing NLP software to review comments received. Has the EPA conducted an evaluation of this (and potentially other) application(s) of AI in the processing of public comments on major regulatory proposals? For example, has the agency assessed the cost-savings and efficiencies that stem from the utilization of NLP in comment review and analysis? Given your role on the Clean

Power Plan -- and the many many comments received on that proposal, I thought you might have a sense of this or would know who to direct Shruti to who would be familiar with this.

Thanks in advance for any assistance you can offer.

Best,

Joe

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