



Corporation
for Public
Broadcasting

Center for Digital Democracy
Common Cause
Free Press

Dear Ms. Pingree, Mr. Chester, and Mr. Scott,

Thank you for your letter of November 1 urging the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to open a meeting of its board of directors to the public.

As you know, the board is meeting in closed executive session from Tuesday, November 1 through Thursday, November 3 to review and discuss materials prepared by the corporation's Inspector General setting forth the preliminary results of an investigation undertaken at the request of members of Congress.

The rationale for closing this meeting to the public is that the materials and related matters being considered will require the confidential advice of counsel, who will be present throughout the meeting, will concern current and former individual employees, and will involve proprietary information, the premature release of which may be harmful to the corporation's interests. Such meetings fall within the exceptions to the open meeting requirements of the Public Broadcasting Act as set forth in 47 U.S.C. Section 396 (g)(4) and (k)(4).

The Inspector General requires that materials prepared by him be held in strict confidence until a final report is completed. Individuals who review and comment on IG reports must preserve that confidentiality and may not disclose information regarding the report prior to the IG's release.

I appreciate this opportunity to respond to your concerns. I am sure we will be in touch again as the Inspector General completes his report.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Halpern
Chairman

Patricia Harrison
President and CEO