

RNC Research BRIEFING

GreenTech Amnesia

Memory Loss Seems To Be Sweeping D.C. When It Comes To Terry McAuliffe's GreenTech

OBAMA'S WHITE HOUSE CAN'T RECALL IF THEY HELPED MCAULIFFE AND GREENTECH

Yesterday, NBC 12 Reported That Terry McAuliffe Met With White House Officials About GreenTech In 2010. "Terry McAuliffe, the Democratic nominee for Governor of Virginia did meet with White House officials in October of 2010. NBC12 has confirmed the meeting first revealed by the conservative website Watchdog.org." (Ryan Nobles, "White House Downplays Significance Of McAuliffe Greentech Meeting," [NBC 12 Decision Virginia](#), 8/7/13)

- **"No One At The White House Can Recall If The Meeting With McAuliffe Led To Any Action By The Federal Government On Behalf Of GreenTech."** (Ryan Nobles, "White House Downplays Significance Of McAuliffe Greentech Meeting," [NBC 12 Decision Virginia](#), 8/7/13)

McAuliffe Met With Greg Nelson At The White Office Of Public Engagement. "However, both McAuliffe and White House both downplayed the significance of the meeting with Greg Nelson, who at the time worked in the White House Office of Public Engagement." (Ryan Nobles, "White House Downplays Significance Of McAuliffe Greentech Meeting," [NBC 12 Decision Virginia](#), 8/7/13)

- **Nelson Is The Same White House Official Who Helped Solyndra Obtain Federal Funding.** "Christian Gronet, the Chairman of Solyndra, met with Greg Nelson, from the White House Office of Public Engagement on Sept. 22, 2009." (Jim Snyder, "FBI Raids Bankrupt Solyndra as Lawmakers Question Panel Maker's Finances," [Bloomberg](#), 9/9/11)

According To Virginia Economic Development Partnership Emails, GreenTech's Business Plan Stated That It Was Planning To Apply For A Federal Loan. "The DOE incentive program for advanced technology vehicles manufacturing is open to new automotive manufacturers and may be a source of capital. The business plan indicates that an application package is being prepared and may be submitted by the end of [REDACTED]" (Jeffrey M Anderson, [Email to Sandi McNinch, Mike Lehmkuhler, Robert McClintock and Roy Dahlquist](#), 11/19/09)

THE WHITE HOUSE'S POOR MEMORY IS JUST THE LATEST CASE OF AMNESIA TO STRIKE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN GREENTECH

Obama's Department Of Homeland Security Nominee Forgot To Mention Repeated Email And

Telephone Conversations With McAuliffe And Other GreenTech Officials

Alejandro Mayorkas, President Obama's Nominee For Second-In-Command At The Department Of Homeland Security, Testified Before Congress That He Had Met With Terry McAuliffe Once About GreenTech "And That Was The Extent Of The Interaction." "Mayorkas, director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), is under scrutiny by the department's inspector general over allegations that he mismanaged a visa program for foreign investors used by McAuliffe's car firm, GreenTech, according to congressional aides and documents. 'I was asked to attend a meeting with Mr. McAuliffe so that I could hear in person his complaints. . . . I heard those complaints, and that was the extent of the interaction,' Mayorkas said." (Ben Pershing and Tom Hamburger, "Homeland Security Deputy Nominee Says He Didn't Give Terry McAuliffe Special Treatment," [The Washington Post](#), 7/25/13)

However, New Documents Have Since Been Released That Counter Mayorkas' Impression Of The Extent Of His Involvement. "Aside from the SEC investigation, the newly obtained documents show greater communication between McAuliffe, Rodham and DHS officials than was previously known, as well as concern over a potential GreenTech investor tied to a Chinese firm that has raised national security concerns. The documents counter the impression left last week by a top U.S. immigration official, Alejandro Mayorkas, who testified in front of a Senate panel that he met with McAuliffe on one occasion, "and that was the extent of the interaction." (Tom Hamburger and Ben Pershing, "Company With Ties To Terry McAuliffe Is Under SEC Investigation," [The Washington Post](#), 8/2/13)

- **"The Documents Show That Mayorkas And Other Senior DHS Officials Had A Dozen E-Mail And Telephone Contacts With McAuliffe, Rodham And Other Representatives For GreenTech And Gulf Coast."** (Tom Hamburger and Ben Pershing, "Company With Ties To Terry McAuliffe Is Under SEC Investigation," [The Washington Post](#), 8/2/13)

McAuliffe Couldn't Even Remember To Tell Virginia Voters That He Had Resigned As GreenTech's Chairman

McAuliffe "Quietly" Resigned As GreenTech's Chairman "Sometime Before Dec. 1", 2012.

"Democratic Virginia gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe quietly resigned late last year from the electric car company he founded, the company confirmed Friday. McAuliffe stepped down as GreenTech Automotive Inc.'s chairman sometime before Dec. 1, which is the date of a letter from GreenTech's chief executive, Charles Wang, accepting McAuliffe's resignation. (Fredrick Kunkle, "McAuliffe Quietly Resigned Last Year From Electric Car Firm He Founded," [The Washington Post](#), 4/5/13)

Numerous Uncorrected Media Reports Referred To McAuliffe As GreenTech's Chairman After He Resigned. "Numerous media reports — including in the Richmond Times-Dispatch, the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot and the Associated Press — have referred to McAuliffe as chairman since he resigned the post." (Ben Pershing, "Republicans Say Greentech Resignation Hurts McAuliffe Campaign Message," [The Washington Post](#), 4/9/13)

- **"Asked Why The Campaign Had Not Sought To Correct Those Stories, [McAuliffe Campaign Spokesperson] Did Not Directly Address The Question."** (Ben Pershing, "Republicans Say Greentech Resignation Hurts McAuliffe Campaign Message," [The Washington Post](#), 4/9/13)

"The Campaign Also Never Mentioned McAuliffe Leaving Even As He Traveled The State Using GreenTech As An Example Of His Ability To Create Jobs." "The Democratic Candidate for Governor is taking some criticism for the way he left his former company to campaign. Terry McAuliffe quietly gave up his position as chairman of GreenTech Automotive in December but he never officially announced he was stepping down. The campaign also never mentioned McAuliffe leaving even as he traveled the state

using GreenTech as an example of his ability to create jobs. Since then, news organizations have scrutinized GreenTech's efforts to start making new models of electric cars in Mississippi instead of Virginia." (Hollani Davis, [WDBJ](#), 4/4/13)

IT'S NOT SURPRISING THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION AND MCAULIFFE WOULD PREFER TO FORGET ABOUT GREENTECH

GreenTech Is Currently Under SEC Investigation

On Friday, *The Washington Post* Reported That The Securities And Exchange Commission Is Investigating Terry McAuliffe's GreenTech "Over Its Conduct In Soliciting Foreign Investors." "An electric-car company co-founded by Virginia gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe (D) is under investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission over its conduct in soliciting foreign investors, according to law-enforcement documents and company officials." (Tom Hamburger and Ben Pershing, "Company With Ties To Terry McAuliffe Is Under SEC Investigation," [The Washington Post](#), 8/2/13)

- **The SEC Has Subpoenaed Documents From Both McAuliffe's GreenTech And Gulf Coast Funds, A Sister Company Run By Hillary Clinton's Brother.** "The SEC subpoenaed documents in May from GreenTech Automotive and bank records from a sister company, Gulf Coast Funds Management of McLean. The investigation is focused, at least in part, on alleged claims that the company 'guarantees returns' to the investors, according to government documents. GreenTech has sought overseas investors through a federal program that allows foreigners to gain special visas if they contribute at least \$500,000 to create U.S. jobs. Gulf Coast, which is run by Anthony Rodham, the brother of former secretary of state Hillary Rodham Clinton, seeks investors for GreenTech and arranges the visas." (Tom Hamburger and Ben Pershing, "Company With Ties To Terry McAuliffe Is Under SEC Investigation," [The Washington Post](#), 8/2/13)

The SEC Believes That GreenTech May Have Improperly Told Investors That They Were Guaranteed A Return On Their Investment. "The SEC subpoenaed documents in May from GreenTech Automotive and bank records from a sister company, Gulf Coast Funds Management of McLean. The investigation is focused, at least in part, on alleged claims that the company "guarantees returns" to the investors, according to government documents." (Tom Hamburger and Ben Pershing, "Company With Ties To Terry McAuliffe Is Under SEC Investigation," [The Washington Post](#), 8/2/13)

GreenTech Has Produced Nowhere Near The Jobs McAuliffe Promised It Would

In July Of 2010, McAuliffe Said GreenTech's Goal Was 4,000 Workers In Mississippi, Tennessee, & Virginia. "McAuliffe says the company, based in Northern Virginia, is committed to developing vehicles that are energy-efficient, affordable, and built in the United States. The business plan is to hire more than 4,000 workers in Mississippi, Tennessee and Virginia." (Mar Weiner, "Schumer: Drink NY Wine But Don't Drive Drunk," *The Post Standard*, 7/11/10)

- **McAuliffe Went On TV And Boasted That Greentech Would Have 1,000 Employees In Mississippi "By Next Year" In July of 2012.** "My business down in Mississippi, with the help of the governor, we're going to have 1,000 employees by next year. We're a small business. We're growing. We want to be a big business, but we're working together in a bipartisan way." (CNN's "The Situation Room," 7/9/12)

McAuliffe Admits Now That GreenTech Has 100 Employees In Mississippi. NOBLES: "Well let, let me get into that then because I think that's part of where some of your critics have attacked and this is what I want you to respond to because it's not so much necessarily that GreenTech isn't – they are obviously still

in business. They're obviously making some degree of progress, but that progress is much different than the expectations that you yourself set. At one point you said that there were going to be 900 jobs in Mississippi by the end of 2012 and there may be 50 to 75 employees in that area." McAuliffe: "I think 100, but ok." ("NBC12 Decision Virginia McAuliffe On GreenTech," [NBC12](#), 4/30/13)

- **April 2013: "Marianne McInerney, a GreenTech Vice President, Said The Company Employs About 10 Employees In McLean And 78 In Mississippi."** (Frederick Kunkle, "Car Company Founded By McAuliffe Files \$85 Million Suit Over Web Site Articles," [The Washington Post](#), 4/12/13)

Multiple Former Employees Have Independently Claimed Their Alleged Work At GreenTech Was A Show For Investors

During Interviews, Several Former GreenTech Employees Claimed They Were Used To Put On A "Show" For GreenTech Investors. "Perhaps the most startling revelation from the film comes from a group of former employees who agreed to go on camera. They each recount their experience with Greentech and echo many of same concerns that a former worker we profiled in an NBC12 special report did last week. The former workers go into detail about what they describe as a 'show' put on for what they thought to be investors." (Ryan Nobles, "First Look: 'Fast Terry' Uncovers More Disgruntled GreenTech Employees," [NBC 12](#), 7/29/13)

A Former GreenTech Employee Interviewed By NBC Also Recounted Being Told To Put On A Show For Investors. "The worker claims the company had them put on a show for what he believed to be foreign investors." ("Former Worker Raises Concerns About GreenTech's Progress," [NBC 12 Decision Virginia](#), 7/24/13)

- **Former GreenTech Employee: "They Would Take Everybody And Put Them Out On The Line And We Would Stand Over The Car With Tools In Our Hand And Look Like We Were Doing Something To The Car But We Wasn't Doing Anything."** ([WMC-TN](#), 7/24/13)

The Former GreenTech Employee Said GreenTech Management Told Them That The Company Was Dependant On Foreign Investors. GREENTECH EMPLOYEE: "Like I say, we were told that they depended on these foreign investors, the company depended on these investors coming in to finance the initiative that we were doing." ([WMC-TN](#), 7/24/13)

- **Former GreenTech Employee: "It Was All An Act Put On For These Investors To Make Them Think We Were Producing And Actually Doing Work."** "When the Chinese investor comes in, we were placed on the station, at our assigned work stations, we start working on the cars as if we were producing cars then sending them out the door. It was all a -- an act put on for these investors to make them think that we were producing and actually doing work when, in fact, these cars had been built six months prior to and tore apart and put on the line," ([WMC-TN](#), 7/24/13)
- **Former GreenTech Employee: "In Fact, These Cars Had Been Built Six Months Prior To And Tore Apart And Put On The Line."** ([WMC-TN](#), 7/24/13)