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# WTF Is DOGE Doing in Department in Charge of Nuclear Weapons?

The Department of Energy on Friday tried to clarify why one of Elon Musk's DOGE underlings was granted access to the department's I.T. systems despite opposition from its general counsel and cybersecurity offices.

CNN [reports](#) that Luke Farritor, 23, whose previous work experience consists of an internship at Musk's company SpaceX was granted access by Energy Secretary Chris Wright Wednesday. The department's legal counsel and chief information offices, which govern I.T. and cybersecurity, "said this is a bad idea," according to a source who spoke with CNN, given that Farritor hadn't received a standard background check.

"He's not cleared to be in DOE, on our systems. None of those things have been done," said the unnamed source.

While Farritor was only granted access to basic I.T., including email and Microsoft 365, according to CNN's sources, the report still rang alarm bells as the agency is in charge of the country's nuclear arsenal, among other aspects of American energy policy and production.

In response to the uproar, Wright sought to discourage speculation that Farritor or anyone else associated with DOGE had access to U.S. nuclear secrets.

“I’ve heard these rumors. They’re like seeing our nuclear secrets. None of that is true at all,” the energy secretary told CNBC’s Brian Sullivan Friday.

But Trump administration officials haven’t been honest with the level of access given to Musk’s DOGE cronies. One of his young software engineers, Marko ElezThe Department of Energy on Friday tried to clarify why one of Elon Musk’s DOGE underlings was granted access to the department’s I.T. systems despite opposition from its general counsel and cybersecurity offices.

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But Trump administration officials haven't been honest with the level of access given to Musk's DOGE cronies. One of his young software engineers, Marko Elez, had administrator privileges with the country's most vital payment systems governing trillions of dollars in disbursements, allowing critical code to be rewritten, despite Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent claiming Elez only had "read-only" access. Elez resigned this week over racist social media posts (but already may be rehired). Meanwhile, a U.S. district court on Thursday limited DOGE's privileges in government agencies.

Right now, DOGE's activities are stretching, if not outright breaking, federal law over government functions and positions that are supposed to be governed by Congress. But the only bulwark against Musk and Trump's overhauling of the federal government is the courts, as federal law enforcement is in the president's crosshairs., had administrator privileges with the country's most vital payment systems governing trillions of dollars in disbursements, allowing critical code to be rewritten, despite Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent claiming Elez only had "read-only" access. Elez resigned this week over racist social media posts (but already may be rehired). Meanwhile, a U.S. district court on Thursday limited DOGE's privileges in government agencies.

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