

Catherine Mailhouse

From: Catherine Mailhouse
Sent: Monday, September 9, 2019 8:23 PM
To: Danny Hajek; Susan Buchanan - NOAA Federal
Cc: maureen.oleary@noaa.gov; jasmine.blackwell@noaa.gov; Dalia Mortada; Bridget Kelley; Jessica Deahl; Terence Samuel
Subject: RE: NPR Press Inquiry: Dr. Louis Uccellini

Hi Susan,

Picking up for my colleague Danny. We would like get Dr. Uccellini's perspective on the statement he issued today and clarity to the confusion surrounding President Trump's tweets and comments, as Danny mentioned. But as a network policy, we cannot make an agreement to exclude any questions.

If the question about the NYTimes report is brought up, our expectation of Dr. Uccellini is that he only be forthright. That includes his answer that he had no knowledge of the reported situation, as you stated below. However, if this is an issue, we will have to regretfully decline to move forward.

If you would like to proceed with Dr. Uccellini's interview, we are open to speaking with him Wednesday or Thursday this week. We have opportunities as early as 6AM ET for a live slot on our nationally broadcast morning drive-time program, *Morning Edition*, and opportunities through the remainder of the day on our afternoon news magazine *All Things Considered*. We can accommodate this interview as late as 8PM ET.

Thank you for your time and understanding,
Catherine

From: Danny Hajek <DHajek@npr.org>
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2019 7:08 PM
To: Susan Buchanan - NOAA Federal <susan.buchanan@noaa.gov>
Cc: maureen.oleary@noaa.gov; jasmine.blackwell@noaa.gov; Catherine Mailhouse <CMailhouse@npr.org>; Dalia Mortada <DMortada@npr.org>; Bridget Kelley <BKelley@npr.org>; Jessica Deahl <JDeahl@npr.org>
Subject: RE: NPR Press Inquiry: Dr. Louis Uccellini

Hi Susan,

Thank you for your quick response – and my apologies for the multiple requests today. I appreciate you letting me know.

I will chat with my editors, and we'll discuss the option of scheduling an interview later this week. I'll be in touch with any updates from our end.

Thanks again,
Danny

 | Danny Hajek | Associate Producer | Morning Edition | NPR West | 310.815.4228

From: Susan Buchanan - NOAA Federal <susan.buchanan@noaa.gov>

Sent: Monday, September 9, 2019 3:33 PM

To: Danny Hajek <DHajek@npr.org>

Cc: maureen.oleary@noaa.gov; jasmine.blackwell@noaa.gov; Catherine Mailhouse <CMailhouse@npr.org>; Dalia Mortada <DMortada@npr.org>; Bridget Kelley <BKelley@npr.org>; Jessica Deahl <JDeahl@npr.org>

Subject: Re: NPR Press Inquiry: Dr. Louis Uccellini

Hi Danny - thank you for reaching out. I already declined a morning interview for tomorrow with one of your colleagues. Unfortunately, he is not available. He could perhaps do this interview later in the week. If you'd like to propose a time, please let me know and I'll check with his scheduler. He will not address the latest reports from the New York Times about threats of firings from higher in the Administration, as he has no knowledge of that reported situation, so we would need an agreement that he would not be posed any questions about it.

Regards,

-Susan

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Susan Buchanan
Director of Public Affairs
National Weather Service
301-427-9000

On Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 6:15 PM Danny Hajek <DHajek@npr.org> wrote:

Dear Susan, Maureen and Jasmine,

My name is Danny Hajek and I'm a producer at National Public Radio (NPR). I hope you're doing well.

I'm reaching out about setting up an interview with Dr. Louis Uccellini on NPR. We'd like to discuss how NOAA responded to President Trump's claims that Hurricane Dorian posed a threat to Alabama, and how Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross allegedly threatened to fire top employees of the agency for contradicting Trump's statements.

This would be a LIVE interview tomorrow on one of our flagship shows, *Morning Edition* or *All Things Considered*. We can schedule tomorrow morning at 6:30am ET or 7:00am ET, or a time later in the afternoon. I'm cc'ing my colleagues working across shifts here to ensure we see your response at any time of day.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing back.

Best,
Danny

 | Danny Hajek | Associate Producer | Morning Edition | NPR West | 310.815.4228