## Ogbazghi, Joan

**From:** FOIA-Central@hq.doe.gov
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2009 12:29 PM
**To:** FOIA-Central
**Subject:** DOE Headquarters FOIA Request

JUN 18 2009
SCIENTIFIC/EDUCATIONAL/NEWS MEDIA
100 FREE PAGES
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Name: Siobhan Hughes

Organization: Dow Jones Newswires

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Record Description:

To whom it may concern:

This is a request under the federal Freedom of Information Act, as amended, 5 USC 552.

I am seeking copies of all congressional correspondence regarding the $2.4 billion in funding provided under the Recovery Act to support next-generation plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and their advanced battery components. This would include, but is not limited to, letters from members of Congress and the Senate; from Congressional and Senate Committees; or from staffers for members or for committees.

I am not seeking the Energy Department's responses to Congressional requests. I am requesting this information for the purpose of possible public dissemination in a news article and therefore request that you waive charges pursuant to 5 USC 552 (a) (4) (A), Fed. Reg. 7296, Section 1900.25. I'm a reporter for The Wall Street Journal.

I also request expedited processing of my request due to the timeliness of the material. I would like to note a March 19, 2009 letter from Attorney General Eric Holder regarding new Freedom of Information Act Guidelines. In the letter, Holder said an "agency should not withhold records merely because it can demonstrate, as a technical matter, that the records fall within the scope of a FOIA exemption." Furthermore, he added, "When information not previously disclosed is requested, agencies should make it a priority to respond in a timely manner. Timely disclosure of information is an essential component of transparency."

If you deny this request for a waiver, please advise me in advance of the estimated charges so that I may decide whether to pay the fees or appeal your denial of my request for a waiver of charges.

As I am making this request in the capacity of a journalist and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone, rather than by mail, if you have any questions regarding this request. Thank you for your assistance, and I will look forward to receiving your reply within 20 business days, as required by law.

Sincerely,

Siobhan Hughes
Dow Jones Newswires
202-862-6654
Siobhan.hughes@dowjones.com

FOIA-2009-000456

Sheila

Preferred Form or Format: electronic

Type of Requester (if provided):

A representative of the news media affiliated with Dow Jones Newswires and the request is made as part of news gathering and not for commercial use.

Type of Media (if provided):

Other: wire service

Fees and Fee Waivers:

I request a waiver or reduction of fees.

Waiver or Reduction of Fees Factors (if provided):

1. The subject of the request: Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government."

concerns the activities of the government

2. The informative value of the information to be disclosed: Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities.

is likely to contribute to an understanding of government operations

3. The contribution to an understanding by the general public of the subject likely to result from disclosure, taking into account your ability and intent to disseminate the information to the public in a form that can further understanding of the subject matter.

I intend to write a story

4. The significance of the contribution to public understanding: Whether the disclosure is likely to contribute "significantly" to public understanding of government operations or activities.

It is likely to significantly contribute to an understanding of energy policy and politics

5. The existence and magnitude of a commercial interest: Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure, and, if so

I don't have any financial stake in the outcome of the story

6. The primary interest in disclosure: Whether the magnitude of the identified commercial interest of the requester is sufficiently large, in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is "primarily in the commercial interest of the requester."

The purpose is for a news story

Expedited Processing:

I believe a compelling need exists to warrant expedited processing because there is:

an urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity exists (this option available ONLY for requesters primarily engaged in disseminating information)

Specific Justification for Expedited Processing: