Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

July 27, 2021

Aaron Gordon
411A Highland Ave
MR98367
Somerville, MA 02144

Via email: 98367-96202474@requests.muckrock.com

RE: HQ-2020-01002-F

Dear Mr. Gordon:

This is a final response to the request for information that you sent to the Department of Energy (DOE) under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. You requested:

> All records and communications relating to the April 4, 2018 Office of Nuclear Energy post titled "7 Things The Simpsons Got Wrong About Nuclear." (Link: https://www.energy.gov/ne/articles/7-things-simpsons-got-wrong-about-nuclear).

Your request was assigned to DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy (NE) to conduct a search of its files for records responsive to your request. DOE started its search on May 28, 2021, which is the cut-off date for responsive records. NE has completed its search and has identified nineteen (19) documents responsive to your request. The documents are being released to you as described in the accompanying index.

Upon review, DOE has determined that certain information in the documents should be withheld pursuant to Exemptions 5 and 6 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(5) and (b)(6).

Exemption 5 protects from mandatory disclosure "inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters that would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency…." Exemption 5 incorporates the deliberative process privilege which protects recommendations, advice, and opinions that are part of the process by which agency decisions and polices are formulated. The information withheld under Exemption 5 consists of inter-agency pre-decisional information and attorney-client privilege.

The withheld portions of the documents in question are pre-decisional and deliberative. The information is both pre-decisional, because it was developed before the agency

adopted a final policy, and deliberative, in that it reflects the opinions of individuals who were consulted as part of the decision-making process. DOE may consider these preliminary views as part of the process that will lead to the agency's final policy decision about these matters. The documents and discussions do not represent a final agency position, and their release would compromise the deliberative process by which the government makes its decisions. Thus, portions of the documents are being withheld under Exemption 5 of the FOIA as pre-decisional material that is part of the agency's deliberative process.

In addition, these documents contain communications involving DOE attorneys and are being withheld under the attorney-client communications privilege. The information in these documents includes confidential communications between DOE attorneys and the staff of the program office to which they provide legal advice. Thus, documents are being withheld in part under Exemption 5 of the FOIA.

With respect to the discretionary disclosure of deliberative information, the quality of agency decisions would be adversely affected if frank, written discussion of policy matters were inhibited by the knowledge that the content of such discussion might be made public. For this reason, DOE has determined that discretionary disclosure of the deliberative material is not in the public interest because foreseeable harm could result from such disclosure.

Exemption 6 generally is referred to as the "personal privacy" exemption; it provides that the disclosure requirements of FOIA do not apply to "personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). In applying Exemption 6, DOE considered: 1) whether a significant privacy interest would be invaded; 2) whether the release of the information would further the public interest by shedding light on the operations or activities of the Government; and 3) whether in balancing the privacy interests against the public interest, disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy.

The information withheld under Exemption 6 consists of mobile phone numbers and private email addresses. This information qualifies as "similar files" because it is information in which an individual has a privacy interest. Moreover, releasing the information could subject the individuals to unwarranted or unsolicited communications. Since no public interest would be served by disclosing this information, and since there is a viable privacy interest that would be threatened by such disclosure, Exemption 6 authorizes withholding the information. Therefore, we have determined that the public interest in the information's release does not outweigh the overriding privacy interests in keeping it confidential.

This satisfies the standard set forth at 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(8)(A) that agencies shall withhold information under FOIA "only if (I) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption…; or (II) disclosure is prohibited by law…" 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(8)(A) also provides that whenever full disclosure of a record is not

possible, agencies shall "consider whether partial disclosure of information is possible…and (II) take reasonable steps necessary to segregate and release nonexempt information." Therefore, we have determined that, in certain instances, a partial disclosure is proper.

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7(b)(2), I am the individual responsible for the determination to withhold the information described above. The FOIA requires that "any reasonably segregable portion of a record shall be provided to any person requesting such record after deletion of the portions which are exempt," *5* U.S.C. § 552(b). As a result, redacted versions of the documents are being released to you in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7(b)(3).

This determination, as well as the adequacy of the search, may be appealed within 90 calendar days from your receipt of this letter pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8. Appeals should be addressed to Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals, HG-I, L 'Enfant Plaza, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585-1615. The written appeal, including the envelope, must clearly indicate that a FOIA appeal is being made. You may also submit your appeal by e-mail to OHA.filings@hq.doe.gov, including the phrase "Freedom of Information Appeal" in the subject line. (This is the method preferred by the Office of Hearing and Appeals.) The appeal must contain all the elements required by 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8, including a copy of the determination letter. Thereafter, judicial review will be available to you in the Federal District Court either (1) in the district where you reside, (2) where you have your principal place of business, (3) where DOE's records are situated, or (4) in the District of Columbia.

You may contact DOE's FOIA Public Liaison, Alexander Morris, FOIA Officer, Office of Public Information, at 202-586-5955, or by mail at MA-46 Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

The FOIA provides for the assessment of fees for the processing of requests. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(i); *see also* 10 C.F.R. § 1004.9(a). In our August 4, 2020, letter, you were advised that your request was placed in the "other" category for fee purposes. Requesters in this category are entitled to two free hours of search time and 100 free pages. DOE's processing costs did not exceed $15.00, the minimum amount at which DOE assesses fees. Thus, no fees will be charged for processing your request.

If you have any questions about the processing of the request or this letter, you may contact Ms. Rosa Vazquez, or myself, at:

MA-46/ Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585
(202) 586-5955.

I appreciate the opportunity to assist you with this matter.

Sincerely,

ALEXANDER MORRIS

Digitally signed by ALEXANDER MORRIS
Date: 2021.07.27 09:02:08 -04'00'

Alexander C. Morris
FOIA Officer
Office of Public Information

Enclosures

INDEX

Request#: HQ-2020-01002-F

Final response to the request from Aaron Gordon for the following information:

> **All records and communications relating to the April 4, 2018 Office of Nuclear Energy post titled "7 Things The Simpsons Got Wrong About Nuclear." (Link: https://www.energy.gov/ne/articles/7-things-simpsons-got-wrong-about-nuclear).**

DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy has identified nineteen (19) documents responsive to your request:

- Nineteen (19) documents *are being released, in part, pursuant to Exemptions 5 and 6.*

From: Harrison, Kathleen (INTERN)
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
Subject: RE: Simpsons blog
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 4:34:29 PM
Attachments: Simpsons and NE.docx

Some pics, videos, and gifs! Wasn't sure how you wanted to format them so there is a list of links to the media sources at the end of the doc.

Kate

-----Original Message-----
From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 3:39 PM
To: Harrison, Kathleen (INTERN) <Kathleen.Harrison@nuclear.energy.gov>
Subject: RE: Simpsons blog

Awesome. Thanks!

Can't wait to read this. In the meantime, it would be helpful to find supporting pictures/videos we can use in the blogs you are writing.

Best,

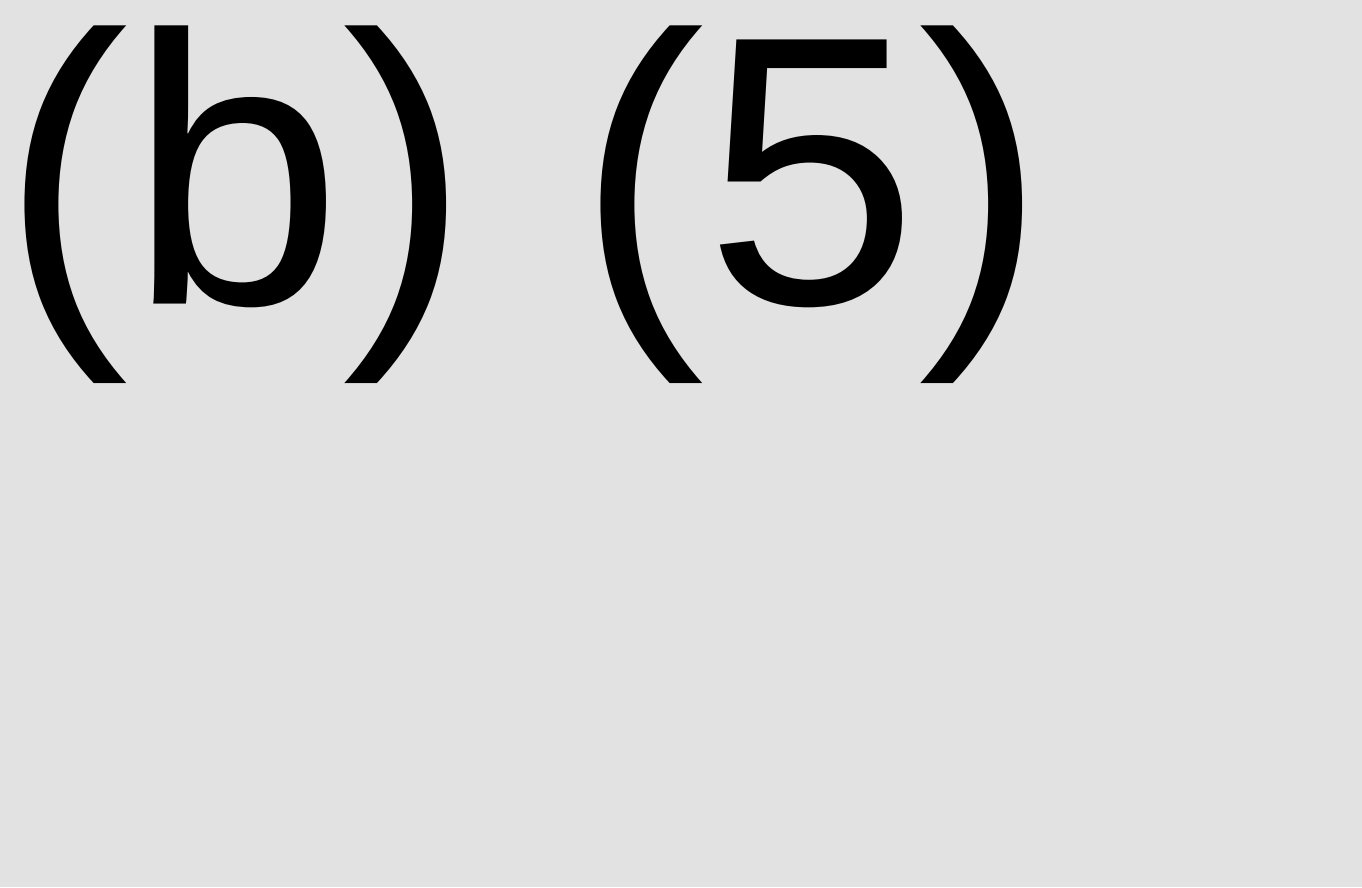
Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
https://energy.gov/ne/office-nuclear-energy

-----Original Message-----
From: Harrison, Kathleen (INTERN)
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 3:33 PM
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@EE.DOE.Gov>
Subject: Simpsons blog

Passing along another draft!

Kate

(b) (5)



Sources:

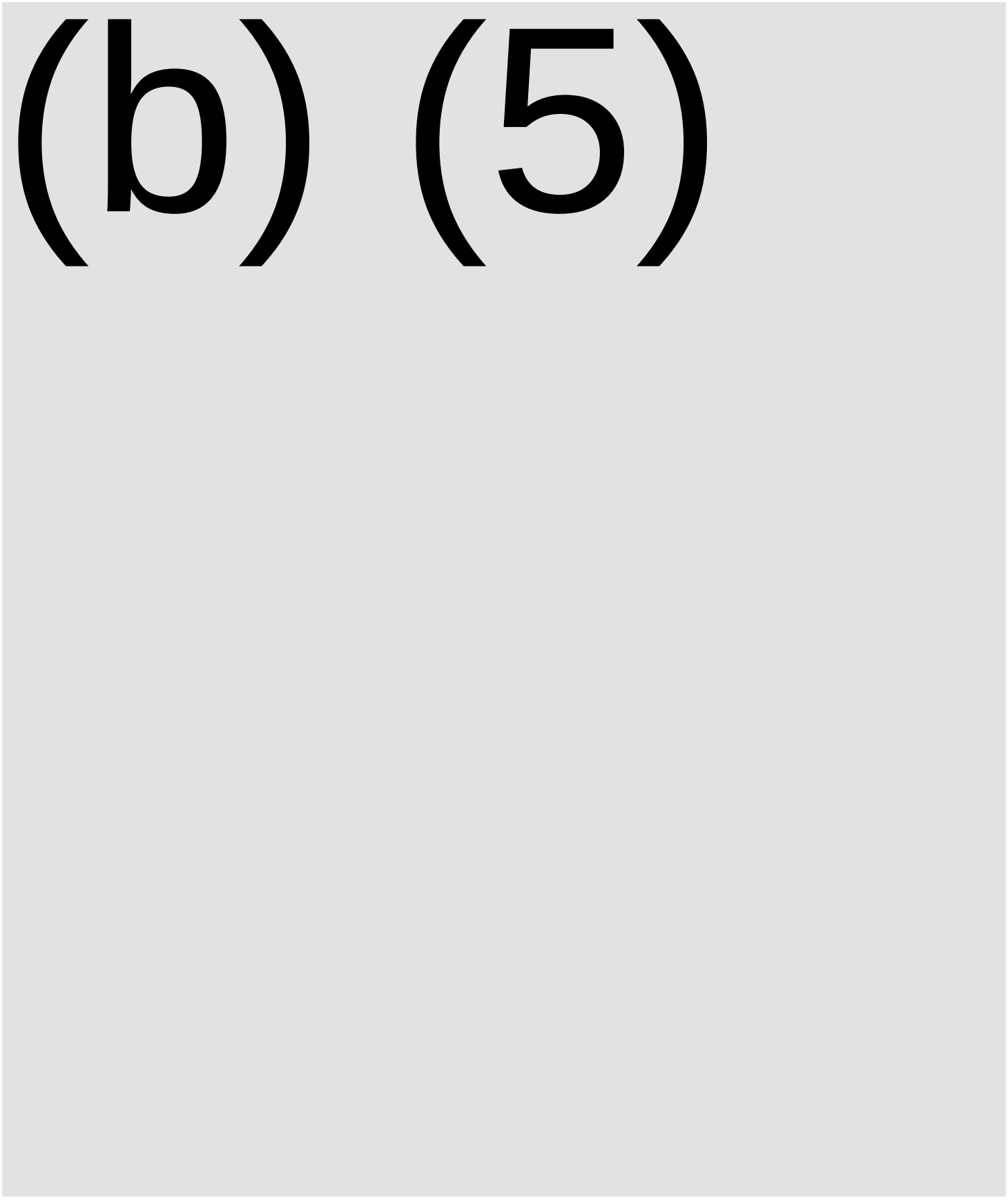
https://www.euronuclear.org/e-news/e-news-20/ygn-print.htm

http://neinuclearnotes.blogspot.com/2009/12/do-simpsons-distort-peoples-perceptions.html

http://www.academia.edu/240148/The_Simpsons_and_Nuclear_Power_How_Television_s_Atomic_Family_Has_Impacted_Public_Attitudes_on_Nuclear_Power

https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/radiation/related-info/faq.html

Media:



(b) (5)

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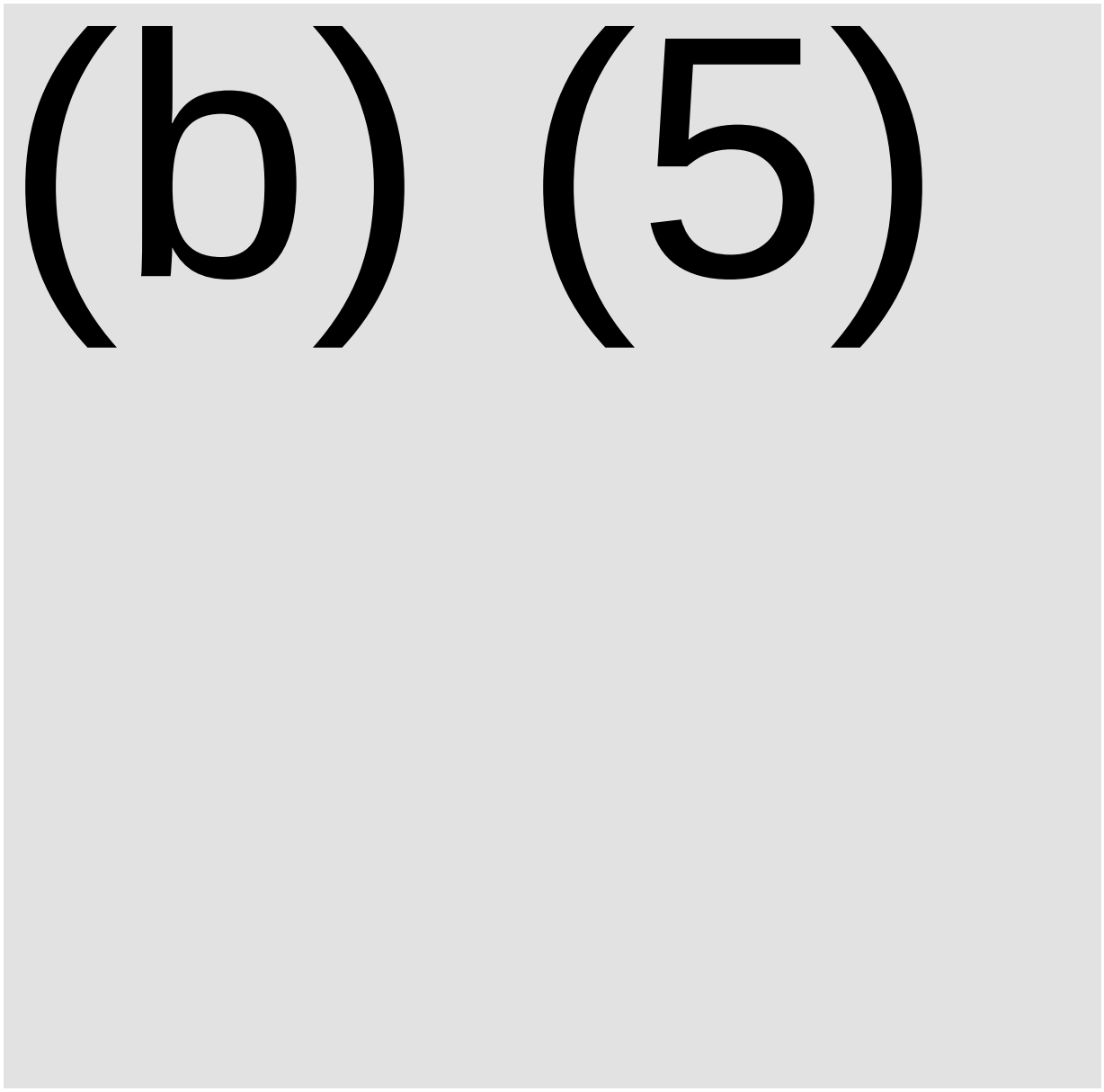
Plutonium as a paperweight pic: https://frinkiac.com/caption/S02E04/244338

(b) (5)


(b) (5)

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Harrison, Kathleen (INTERN)
Subject: RE: Simpsons blog
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 4:35:00 PM

Awesome!!!!!!!

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
https://energy.gov/ne/office-nuclear-energy

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Mike Mueller
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Subject: Simpsons blog

Passing along another draft!

Kate

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Jon Carmack
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog
Date: Monday, March 19, 2018 4:27:00 PM
Attachments: image003.png
THIS IS THE HIGH FLUX ISOTOPE REACTOR AT OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY.docx

---

Live like Aerosmith my man!

Attached is the HFIR video script. I can tag up with you tomorrow if you're around.

You're the man!

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Jon Carmack [mailto:jon.carmack@inl.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 4:17 PM
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Subject: Re: Simpsons Blog

The edge is interesting. I have stayed away from the edge for a long time. I will think of that perspective.

Jon

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 19, 2018, at 3:44 PM, Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@nuclear.energy.gov> wrote:

> Thanks!
>
> Edits look great.
>
> Had a few responses to your comments.

(b) (5)

Let me know what you are comfortable with or not, and if you'd like for me to flag for Suzie or somebody just to be sure that's fine to.

Thanks for you and your wife's help on this!

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell (b) (6)
<image001.jpg>@NuclearEnergyGov
<image002.jpg>NE Newsletter Sign Up
<image003.png>

From: Carmack, Jon [mailto:jon.carmack@inl.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 3:20 PM
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Subject: Re: Simpsons Blog

Got distracted. (b) (5)

Jon

On Mon, Mar 19, 2018 at 3:10 PM, Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@nuclear.energy.gov> wrote:

> Hi Jon,
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> Did you say you had the Simpsons blog reviewed?
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> I was going to finalize that if you were done with it.
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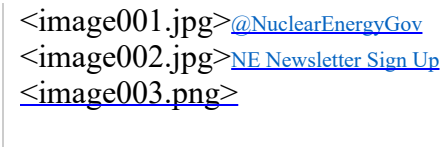

<7 Things the Simpsons Got Wrong About Nuclear_wjc_mm.docx.attachctrl>

(b) (5)

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Jon Carmack
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog
Date: Monday, March 19, 2018 4:49:00 PM
Attachments: image003.png

No rush. That's a loose deadline on that one.

Thanks Jon!

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
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I will be in tomorrow but downstairs in a meeting. I will take a look at this one

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<7 Things the Simpsons Got Wrong About Nuclear_wjc_mm.docx.attachctrl>

<THIS IS THE HIGH FLUX ISOTOPE REACTOR AT OAK RIDGE NATIONALLABORATORY.docx.attachctrl>

From: Lester, Paul
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
Subject: Re: Simpsons Blog
Date: Thursday, March 22, 2018 11:38:17 AM
Attachments: image003.png

Yo dude! (b) (5)

She's at Jennifer.Mahalingappa@hq.doe.gov

From: "Mueller, Mike (CONTR)" <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Date: Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 10:16 AM
To: "Lester, Paul" <Paul.Lester@Hq.Doe.Gov>
Subject: Simpsons Blog

Hi Paul,

Is there a person you suggest I reach out to about my Simpsons blog?

I wanted to know if it was ok to use any pictures or videos in the piece.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Lester, Paul
Cc: Mahalingappa, Jennifer
Subject: Simpsons Blog
Date: Friday, March 23, 2018 3:50:00 PM
Attachments: image003.png
Simpsons_3.PNG
Simpsons_4.PNG
Simpsons_5.PNG
Simpsons_1.PNG
Simpsons_2.PNG

Hi Paul and Jennifer,

I formatted the Simpsons blog, which will got out either first or second week of April.

Here it is in the CMS: https://cms.doe.gov/node/3399487/view

Jennifer, if you can't view it on the CMS, I've attached some photos of the blog.

Thanks for your help and guidance.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
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Desk: (202) 586-9604
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NE Newsletter Sign Up

Clean. Reliable. Nuclear.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Lester, Paul
Cc: Mahalingappa, Jennifer
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog
Date: Friday, March 23, 2018 4:00:00 PM
Attachments: image006.png
image009.png

Thanks Paul.

As long as you all are fine with it, we'll plan on posting in early April.

Thanks again!

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
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NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Lester, Paul
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 4:00 PM
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Cc: Mahalingappa, Jennifer <Jennifer.Mahalingappa@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: Re: Simpsons Blog

Cowabunga! This is so exciting! Mike, you brought NE into the 90s!

Seriously though, nice job!

From: "Mueller, Mike (CONTR)" <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Date: Friday, March 23, 2018 at 3:50 PM
To: "Lester, Paul" <Paul.Lester@Hq.Doe.Gov>
Cc: "Mahalingappa, Jennifer" <Jennifer.Mahalingappa@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: Simpsons Blog

Hi Paul and Jennifer,

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U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Jackson, Timothy B
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
Cc: Morrison, Daniel; Olsen, Karla; Neumann, Sarah A; Carmack, Jon
Subject: FW: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check
Date: Thursday, March 29, 2018 10:26:42 AM
Attachments: image003.png
7 Things the Simpsons Got Wrong About Nuclear_2- LS-jc-ni(1).docx

---

Hi Mike,
Thanks for your patience on your draft. I've obtained reviews by some ID technical people, and Sarah has obtained reviews by some of INL's CPLs. Attached is our input. (b) (5) I'm looping in Dan and Karla, as I mentioned it to Dan yesterday. Tim

---

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) [mailto:Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 7:53 AM
To: Jackson, Timothy B; Neumann, Sarah A
Cc: Carmack, Jon
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check

Hi Tim,

I wanted to follow up on this blog.

We are looking to bump this up and run it on Tuesday/Wednesday of next week.

Thanks.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
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NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Jackson, Timothy B [mailto:jacksotb@id.doe.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 4:27 PM
To: Neumann, Sarah A <sarah.neumann@inl.gov>
Cc: Carmack, Jon <jon.carmack@inl.gov>; Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>

Subject: FW: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check
Importance: High

Hi Sarah,
Can you please obtain reviews of this draft blog text that Mike wrote, from some additional SMEs at INL? I've made a few comments and edits for starters. Mike, please confirm that you will obtain NE's review before you post this. Thanks, Tim

---

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) [mailto:Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 1:55 PM
To: Jackson, Timothy B
Cc: Carmack, Jon
Subject: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check
Importance: High

Hi Tim,

Happy Friday.

I know most or all of the staff are probably out today, but wanted to flag this Simpsons blog we are looking to put out in the first or second week of April.

It's been reviewed by Jon Carmack and was wondering if there was someone who at INL **who can review for accuracy** on the information covered in the blog.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell (b) (5)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Olsen, Karla
Subject: FW: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check
Date: Thursday, March 29, 2018 10:34:00 AM
Attachments: image003.png
7 Things the Simpsons Got Wrong About Nuclear_2- LS-jc-ni(1).docx

---

Hi Karla,

Hope you are feeling well. I want to make sure this blog is (b) (5) (b) (5) . (b) (5) So I would like the ability to make sure this is still aligned with what we are going for here.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (5)
@NuclearEnergyGov
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Cc: Morrison, Daniel <Daniel.Morrison@ee.doe.gov>; Olsen, Karla <Karla.Olsen@EE.Doe.Gov>; Neumann, Sarah A <sarah.neumann@inl.gov>; Carmack, Jon <jon.carmack@inl.gov>
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Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check

Hi Tim,

I wanted to follow up on this blog.

We are looking to bump this up and run it on Tuesday/Wednesday of next week.

Thanks.

Best,

Mike Mueller

Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (5)

@NuclearEnergyGov

NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Jackson, Timothy B [mailto:jacksotb@id.doe.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 4:27 PM
To: Neumann, Sarah A <sarah.neumann@inl.gov>
Cc: Carmack, Jon <jon.carmack@inl.gov>; Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Subject: FW: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check
Importance: High

Hi Sarah,
Can you please obtain reviews of this draft blog text that Mike wrote, from some additional SMEs at INL? I've made a few comments and edits for starters. Mike, please confirm that you will obtain NE's review before you post this. Thanks, Tim

---

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) [mailto:Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 1:55 PM
To: Jackson, Timothy B
Cc: Carmack, Jon
Subject: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check
Importance: High

Hi Tim,

Happy Friday.

I know most or all of the staff are probably out today, but wanted to flag this Simpsons blog we are looking to put out in the first or second week of April.

It's been reviewed by Jon Carmack and was wondering if there was someone who at INL **who can review for accuracy** on the information covered in the blog.

Best,

Mike Mueller

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U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)

@NuclearEnergyGov

NE Newsletter Sign Up

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(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

From: Olsen, Karla
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check
Date: Thursday, March 29, 2018 10:55:25 AM
Attachments: image003.png

(b) (5)

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Date: Thursday, Mar 29, 2018, 10:34 AM
To: Olsen, Karla <Karla.Olsen@EE.Doe.Gov>
Subject: FW: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check

Hi Karla,

Hope you are feeling well. I want to make sure this blog is (b) (5) (b) (5) . (b) (5) . So I would like the ability to make sure this is still aligned with what we are going for here.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Jackson, Timothy B [mailto:jacksotb@id.doe.gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 10:23 AM
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Cc: Morrison, Daniel <Daniel.Morrison@ee.doe.gov>; Olsen, Karla <Karla.Olsen@EE.Doe.Gov>; Neumann, Sarah A <sarah.neumann@inl.gov>; Carmack, Jon <jon.carmack@inl.gov>
Subject: FW: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check

Hi Mike,
Thanks for your patience on your draft. I've obtained reviews by some ID technical people, and Sarah has obtained reviews by some of INL's CPLs. Attached is our input. (b) (5) I'm looping in Dan and Karla, as I mentioned it to Dan yesterday. Tim

---

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) [mailto:Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 7:53 AM
To: Jackson, Timothy B; Neumann, Sarah A
Cc: Carmack, Jon
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check

Hi Tim,

I wanted to follow up on this blog.

We are looking to bump this up and run it on Tuesday/Wednesday of next week.

Thanks.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Jackson, Timothy B [mailto:jacksotb@id.doe.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 4:27 PM
To: Neumann, Sarah A <sarah.neumann@inl.gov>
Cc: Carmack, Jon <jon.carmack@inl.gov>; Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Subject: FW: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check
Importance: High

Hi Sarah,
Can you please obtain reviews of this draft blog text that Mike wrote, from some additional SMEs at

INL? I've made a few comments and edits for starters. Mike, please confirm that you will obtain NE's review before you post this. Thanks, Tim

---

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) [mailto:Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 1:55 PM
To: Jackson, Timothy B
Cc: Carmack, Jon
Subject: Simpsons Blog- Accuracy Check
Importance: High

Hi Tim,

Happy Friday.

I know most or all of the staff are probably out today, but wanted to flag this Simpsons blog we are looking to put out in the first or second week of April.

It's been reviewed by Jon Carmack and was wondering if there was someone who at INL **who can review for accuracy** on the information covered in the blog.

Best,

Mike Mueller

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The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)

@NuclearEnergyGov

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From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Olsen, Karla
Cc: Morrison, Daniel
Subject: Simpsons Blog
Date: Thursday, March 29, 2018 5:12:00 PM
Attachments: image003.png
7 Things the Simpsons Got Wrong About Nuclear_2- LS-jc-ni(1)_mm.docx

---

Hi Karla,

I went through and accepted the changes I felt were appropriate. Can you please review for a final sign off?

I'll send them the final version as a heads up after your review.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Jackson, Timothy B (NE-ID)
Cc: Morrison, Daniel; Olsen, Karla
Subject: Simpsons Blog
Date: Friday, March 30, 2018 1:45:00 PM
Attachments: image003.png
7 Things the Simpsons Got Wrong About Nuclear_FINAL.docx

Hi Tim,

Thanks for all of the help and feedback on this. (b) (5)

Suzie has reviewed with plans to post on Tuesday.

Thanks again!

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)

@NuclearEnergyGov

NE Newsletter Sign Up

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7 Things "The Simpsons" Got Wrong About Nuclear

"The Simpsons."

It's a show we all know and grew to love—unless you actually work with nuclear technology.

America's longest-running animated series on FOX has been making nuclear workers cringe on their couches for almost 3 decades now.

And while this show has produced a number of catch phrases that are immortalized in today's pop culture, its comedic depiction of the fictitious Springfield nuclear power plant—and its negligent safety operator Homer Simpson—is far from "excellent."

Here are seven things "The Simpsons" didn't get quite so right about nuclear energy.

1. **Control room operators do not work by themselves**

In several episodes, Homer Simpson **is by himself** in a control room working on a remote safety console to help manage the reactor.

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), a supervisor, along with a second supervisor or reactor operator **must be present at all times** during reactor operation. All individuals, either operating or supervising the operation of a U.S. commercial reactor, must be licensed by the NRC.

2. **Nuclear power plants are well maintained**

The Springfield plant is notorious on the show for its safety violations. They range from rat infestations and cracked cooling towers (held together with chewing gum) to leaky pipes that spill out radioactive waste.

This simply does not happen. The nuclear industry is one of the safest to work in and to live near.

It's also held to rigorous safety standards.

Each plant has multiple oversight systems in place. Well-trained employees consistently perform regular safety inspections and preventative maintenance. Each plant also has at least two NRC-employed inspectors, who are free to observe anything at any time.

3. **Fuel rods are not used as paper weights**

This should be self-explanatory. But, in case you were wondering, highly radioactive materials like nuclear spent fuel are safely handled by remote-operated cranes and use water as shielding.

4. **Commercial nuclear spent fuel is not a liquid**

The show routinely depicts radioactive waste as a green, oozy liquid that is seeping out of huge drum containers and pipes throughout the facility.

In current reactors, nuclear fuel is made up metal fuel rods that contain small ceramic pellets of enriched uranium oxide. The fuel rods are combined into tall assemblies that are then placed into the reactor.

After use, the fuel rods are first moved into steel-lined temporary storage pools that are about 40 feet deep. After at least 3 years of wet storage, they are then sealed inside welded steel-reinforced concrete containers.

5. Nuclear waste is safely stored

Radioactive waste is commonly seen around the town of Springfield carelessly dumped into seas, stuffed into trees and put on playgrounds.

The process is a little different in real life.

Spent fuel is safely and securely stored at more than 100 reactor and storage sites across the country. The fuel is either enclosed in storage pools or dry casks as mentioned above.

On-site storage at nuclear power plants is not intended to be permanent. The U.S. Department of Energy is requesting funds to restart its application process for a permanent repository site and to initiate a robust interim storage program.

6. Nuclear power plants do not cause mutations

Who can forget Blinky—the three-eyed fish or that scary mutated spider?

You won't see these characters because nuclear power plants do not release any pollution into the environment—just water vapor. In fact, your granite counter tops give off more radiation than living next door to a nuclear power plant over the course of a year.

7. Power plants don't buy safety command consoles from our national labs

In one episode, "Bart on the Road," Homer spills soda on his controls and calls the Oak Ridge Nuclear Facility (aka, our national lab) for a new console.

While our labs do work with industry on early-stage research and will often license their technologies to businesses, they do not take orders for replacement parts at nuclear facilities.

Replacement components are obtained from nuclear certified suppliers and require specialized skills to install.

Final Thoughts

While there are countless other examples we could point out, we do recognize that this show is a parody with the intent to entertain.

We are happy to point out, Springfield's two reactors have been providing this fictional town with affordable and reliable zero-emission power for almost 30 years. That's less than half of the lifespan of today's commercial reactors.

We will, however, be willing to support Homer when the power plant is ready to submit an application to the NRC for their license renewal for the next 30 years!

Doh!

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Jackson, Timothy B
Cc: Morrison, Daniel; Olsen, Karla
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog
Date: Friday, March 30, 2018 2:14:00 PM
Attachments: image003.png

Thank you.

Have a great weekend!

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Jackson, Timothy B [mailto:jacksotb@id.doe.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 2:09 PM
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Cc: Morrison, Daniel <Daniel.Morrison@ee.doe.gov>; Olsen, Karla <Karla.Olsen@EE.Doe.Gov>
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog

Mike,
Thanks for the update and opportunity to review. Much appreciated! Tim

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Date: Friday, Mar 30, 2018, 11:45 AM
To: Jackson, Timothy B <jacksotb@id.doe.gov>
Cc: Morrison, Daniel <Daniel.Morrison@ee.doe.gov>, Olsen, Karla <Karla.Olsen@EE.Doe.Gov>
Subject: Simpsons Blog

Hi Tim,

Thanks for all of the help and feedback on this. (b) (5)

Suzie has reviewed with plans to post on Tuesday.

Thanks again!

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
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@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Dozier, Matt
Cc: Lester, Paul; Lantero, Allison
Subject: The Simpsons Blog
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 10:09:00 AM
Attachments: image003.png
mr burns GIF-original.mp4
mr burns GIF-downsized_large.gif
20th Cenutry Fox_SimpsonsNuclearPlant.png

Hey all,

Here is the Simpsons blog: https://www.energy.gov/ne/articles/7-things-simpsons-got-wrong-about-nuclear

Any help amplifying on your channels is always appreciated.

Attached are GIFs and photos. Photo credit 20th Century Fox if you use the photos.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
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U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

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SPRINGFIELD
NUCLEAR
POWER PLANT

From: Lester, Paul
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR); Dozier, Matt
Cc: Lantero, Allison
Subject: Re: The Simpsons Blog
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 10:42:52 AM
Attachments: image003.png

Beautiful! Thanks so much, Mike!

From: "Mueller, Mike (CONTR)" <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 10:10 AM
To: "Dozier, Matt" <matt.dozier@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: "Lester, Paul" <Paul.Lester@Hq.Doe.Gov>, "Lantero, Allison" <Allison.Lantero@Hq.Doe.Gov>
Subject: The Simpsons Blog

Hey all,

Here is the Simpsons blog: https://www.energy.gov/ne/articles/7-things-simpsons-got-wrong-about-nuclear

Any help amplifying on your channels is always appreciated.

Attached are GIFs and photos. Photo credit 20th Century Fox if you use the photos.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: "YOUNG, Tara"; TRAUZZI, Monica
Subject: What the Simpsons Got Wrong About Nuclear Blog
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 12:07:00 PM
Attachments: image003.png

Hi Tara and Monica,

Wanted to flag this for you all:
https://www.facebook.com/NuclearEnergyGov/posts/229624234280334

It's a little light hearted but informative.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: ((b) (6)

@NuclearEnergyGov

NE Newsletter Sign Up

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From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Breaux, Justin H S
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog Live
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 12:45:00 PM
Attachments: image003.png

Thanks man. Appreciate it!

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Breaux, Justin H S [mailto:jbreaux@anl.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 12:44 PM
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog Live

Done.

Thanks for sharing!

Justin H. S. Breaux
Digital Communications & External Communications Specialist
Communications and Public Affairs (CPA)
Argonne National Laboratory (www.anl.gov)
JBreaux@anl.gov
Office: 630.252.5823 **Mobile**: (b) (5)

Connect with us:

Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Flickr

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 11:08 AM
To: Breaux, Justin H S <jbreaux@anl.gov>

Subject: Simpsons Blog Live

Hey Justin,

Our Simpsons blog is live:
https://www.facebook.com/NuclearEnergyGov/posts/229624234280334

Feel free to check out and share if you'd like.

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Cook, Tabrie Y
Subject: Simpsons Blog
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 12:46:00 PM
Attachments: image003.png

Hi Tabrie,

Just wanted to flag this Blog post for you all today. Hope all is well!

https://www.facebook.com/NuclearEnergyGov/posts/229624234280334

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
To: Cook, Tabrie Y
Subject: RE: Simpsons Blog
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 2:07:00 PM
Attachments: image003.png

Awesome. Thanks!

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Cook, Tabrie Y [mailto:tabrie.cook@inl.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 1:22 PM
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Subject: Re: Simpsons Blog

This is awesome! shared!

Tabrie Landon Cook
INL Communication Specialist
Phone: (208) 360-6004
Email: tabrie.cook@inl.gov

On Wed, Apr 4, 2018 at 10:46 AM, Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@nuclear.energy.gov> wrote:

> Hi Tabrie,
>
> Just wanted to flag this Blog post for you all today. Hope all is well!
>
> https://www.facebook.com/NuclearEnergyGov/posts/229624234280334
>
> Best,
>
> **Mike Mueller**

Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)

@NuclearEnergyGov

NE Newsletter Sign Up

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From: Andrew Katz
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR)
Subject: Re: Link Issue
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 5:15:27 PM
Attachments: image003.png
image004.png
image007.png

Hi Mike – happy to file a bug task for this. You've followed the steps here, right?

https://developers.facebook.com/docs/sharing/webmasters

Andrew Katz | facebook
andrewkatz@fb.com

From: "Mueller, Mike (CONTR)" <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 5:03 PM
To: Andrew Katz <andrewkatz@fb.com>
Subject: RE: Link Issue

From my computer at work using the publishing tools.

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (6)
@NuclearEnergyGov
NE Newsletter Sign Up

From: Andrew Katz [mailto:andrewkatz@fb.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 5:01 PM
To: Mueller, Mike (CONTR) <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Subject: Re: Link Issue

Hi Mike – where are you posting this from? Thanks

Andrew Katz | facebook

andrewkatz@fb.com

From: "Mueller, Mike (CONTR)" <Mike.Mueller@Nuclear.Energy.Gov>
Date: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 12:05 PM
To: Andrew Katz <andrewkatz@fb.com>
Subject: Link Issue

Hi Andrew,

I'm trying to do a straight link post with our Simpsons blog and there is HTML language in the title for quotes. The only way I could get it to work was the carousel but I'd prefer to do a link post with this.

This is what happens:

Any way around this?

Best,

Mike Mueller
Senior Digital Content Strategist
The Hannon Group
U.S. Department of Energy | Office of Nuclear Energy
Desk: (202) 586-9604
Cell: (b) (5)

@NuclearEnergyGov

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