



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Office of the General Counsel
P.O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400



July 11, 2025

SENT VIA EMAIL

John Greenewald

(b) (6)

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This letter is the final response to your January 16, 2024, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. The Department of Energy transferred your request to this office on January 19, 2024, and we received it in this office on the same day.

You requested the following:

I respectfully request a copy of records (which includes videos/photos), electronic or otherwise, that pertain to “Unidentified Aerial Phenomena”, “Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena”, UAP, “Unidentified Flying Objects” or UFOs. It is believed responsive documents, including at least a video, exist due to at least one UAP/UFO event at Pantex.

I ask that you include all photos, videos, documents, reports, etc., pertaining to this topic. I also ask that you include all communications between Pantex, and the UAP Task Force (UAPTF), or the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO).

On January 24, 2024, via email, you agreed to an amendment of your request to include a search date range of January 2004 to January 2024.

Upon receipt, we contacted the Pantex Field Office (NA-PFO) to conduct a search for records pertaining to your request. NA-PFO and their Management and Operating (M&O) contractor, PanTeXas Deterrence, LLC (PXD), searched and located seven (7) records responsive to your request.

The following responsive records were located:

The following two (2) records are responsive to your request and are provided with deletions pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) and 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C), Exemptions 6 and 7(C) of the FOIA.

3. PX22-112 – 20230905164330
7. PPH-19-111338

The following five (5) records are responsive to your request and are provided with deletions pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C), 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(E), and 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(F), Exemptions 6, 7(C), 7(E), and 7(F) of the FOIA.

1. PX23-002; Report
2. PX23-122 Report Narrative – AMI
4. PX23-173
5. NNSA-2015-009581 - COR-NPO-20 SS-992015-642025
6. Pantex Night Note

Exemption 6 permits the withholding of personnel and medical files and similar files when the disclosure of such information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The purpose of Exemption 6 is to protect individuals from the injury and embarrassment that can result from the unnecessary disclosure of personal information. To determine whether disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, the public interest in disclosure, if any, must be balanced against the privacy interests that would be invaded by disclosure of the information. In this case, the names, signatures, phone numbers, duty titles, and email addresses of federal and/or contractor employees have been withheld. Release of the information pertaining to these individuals will cause inevitable harassment and unwarranted invasion of personal privacy for them and could cause unwarranted scrutiny by persons or entities harboring political, philosophical, or other objections to the mission of the Nuclear Security Enterprise and our agency. In addition, NNSA has experienced a rise in phishing attempts as threat actors aim to obtain access to sensitive information as well as to Information Technology (IT) and Operational Technology (OT) networks, and release of employee names/email addresses will assist these threat actors in their efforts to gain access and exploit the agency's IT and OT systems. Release of this information would not shed light on the operations of the federal government since the underlying information related to the agency's actions is being provided. Since its release will not reveal anything of significance to the public, the interest in protecting against the invasion of privacy that would result to the individuals in question far outweighs the public interest in such disclosure.

Exemption 7(C) provides protection for law enforcement information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Exemption 7(C) is the law enforcement counterpart to the privacy protection afforded under Exemption 6. Exemption 7(C) of the FOIA provides protection for, among other things, records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes and may be withheld from disclosure, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The information withheld under Exemption 7(C) includes names, and other personally identifiable information of federal and/or contractor employees who author, process and publish federal law enforcement records, in addition to non-federal or contractor individuals who are the subjects of the law enforcement records. Release of this information could cause harm by directly revealing the identification of personnel information in law enforcement records to the public and conceivably subject those individuals to harassment and annoyance in the performance of their official duties and in their private lives.

Exemption 7(E) of the FOIA provides protection for all information compiled or for law enforcement purposes when release would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law. The term “law enforcement” can include activities associated with preventing breaches to national security.

The portions redacted pursuant to Exemption 7(E) contain security-sensitive information about specific investigation techniques and procedures not available to the public regarding protection of critical nuclear facilities. If this information were released, it could reveal specific security force locations, posture details, security technology and equipment in use at Pantex Plant. If revealed this would allow individuals wishing to cause harm to discern security procedures that would not otherwise be publicly released.

Exemption 7(F) of the FOIA protects from disclosure records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes to the extent that disclosure “could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual.” The ordinary meaning of law enforcement includes not just the investigation and prosecution of offenses already committed but also proactive steps designed to maintain security.

The portions redacted pursuant to Exemption 7(F) contain information about protection and security measures used to protect federal buildings and personnel. Specifically, the information redacted includes security measures of federal building and other properties where hazardous materials are used and protected. This information could enable anyone, including terrorists, to more easily plan operations that would target these facilities. Without question, uncontrolled release or access to this information by an unauthorized person could endanger the life or physical safety of NA-PFO and PXD employees as well as the general public.

The Department of Energy (DOE) regulation 10 C.F.R. § 1004.1 provides that documents exempt from mandatory disclosure under the FOIA shall be released regardless of their exempt status, unless DOE determines that disclosure is contrary to public interest. For the reasons described above, NNSA has determined that release of the information described above is not in the public interest.

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7(b)(2), I am the individual responsible for the withholding of information pursuant to Exemptions 6, 7(C), 7(E), and 7(F) of the FOIA.

You may appeal our withholding of information pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8. Such an appeal must be made in writing within 90 calendar days after receipt of this letter, addressed to the Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals, HG-1, US Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, L’Enfant building, Washington, DC 20585. Your appeal must contain a concise statement of the grounds for the appeal and a description of the relief sought. **Please submit a copy of this letter** with the appeal and clearly mark both the envelope and the letter “Freedom of Information Appeal.” You may submit your appeal by email (preferred method) to OHA.filings@hq.doe.gov, including the phrase “Freedom of Information Appeal” in the subject line. Thereafter, judicial review will be available to you in the District of Columbia or in the

district where (1) you reside, (2) you have your principal place of business, or (3) the Department's records are situated.

You may also contact me, NNSA's FOIA Public Liaison, Office of the General Counsel, at 1-866-747-5994, or by mail to Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration, Office of the General Counsel, PO Box 5400, Albuquerque, NM 87185, for 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 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.

There are no charges to you for processing your FOIA request. If you have questions, please contact (b) (6) by e-mail at (b) (6) or write to the address at the top of the first page. Please reference Control Number FOIA 24-00120-LB in your correspondence.

Sincerely,

Annie
Maxfield

Digitally signed by
Annie Maxfield
Date: 2025.07.11
13:51:36 -06'00'

Annie Maxfield
FOIA Officer

Enclosures