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To: FOIA-Central
Subject: DOE Headquarters FOIA Request

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Record Description:

This request seeks copies of all concept papers submitted to DOE regarding funding opportunities from the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). Submissions would have been made in response to Funding Opportunity Announcement DE-FOA-0000065, issued April 27, 2009, and would have been submitted prior to the extended deadline of June 10, 2009.

This request further seeks any correspondence among DOE employees and any outside stakeholders regarding the ARPA-E submissions, including but not limited to e-mails and other memorandums.

Preferred Form or Format: text-searchable electronic .pdf files

Type of Requester (if provided):

A representative of the news media affiliated with Carbon Control News and the request is made as part of news gathering and not for commercial use.

Type of Media (if provided):

Other: policy newsletter

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."

The subject of the request concerns consideration of DOE spending activities related to funds appropriated as part of the economic stimulus legislation.

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.

Disclosure of the requested information will contribute a fuller understanding of the

deliberations of DOE officials tasked with distributing economic stimulus funds.

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.

Disclosure will further disseminate the information among Carbon Control News's substantial print and online audience.

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.

Disclosure will give a significant picture of the options presented to DOE in its efforts to implement ARPA-E programs.

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

In that journalism is the requesters livelihood, reporting based on the requested documents would provide a small comercial interest in disclosure.

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."

However, the public interest in disclosure would outweigh any commercial interest.

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:

It would be in the interest of the public to have a full picture of DOE's options related to ARPA-E before the agency decides which projects it would like to pursue, for the sake of maximizing transparency in the government's decision-making process.