Morris, Alexander

From: FOIA-Central@hq.doe.gov
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2009 1:18 AM
To: FOIA-Central
Subject: DOE Headquarters FOIA Request

Name: Ryan McLaughlin

JUL 20 2009 09

Organization: independent

"OTHER" 2 HOURS SEARCH FREE, 100 FREE PAGES

Address:

Phone:

FAX:

Email:

Record Description:

An account of all funding appropriated for research and development of woody biomass based bioenergy and biofuel programs, including programs both within the DOE and outside of the egency, including interagency organizations such as but not limited to the Sungrant Initiative. Regarding funds utilized within the agency, the report should include funds managed as "earmarks", and within the EERE, Office of Science, interagency groups such as the SunGrant Initiative and Biomass Resarch and Development Initiative, and any and all other such programs and laboratories. Regarding those funds directed outside the agency, the report should account for all grants, loan guarantees, contracts, cost sharing, loans, or any other related type of funding. The account should be comprehensive, and inclusive of all woody biomass utilization programs within the DOE since 2005.
The account should list all managing programs and offices between legislative authorization and "on the ground" utilization, including subprograms and suboffices.
The account should be organized by major program office, such as EERE or Office of Science and year appropriated. Additionally, the account should include:
1. amount of funds
2. terms of funds, ie. terms of loans or duration of grants 3. geographic location of funding utilization, ie. laboratory location or outside institution location 4. type of bioenergy funded, ie. cellulosic ethanol, biodiesel, or any other appropriate classification 5. description of the nature of research or development funded, ie, private ethanol biorefinery, Genomics GTZ program, or any other appropriate classification 6. description of institution utilizing the funding, ie. Univeristy of North Carolina, SunGrant Initiative, Range Fuels, llc, or any other appropriate institution

Preferred Form or Format: PDF (electronic) and Paper (by mail)

Type of Requester (if provided):

An individual seeking information for personal use and not for commercial use.

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."

Yes, the request concerns federal funding.

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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.

The request will detail the funding activities related to woody biomass as managed by the Department of Energy by clarifying budget data and organizing the data into an accessible format.

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.

The information requested will be disseminated both on my personal blog "http://www.fueltofield.blogspot.com" and as needed by Dogwood Alliance and Southern Forest Network, both nonprofit groups in Asheville, NC.

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.

The disclosure will make clear the DOE's funding for woody biomass research and development by compiling historical funding data in an accessible, comprehensive, and pertinent fashion. The disclosure will offer a significant body of data in one document in order to allow the public to easily assess and understand the nature of the DOE's funding.

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

There is no commercial interest whatsoever. I will not profit in any way from the request process or the disclosure of requested information.

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 primary interest is academic and personal. The information is related to a topic of great national interest, and one that is often misunderstood. As such, the requested information will allow the public to better understand the nature of DOE funding free of charge.

Expedited Processing:

Specific Justification for Expedited Processing: