Ogbazghi, Joan

From: FOIA-Central@hq.doe.gov
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2009 12:04 PM
To: FOIA-Central
Subject: DOE Headquarters FOIA Request

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SCIENTIFIC/EDUCATIONAL/NEWS MEDIA
100 FREE PAGES

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Record Description:

Sept. 21, 2009

U.S. Department of Energy
Alexander Morris
Director, FOIA/PA Division, MA-73
1000 Independence Ave. S.W.
Washington, DC 20585
Ph: (202) 586-5955
Fax: (202) 586-0575

Dear Mr. Morris:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. s. 552, I request access to and copies of all written and electronic correspondence from Jan. 1, 2007 to the present between DOE personnel and the following members of Congress or their staffs: Sen. Richard Shelby, Sen. Jeff Sessions, Sen. Thad Cochran, Sen. Roger Wicker, Rep. Jo Bonner, Rep. Artur Davis and Rep. Gene Taylor.

As a representative of the news media, I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. Beyond that, I agree to pay reasonable duplication fees for the processing of this request in an amount not to exceed $50.

I would ask, however, that you waive any fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities.

Through this request, I am gathering information on activities of members of the Alabama and Mississippi congressional delegations with respect to issues facing DOE because of the department's critical role in energy matters affecting the two states. This information is being sought on behalf of the Mobile Press-Register and Mississippi Press for dissemination to the general public.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

FOIA-2009-000792

Joan

As I am making this request as a journalist and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone at (202) 316-4596, rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Sean Reilly
Washington Correspondent

Preferred Form or Format: Paper or PDF

Type of Requester (if provided):

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.

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.

Yes. Material requested is intended for dissemination to the general public and regards activities of the Alabama and Mississippi congressional delegations on energy issues

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.

Readers will gain some insight into their congressional representatives' activities on energy issues

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.

Yes. Material requested is intended for dissemination to the general public and regards activities of the Alabama and Mississippi congressional delegations on energy issues

Expedited Processing:

Specific Justification for Expedited Processing: