

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration P.O. Box 3621 Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT PROGRAM

April 2, 2019

In reply refer to: FOIA #BPA-2019-00631-F



Dear Mr. Berryhill,

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has received your request for agency records made under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (FOIA). BPA received your records request on March 20, 2019 and has assigned your request a tracking number of BPA-2019-00631-F. Please use that tracking number in any correspondence with the agency regarding your FOIA request.

Request

"In 1950, BPA purchased several easements northwest of Eugene, Oregon. These easements were recorded on a three-page, pre-printed form, apparently provided by BPA, [and] headed TRANSMISSION LINE EASEMENT. My request is for copies of this form, and of any other forms that BPA has ever used or is currently using to record easements."

Acknowledgement

BPA has reviewed your request and has determined that it fulfills all of the criteria of a proper request under the FOIA and Department of Energy FOIA regulations at Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1004.

Response

Responsive publicly available information was sent to you on March 29, 2019, via email from FOIA Office personnel. Thereafter, the agency conducted responsive records searches in the following offices:

Information Governance BPA Library Real Property Ops

No responsive records were found. BPA's Information Governance personnel report that owing to records retention guidelines and policies, they are not in possession of aged real property forms. Real Property Ops personnel report that their office does not maintain historical blank forms. The BPA Library personnel report that blank historical forms are not maintained in the

BPA Library. Library staff recommends contacting the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Seattle, Washington for the historical forms you seek. Information on NARA can be found at the following internet locations:

https://www.archives.gov/seattle

https://www.archives.gov/ogis/resources/ogis-toolbox/best-practices-for-foia-requesters/filing-a-foia-request

BPA Library personnel also report that owing to the time period you are interested in, you are more likely to find correspondence about an easement rather than the actual form(s), completed or not. Generally speaking, a blank historical form would not be considered a federal record. It's likely that NARA would have only completed forms, if any.

Fees

There are no fees associated with the response to your request.

Certification

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7(b)(2), I am the individual responsible for the search, determination, and information release described above. Your FOIA request BPA-2019-00631-F is now closed with no available agency records to provide.

Appeal

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-1, 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. (The Office of Hearings and Appeals prefers to receive appeals by email.) 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 BPA's FOIA Public Liaison, Jason Taylor, at 503.230.3537, jetaylor@bpa.gov, or the address on this letter header 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: ogis@nara.gov Phone: 202-741-5770 Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448 Fax: 202-741-5769

Questions about this communication may be directed to James King, CorSource Technology Group LLC, at jjking@bpa.gov or 503.230.7621.

Sincerely,

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Laura J. McCarthy Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Officer