Department of Energy



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

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT/PRIVACY PROGRAM

February 15, 2023

In reply refer to: FOIA #BPA-2023-00382-F

SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY TO: klong@insider.com

Katherine Long, Correspondent Business Insider One Liberty Plaza, 8th Floor New York, NY 10006

Dear Ms. Long,

This communication is the Bonneville Power Association's (BPA) final response to your request for agency records made under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (FOIA). Your request was received on January 5, 2023 and formally acknowledged on February 6, 2023.

Request

"... an email written by a Bonneville Power Administration security specialist containing the following phrases: - "used firearms to shoot up and disable numerous pieces of equipment and cause significant damage," - "several attacks on various substations," - "including setting the control houses on fire, forced entry and sabotage of intricate electrical control systems, causing short circuits by tossing chains across the overhead buswork, and ballistic attack with small caliber firearms. ... also transmit all replies to the email."

Response

BPA's Cyber Forensics team searched for and gathered 24 pages of records responsive to your request from BPA's email system. Those pages accompany this communication with 9 pages containing minor reductions made under exemption 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). A more detailed explanation of the applied exemption follows.

Explanation of Exemptions

The FOIA generally requires the release of all agency records upon request. However, the FOIA permits or requires withholding certain limited information that falls under one or more of nine statutory exemptions (5 U.S.C. §§ 552(b)(1-9)). Further, section (b) of the FOIA, which contains the FOIA's nine statutory exemptions, also directs agencies to publicly release any reasonably segregable, non-exempt information that is contained in those records.

Exemption 6

Exemption 6 serves to protect Personally Identifiable Information (PII) contained in agency records when no overriding public interest in the information exists. BPA does not find an overriding public interest in a release of the information redacted under Exemption 6—specifically, mobile phone numbers. This information sheds no light on the executive functions of the agency and BPA finds no overriding public interest in its release. BPA cannot waive these redactions, as the protections afforded by Exemption 6 belong to individuals and not to the agency.

Lastly, as required by 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(8)(A), information has been withheld only in instances where (1) disclosure is prohibited by statute, or (2) BPA foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by the exemption cited for the record. When full disclosure of a record is not possible, the FOIA statute further requires that BPA take reasonable steps to segregate and release nonexempt information. The agency has determined that in certain instances partial disclosure is possible, and has accordingly segregated the records into exempt and non-exempt portions.

Fees

There are no fees associated with processing your FOIA request.

Certification

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7(b)(2), I am the individual responsible for records search and information release described above. Your FOIA request BPA-2023-00382-F is now closed with the responsive agency information provided.

Appeal

Note that the records release certified above is final. Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8, you may appeal the adequacy of the records search and the completeness of this final records release within 90 calendar days from the date of this communication. 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.

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 the James King, FOIA Public Liaison, at jjking@bpa.gov or 503-230-7621. Thank you for your interest in the Bonneville Power Administration.

Sincerely,

Candice D. Palen Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Officer

Responsive agency records accompany this communication.

From: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD

Sent: Fri Nov 25 15:17:58 2022

To: Stewart Kelsey

Subject: Electrical infrastructure attacks

Importance: Normal

Sgt. Kelsey,

I am writing to you to bring attention to the U.S. Dept. of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration's **Keeler Substation** at 4123 NW Rickey Terrace, Hillsboro, OR https://goo.gl/maps/vwGeZpTxqy2Bv1Hw5

This site is a federal electrical substation that is critical for providing energy to the local area, and is part of the national electricity grid and considered critical national infrastructure. This site resides within the patrol area of your agency.

Yesterday, BPA's Ostrander Substation in northern Clackamas County was targeted by two intruders who cut into the fence and used firearms to shoot up and disable numerous pieces of equipment and cause significant damage. There have been several attacks on various substations in western Washington recently, including setting the control houses on fire, forced entry and sabotage of intricate electrical control systems, causing short circuits by tossing chains across the overhead buswork, and ballistic attack with small caliber firearms. There has been a significant uptick in incidents of break-ins related to copper and tool theft, but now we are dealing with quickly escalating incidents of sabotage. Online extremist groups across the political spectrum are not only calling for

attacking these types of sites, but also spelling out in detail how to do it.

My ask is that officers would please keep this site on their radar, patrol by when possible, and treat any investigations following any potential attacks as a critical incident, given the nature of the site and specific targeting by domestic terrorist groups. BPA has no internal law enforcement program and we rely entirely on our partner law enforcement agencies for investigations. In addition to the Keeler Substation in your area is our site in Forest Grove, while not as important is it certainly significant to the local community, located at 2300 Oak Street, Forest Grove, OR https://goo.gl/maps/piyEazR1fjRWa9Xw6.

Please note that BPA's 24/7 Alarm Monitoring Station (AMS) number for reporting incidents and calling Security is 360-418-2080.

Local critical federally owned substations (black triangles) and transmission line corridors that feed the local power companies and distribution lines-

cid:image003.jpg@01D900D6.29F4A300

Kenneth Worstell

North Region Physical Security Specialist | USDOE Badge# 806

U.S. Department of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration

Office of Security and Continuity of Operations

knworstell@bpa.gov | Cell(b)(6) Office 360-418-8017

J.D. Ross Complex, 5411 NE Hwy 99, Vancouver, WA 98663

cid:image003.png@01D777C0.E649C760 cid:image004.png@01D777C0.E649C760

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From: Stewart Kelsey <Stewart.Kelsey@hillsboro-oregon.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 2:30 PM

To: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD < knworstell@bpa.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Hello

I got this

Stewart Kelsey | Patrol Sergeant

City of Hillsboro, Oregon

Hillsboro Police Department Desk 503-615-6776 Cell (b)(6) Email stewart.kelsey@hillsboro-oregon.gov Web www.hillsboro-oregon.gov/police Facebook Twitter On Nov 25, 2022, at 14:27, Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD < knworstell@bpa.gov > wrote: Hello Sgt. Kelsey, I'll be sending you information shortly. Kenneth Worstell North Region Physical Security Specialist | USDOE Badge# 806

U.S. Department of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration

Office of Security and Continuity of Operations

knworstell@bpa.gov | Cell (b)(6) Office 360-418-8017

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image001.png image002.png

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From: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD

Sent: Fri Nov 25 15:20:03 2022

To: HUGHES David

Subject: RE: Electrical infrastructure attacks

Importance: Normal

Approx 0100 on November 4

From: HUGHES David <david.hughes@mcso.us>

Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 3:13 PM

To: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD < knworstell@bpa.gov>

Cc: CIOBANASIU Jennifer < jennifer.ciobanasiu@mcso.us >; ASBOE Doug < doug.asboe@mcso.us >; #MCSO

Enforcement Deputies < MCSOEnforcementDeputies@mcso.us>; #MCSO Enforcement Sgt

<MCSOEnforcementSGT@mcso.us>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Electrical infrastructure attacks

Thanks Kenneth for letting us know about Clackamas County incident. What time did this occur?

All, see below regarding our substation off of Sundial. Definitely worth keeping our eye on this for sabotage, as I have a feeling such instances will only increase over time as more people see these stations as viable and

relatively soft targets.
David
From: Worstell,Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD < knworstell@bpa.gov > Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 2:00 PM To: HUGHES David < david.hughes@mcso.us > Subject: Electrical infrastructure attacks
Hello David,
I am writing to you to bring attention to the U.S. Dept. of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration's Troutdale Substation at 2702 NW Sundial Road, Troutdale, OR 97060 https://goo.gl/maps/jAEGFd8FL6HC6seCA .
This site is a federal electrical substation that is critical for providing energy to the local area, and is part of the national electricity grid and considered critical national infrastructure. This site resides within the patrol are of

MCSO.

Yesterday, BPA's Ostrander Substation in northern Clackamas County was targeted by two intruders who cut into
the fence and used firearms to shoot up and disable numerous pieces of equipment and cause significant
damage. There have been several attacks on various substation in western Washington recently, including setting
the control houses on fire, forced entry and sabotage of intricate electrical control systems, causing short circuits
by tossing chains across the overhead buswork, and ballistic attack with small caliber firearms. There has been a
significant uptick in incidents of break-ins related to copper and tool theft, but now we are dealing with quickly
escalating incidents of sabotage. Online extremist groups across the political spectrum are not only calling for
attacking these types of sites, but also spelling out in detail how to do it.

My ask is that deputies would please keep this site on their radar, patrol by when possible, and treat any investigations following any potential attacks as a critical incident, given the nature of the site and specific targeting by domestic terrorist groups. BPA has no internal law enforcement program and we rely entirely on our partner law enforcement agencies for investigations.

Local critical federally owned substations (black triangles) and transmission line corridors that feed the local power companies and distribution lines-

Thank you your for time and stay safe out there,

Kenneth Worstell

North Region Physical Security Specialist | USDOE Badge# 806

U.S. Department of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration

Office of Security and Continuity of Operations

knworstell@bpa.gov | Cell (b)(6) Office 360-418-8017

J.D. Ross Complex, 5411 NE Hwy 99, Vancouver, WA 98663

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From: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD

Sent: Fri Nov 25 15:22:15 2022

To: ROBERTSON Brad; HUGHES David

Cc: Schuch, Richard W (BPA) - NNT-1

Subject: RE: Electrical infrastructure attacks

Importance: Normal

Thank you all for the help. I'm cc'ing my colleague Richard Schuch who covers ops in your area.

Respectfully,

Kenneth Worstell

North Region Physical Security Specialist

U.S. Department of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration Office of Security and Continuity of Operations

Cell (b)(6) Office 360-418-8017

From: ROBERTSON Brad brad.robertson@mcso.us

Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 3:17 PM **To:** HUGHES David <david.hughes@mcso.us>

Cc: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD < knworstell@bpa.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Electrical infrastructure attacks

Thanks for that information, Sgt. Hughes.

Mr. Worstell-

Please keep my contact information handy. If something suspicious occurs, I will assign detectives to investigate as needed. Email and cell phone are best.

Stay safe,

Brad

Detective Sergeant Brad Robertson

Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

Law Enforcement- Detectives Unit

1300 NE Village Street

Fairview, OR 97024

Desk: 503-988-0358

Cell: (b)(6)

From: HUGHES David < david.hughes@mcso.us >

Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 3:13 PM

To: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD < knworstell@bpa.gov>

Cc: CIOBANASIU Jennifer < jennifer.ciobanasiu@mcso.us; #MCSO

Enforcement Deputies < MCSOEnforcement Deputies@mcso.us>; #MCSO Enforcement Sgt

<MCSOEnforcementSGT@mcso.us>

Subject: RE: Electrical infrastructure attacks

Thanks Kenneth for letting us know about Clackamas County incident. What time did this occur?

All, see below regarding our substation off of Sundial. Definitely worth keeping our eye on this for sabotage, as I have a feeling such instances will only increase over time as more people see these stations as viable and relatively soft targets.

David

From: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD < knworstell@bpa.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 2:00 PM **To:** HUGHES David < david.hughes@mcso.us >

Subject: Electrical infrastructure attacks

Hello David,

I am writing to you to bring attention to the U.S. Dept. of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration's Troutdale Substation at 2702 NW Sundial Road, Troutdale, OR 97060 https://goo.gl/maps/jAEGFd8FL6HC6seCA.

This site is a federal electrical substation that is critical for providing energy to the local area, and is part of the national electricity grid and considered critical national infrastructure. This site resides within the patrol are of MCSO.

Yesterday, BPA's Ostrander Substation in northern Clackamas County was targeted by two intruders who cut into the fence and used firearms to shoot up and disable numerous pieces of equipment and cause significant damage. There have been several attacks on various substation in western Washington recently, including setting the control houses on fire, forced entry and sabotage of intricate electrical control systems, causing short circuits by tossing chains across the overhead buswork, and ballistic attack with small caliber firearms. There has been a significant uptick in incidents of break-ins related to copper and tool theft, but now we are dealing with quickly escalating incidents of sabotage. Online extremist groups across the political spectrum are not only calling for attacking these types of sites, but also spelling out in detail how to do it.

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Local critical federally owned substations (black triangles) and transmission line corridors that feed the local power companies and distribution lines-

Thank you your for time and stay safe out there,

Kenneth Worstell

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From: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD

Sent: Fri Nov 25 15:19:34 2022

To: HUGHES David

Cc: CIOBANASIU Jennifer; ASBOE Doug; #MCSO Enforcement Deputies; #MCSO Enforcement Sgt

Subject: RE: Electrical infrastructure attacks

Importance: Normal

David, also I should have mentioned that BPA's 24/7 Alarm Monitoring Station (AMS) number for reporting incidents and contacting Security is 360-418-2080.

Thank you for the help.

Ken

From: HUGHES David <david.hughes@mcso.us>

Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 3:13 PM

To: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD < knworstell@bpa.gov>

Cc: CIOBANASIU Jennifer < jennifer.ciobanasiu@mcso.us>; ASBOE Doug < doug.asboe@mcso.us>; #MCSO

Enforcement Deputies < MCSOEnforcementDeputies@mcso.us>; #MCSO Enforcement Sgt

<MCSOEnforcementSGT@mcso.us>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Electrical infrastructure attacks

Thanks Kenneth for letting us know about Clackamas County incident. What time did this occur?

All, see below regarding our substation off of Sundial. Definitely worth keeping our eye on this for sabotage, as I have a feeling such instances will only increase over time as more people see these stations as viable and relatively soft targets.

David

From: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD < knworstell@bpa.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 2:00 PM **To:** HUGHES David <<u>david.hughes@mcso.us</u>>

Subject: Electrical infrastructure attacks

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Yesterday, BPA's Ostrander Substation in northern Clackamas County was targeted by two intruders who cut into the fence and used firearms to shoot up and disable numerous pieces of equipment and cause significant damage. There have been several attacks on various substation in western Washington recently, including setting the control houses on fire, forced entry and sabotage of intricate electrical control systems, causing short circuits by tossing chains across the overhead buswork, and ballistic attack with small caliber firearms. There has been a significant uptick in incidents of break-ins related to copper and tool theft, but now we are dealing with quickly escalating incidents of sabotage. Online extremist groups across the political spectrum are not only calling for attacking these types of sites, but also spelling out in detail how to do it.

My ask is that deputies would please keep this site on their radar, patrol by when possible, and treat any investigations following any potential attacks as a critical incident, given the nature of the site and specific targeting by domestic terrorist groups. BPA has no internal law enforcement program and we rely entirely on our partner law enforcement agencies for investigations.

Local critical federally owned substations (black triangles) and transmission line corridors that feed the local power companies and distribution lines-

Thank you your for time and stay safe out there,

Kenneth Worstell

North Region Physical Security Specialist | USDOE Badge# 806

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From: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD

Sent: Mon Dec 12 16:47:47 2022

To: Arthurs, Neil E (BPA) - NNT-MODD

Subject: FW: Attacks on electrical infrastructure

Importance: Normal

Clackamas Co. Sheriff's Office

From: Worstell, Kenneth N (BPA) - NNT-MODD Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 3:53 PM To: Stidham, Alex <astidham@clackamas.us> Subject: Attacks on electrical infrastructure

Hello Sir,

I am writing to you to bring attention to U.S. Dept. of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration's high voltage electrical substations in Clackamas County.

These sites are federal electrical substations that are critical for providing energy to the local area, and act as parts of the national electricity grid and considered critical national infrastructure. These sites reside within the patrol

area of your agency.

Yesterday, BPA's Ostrander Substation in northern Clackamas County east of Oregon City was targeted by two intruders who cut into the fence and used firearms to shoot up and disable numerous pieces of equipment and cause significant damage. There have been several attacks on various substations in western Washington recently, including setting the control houses on fire, forced entry and sabotage of intricate electrical control systems, causing short circuits by tossing chains across the overhead buswork, and ballistic attack with small caliber firearms. There has been a significant uptick in incidents of break-ins related to copper and tool or materials theft, but now we are dealing with quickly escalating incidents of sabotage. Online extremist groups across the political spectrum are not only calling for attacking these types of sites, but also spelling out in detail how to do it. All substations are important to the local area, but BPA is the actual transmission entity that sends the electric from the place it is generated to the local power company at very high voltages and is thus national infrastructure.

My ask is that officers would please keep these sites on their radar, patrol by when possible, and treat any investigations following any potential attacks as a critical incident, given the nature of the site and specific targeting by domestic terrorist groups. BPA has no internal law enforcement program and we rely entirely on our partner law enforcement agencies for investigations.

BPA substations in your county:

Ostrander Substation

16885 S Eaden Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045

https://goo.gl/maps/8hssYj5bMtkZHSV37

Pearl Substation

10000 SW Ridder Rd, Wilsonville, OR 97070

https://goo.gl/maps/PuHWa7Zwyg95vWvG8

Oregon City Substation (immediately north of Pearl Substation)

10015 SW Rider Rd, Wilsonville, OR 97070

https://goo.gl/maps/mq8JqCjzTg4Fj5hs5

Please note that BPA's 24/7 Alarm Monitoring Station (AMS) number for reporting incidents and calling Security is 360-418-2080. My colleague Richard Schuch cover's BPA security operations in your area, I actually cover western Washington (rwschuch@bpa.gov / 503-230-5259)

Local critical federally owned substations (black triangles) and transmission line corridors that feed the local power companies and distribution lines-

cid:image003.jpg@01D900D6.29F4A300

Kenneth Worstell

North Region Physical Security Specialist | USDOE Badge# 806

U.S. Department of Energy, Bonneville Power AdministrationOffice of Security and Continuity of Operations

knworstell@bpa.gov | Cell (b)(6) Office 360-418-8017

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