



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



In reply refer to: BPA-2026-01855-F (Freeman)

July 15, 2026

SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY TO: brittany.freeman@scripps.com

Brittany Freeman
Investigative Producer
Scripps News

Dear Ms. Freeman,

This communication is the Bonneville Power Administration'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 your request on June 4, 2026, and formally acknowledged on July 1, 2026.

Request

You seek "...all photographs and video gathered after an incident on 9-17-25 in which lines were downed in the area of Summit Lake in Thurston County, WA due to the crash of an Army helicopter. [AND] ... all reports written about this incident."

Response

BPA searched for and gathered records responsive to your request. BPA collected two pages of responsive records (photographs) from knowledgeable subject matter experts in the Transmission Operations and Maintenance Olympia District office. Those two pages accompany this communication, released in full with no redactions applied.

Fees

No fees will be associated with processing your FOIA request.

Certification

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7, I am the individual responsible for the records search and information release described above. Your FOIA request BPA-2026-01855-F is now closed with the responsive records 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 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 Brian Roth, BPA FOIA Case Coordinator, at BSRoth@bpa.gov or at 503-230-4383. Questions may also be directed to BPA FOIA Public Liaison, James King, at jjking@bpa.gov or (503) 230-7621.

Sincerely,

Candice D. Palen
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Officer

Responsive records accompany this communication



